



# The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

June 15, 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](mailto:bgrile@ucinet.com)

**BOOKS FOR BUCKS** - Help the environment and raise money for kids! The Boys and Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon is collecting phonebooks to raise money to benefit kids on the South Coast. Donations of phonebooks will be accepted June 18<sup>th</sup> through July 18<sup>th</sup> at three locations: SWOYA Boys & Girls Club front parking lot, 3333 Walnut, Boys & Girls Club Tennis Center parking lot and McKay's, Central Avenue in Coos Bay. If you have any questions contact Sarah Wood at 267-3635.

**WILDFIRE PROTECTION TIPS** - The Coos Bay Fire Department would like to remind home owners/renters that with the warm summer weather comes a threat to the many homes in our community that border forest lands. Creating a safety zone or fire break around your home is easy to do if you know the basics. Keeping your lawn mowed and cutting brush around your home can help cut down on fuel for a fire. Pruning your tree limbs so the lowest limb is between 6 to 10 feet from the ground can deter a grass fire from climbing up into the trees. Keep your roof, eaves and gutters clean - dead vegetation is excellent fuel for flying sparks.

**FIRE HYDRANT MAINTENANCE** - Fire Department personnel will be working on fire hydrant maintