



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

April 6, 2001

CITY OF COOS BAY

500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay OR 97420

(541) 269-8912

See us at <http://www.coosbay.org>

Email the city manager at bgrile@ucinet.com

LADY WASHINGTON - Ahoy Mates! The Lady Washington will be sailing into Coos Bay on Thursday, April 16th. She is expected to arrive at the downtown city dock facility around 12 noon. Everyone is encouraged to be at the dock to welcome this wonderful sailing ship and crew to the beautiful southern Oregon Coast. Tours will be available.

GET READY FOR A PARADE!! - We all love a parade... the local veterans' associations put together a wonderful commemorative event recognizing our veterans every year in May. Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 26th to attend the Memorial Day Parade in downtown Coos Bay. They need our help to make the parade happen and are asking volunteers to contact them at 267-4702.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS PLANNED - In response to neighborhood concerns the police department has plans to meet with community members in two areas of Coos Bay. Police Officers and other officials will be meeting with neighborhood groups on South twenty-second Street in the Englewood area and on North Main Street in the Empire area of Coos Bay. Residents wishing to schedule neighborhood meetings may contact the police department at 269-8911.

SCDC COMMUNITY FORUMS SCHEDULED - The South Coast Development Council (SCDC) will be hosting community forums throughout Coos County and Western Douglas County over the next four weeks. The purpose of the forums is for SCDC to become acquainted with the residents of the local communities and to gather suggestion on what type of economic development the community would like to see. The public is encouraged to join SCDC for a two-hour discussion at the date and location most convenient for you.

- ▶ April 11, 2001 at the North Bend Council Chambers at 6 p.m.
- ▶ April 17, 2001 at the Bandon Council Chambers at 6 p.m.
- ▶ April 23, 2001 at the Coquille Community Building at 6 p.m.
- ▶ May 2, 2001 at the Reedsport Council Chambers at 6 p.m.

For more information contact Diana Johnson at the SCDC office at 751-1653 or e-mail SCDC@uci.net

BIG SUCCESS: NEWMARK TOWN HALL MEETING - The city and their transportation consultants, CTS Engineering and TriLand Group Design, received great input from the 50 people who got involved last night at the town hall meeting on improvements for Newmark Avenue. A final report on needed improvements should be ready in about a month. Future conditions (20 years from now) and access driveways took the spotlight for a good part of the two hour meeting. The final conclusion was that right-in/right-out maneuvers should be the standard for Newmark, and combined access or alternative access routes should be planned for the future. The meeting will be on Channel 14 for those interested who were unable to attend.

COOS BAY PLANS MEETINGS TO DISCUSS GARBAGE RATES -- Next Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. a public meeting will be held at City Hall to allow discussions to continue about the issue of whether the City Council should accept a proposal by its two franchise garbage haulers to role back rates charged for

picking up and disposing garbage generated inside the city limits. "I have a proposal sitting on my desk provided by (garbage hauler) Les Golbek that would reduce garbage rates by 12.5% if approved by the City Council," city manager Bill Grile said last week. "It's up to the City Council whether or not to do this," he continued, "and the Council will need to hear from the public before making any decision."

What's the rub? Coos County says reducing the rates will cause Golbek and other haulers to take the garbage they collect to a less costly solid waste disposal facility than the Beaver Hill, where the County operates incinerators and a landfill. If this happens, the County says the Beaver Hill facility will have to shut its burners down, close up a couple of ash trenches, absorb incredible expenses required by the Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality, lay off eleven workers at Beaver Hill and others in County government to cover the facility closure and post-closure expenses.

Due to environmental restrictions imposed by the DEQ and labor expenses associated with the burning and landfill disposal process, the Beaver Hill site is near the very top of the list of the most expensive approved disposal sites in Oregon. The City of Coos Bay's exclusive franchises with its two haulers governs rates and other things, but doesn't require either franchisee to dispose at Beaver Hill.

For some time, Les Golbek has been taking advantage of cheaper rates to truck garbage dropped off at his Coos Bay transfer station to Corvallis, where the Coffin Butte Regional Sanitary Landfill charges only \$18.00 at ton to dump waste. By comparison, the Beaver Hill facility cost is \$72.60 per ton. Coos County increased tipping fees to that amount on July 1, 2000, up from the \$66.00 per ton charge in place at the time. Coos County's solid waste manager and three local garbage haulers have advised the City that Beaver Hill "is not the long term solution the County needs" for disposal of garbage, but what to do now and in the near future? This is the question! Adding to the dilemma, in 1994 County voters authorized \$7 million in bonds to upgrade Beaver Hill in order to keep it running and meet the state's environmental demands. Over \$4 million remains outstanding on that debt. "In 1994 I thought passage of the bond measure was the smart thing to do," said city manager Grile, "and I personally voted for it." "This is not about blame and I certainly don't fault the county commissioners or anyone else for the dilemma we now face," he continued, "but circumstances have changed significantly and today it is very appropriate to have a public discussion about the choices and responsibilities confronting us."

On April 17th at 7:00 p.m. the Coos Bay City Council will meet in regular session and will be holding a public hearing on the question of whether to roll back rates. Public input is encouraged.

TRAINING SESSION AT COOS BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT - Members of the Coos Bay Police Department, Gold Beach Police Department, and Curry County Sheriff's Office attended a training session at Coos Bay City Hall this week. Debbie Crawford, trainer for the Area Information Records System (AIRS) was in Coos Bay to provide instruction on use of the AIRS system. Coos Bay Police and North Coos County 9-1-1 utilizes the AIRS system for Computer Aided Dispatch and Records storage and retrieval. Coos Bay Police Departments in-car laptop units also run on the AIRS system. The training was provided at no charge to the City.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKS OF C. RANDALL TOSH - Yes, it's the same guy we've come to know and love as our city attorney. The Coos Bay and North Bend Public Libraries are featuring exhibits displaying the photographic works of Randall Tosh. What you might not have known is that Randall has a Master of Fine Arts degree in photography and a national exhibition record. "Law was my last desperate attempt to become solvent," quipped Tosh in an interview with the city manager yesterday at City Hall. "He's mighty talented," said city manager Bill Grile, "but I've encouraged him to keep his day job."

WARNING! RADAR AHEAD - In response to neighborhood concern the police department has been conducting radar speed checks on Woodland Drive in Coos Bay. Motorists are urged to drive with caution on Woodland Drive and all other streets in Coos Bay. Speed checks will be conducted in other areas of the

city as well.

YOUTH SUMMIT PLANNED IN COOS COUNTY - The Coos County Commission on Children and Families is collaborating with many local partners to plan a Youth Summit which will be held on May 18, 2001 at the SWOYA Boys and Girls Club. The purpose of the summit is to provide youth with current information on a variety of issues and to hear their views.

The summit is free of charge and the theme is "Today's Leaders: R U RED E"? It will focus on leadership and will feature a keynote speaker and breakout sessions and will include lunch, T-shirts and door prizes. Sample breakout sessions include How to Deal with Stress in High School, College Planning, How to Run an Effective Meeting, and the Effects of Media and Body Image.

Anyone interested should call Tom Hibbert at 541-756-4481 or talk to their school principal. Anyone interested in helping plan the summit is also encouraged to call.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION - April is volunteer appreciation month - the Coos Bay Fire Department would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of our hard working volunteer firefighters. These people dedicate many hours to the fire department and the community. Along with getting up in the middle of the night for a fire call, they also participate in many community functions. The annual Christmas tree pickup event, Shore Acres Christmas lights and Fire Station Open House events are among the many functions they participate in throughout the year. We appreciate your time and dedication to our community.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSTS FIELD TRIP - The fire department hosted the Milner Crest first grade classes of Mrs. Selthon and Mrs. Pierce on Thursday. The class field trip visited the City Hall, Library, Western Bank and ended with lunch at the fire department. In addition to getting a fire station tour the kids also practiced their firefighting techniques!

FIVE MOST WANTED FELONS FOR COOS COUNTY - The Coos County Stop Crime Committee met on Wednesday March 14th and released a new list of the Five Most Wanted Felons for Coos County. The list and information about the Most Wanted Felons can be viewed at: <http://www.coosbay-pd.net/fivemost>

Rewards are offered for information leading to the arrest of these persons. Also during the meeting City of Coos Bay Manager Bill Grile shared with the Stop Crime Committee the efforts of the Meth Drug Task Force. An emphasis is being placed on issuing Most Wanted Felon status to those Felons who are associated with drug use, sale, or manufacture or felons whose crime and criminal record is such that the committee believes it would be in the public's interest to have the felon arrested. March's Most Wanted Felon list includes individuals who are either wanted on drug related charges or whose criminal career has involved drugs.

Also approved for a reward that leads to the arrest and conviction of the individual(s) responsible for the burglary, theft from, and vandalism to the Bureau of Land Management's Middle Creek Maintenance Shop in Coos County. The Bureau of Land Management has offered a reward of up to \$1,000 for this information. Coos Stop Crime also is offering a reward, in accordance with its by-laws, for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the individual(s). For more information about the burglary of BLM property please contact Deputy Dave Herman of Coos County Sheriff's Office at 756-2020. For more information about the Most Wanted Felon's or Coos Stop Crime please contact Sgt. Kevin Hedgpeeth of Coos Bay Police Department at 269-8911 or khedgpeeth@police.coosbay.org

DISCUSSION ON NEW CARISSA REMOVAL - A public meeting will be held by the Bureau of Land Management to identify issues to be addressed in an environmental impact statement analyzing the consequences of removing the New Carissa shipwreck. The public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 12th at 7 p.m. at the **North Bend Public Library**. Anyone desiring more information may contact Linda Petterson at the BLM office in North Bend at 751-0100.

Comments may be made in writing and sent to BLM, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend OR 97459 or by e-mail

at coos_bay@or.blm.gov or via fax at 751-4303.

2001 CHINOOK DISTRICT SCOUT SHOW - Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers and Explorers from across Coos and western Douglas counties will be converging on downtown Coos Bay on Saturday, April 14th, from 10 am to 3 p.m., to demonstrate their enthusiasm and the skills they are learning as a part of the great scouting tradition. Central Ave. from Broadway to 2nd St. will be shut down as scouts demonstrate such diverse activities as rope bridges, dutch oven cooking and skate board skill demonstrations. A Pinewood Derby race for Cub Scouts and an unlimited category for non-Cub Scouts will be held. Indoor activities, booths and tables will be set up in the Coos Bay Convention Center at 158 Central Ave. Come out and support these local kids and share in the excitement of the world of Scouting.

SPORTSMAN PEDESTRIAN WAY PROJECT GETS APPROVAL - The Sportsman Pedestrian Way project was awarded by the Urban Renewal Agency this week to Bracelin and Yeager who will be the general contractor on the project. The project located in the two hundred block of South Broadway includes the demolition of the old Sportsman Tavern building and placing new concrete over the entire area creating an open area between the businesses on Broadway and the parking lots on South 2nd Street. The project also includes placing four trees and planters, three benches, and five new light poles to match the ones on Broadway and the parking lots. The project is expected to be completed by Memorial Day weekend.

BAYSHORE THEATER DISTRICT STREET SCAPE GETS APPROVAL - The Bayshore Theater project was also approved by the Urban Renewal Agency this week. Johnson Rock Products is the General Contractor on the project. This project is located along Bayshore Drive from Anderson to Curtis. The project will place new concrete along Bayshore and new light poles on Curtis, Bayshore and Anderson. The project will be completed by the first week of June. This project should make a big impact on the traveling public as they enter the downtown core area.

SPRING BRUSH PICK UP - It is time again for the spring brush pick up! Brush pick up starts on April 30th so have your brush at the curb **before** that date. If you have any questions, please contact your garbage hauler: Coos Bay Sanitary (267-6675) or Les' Sanitary (267-2848). As a reminder, brush length is restricted to five feet and no dirt or leaves will be accepted.

REZONE APPROVED - On Tuesday evening the City Council enacted an ordinance that will enable commercial development on about three acres along Newmark Avenue, east of LaClair Street. A condition of the approval is that a Site Plan & Architectural Review of any development be approved by the city's Planning Commission. The current study on Newmark Avenue, which will suggest improvements to accommodate development such as this, is right on time.

FRONT STREET PAVING - The City Council has given the green light for the rebidding of this much awaited paving project. North Front Street, between Market and Fir Avenues, as well as the single blocks of Alder, Birch, and Cedar Avenues west of North Front Street, are slated for asphalt overlayment this fall. ODOT Fund Exchange monies will finance the bulk of the project with Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad contributing labor and materials for associated track repairs. The Downtown Urban Renewal Agency is also partnering with these two agencies to see that the project becomes a reality.

COOS ART MUSEUM PRESENTS "ACROMATICA?" - An exhibit of prints and ink paintings by Wang Gongyi, Professor in the Department of Printmaking, China National Academy of Fine Arts, Hangzhou, PRC.

WOMEN ARTIST'S MARKETING COOPERATIVE EXHIBIT - The Coos Art Museum presents an exhibit of abstract and non-objective art from WAMCO. The "Abstraction as Interpretation" exhibit will run through April 28, 2001 in the Maggie Karl Gallery. Featured artists include Patricia Arrera, Ruth Ann Howden, Rakar West and Natalie Shifrin Whitsin.

FREE AWARENESS PROGRAMS ON EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMIS - Southwestern Oregon Public Safety Association, Coos County Emergency Management and American Red Cross present two free awareness programs Saturday, April 21, 2001. Programs are scheduled from 2- 4 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m. and there will be door prizes of emergency preparedness supplies provided by local merchants. During the 2 - 4 p.m. session there will be a program for school age children in the children's library. For more information contact Glenda Hale at the Coos County Sheriff's office at 396-3121 ext 398.

CONGRATULATIONS MATT FARE AND ED JACKSON! - Let's pause for a moment and give thanks to these two professional Coos Bay firefighters. On April 1st they both celebrated anniversaries with the City of Coos Bay. For Matt, it was five years. For Ed, it was thirty. Thirty years!! Congratulations gentlemen. We appreciate your dedication to service and the work you continue doing making Coos Bay a safe place to live and work. Thanks!!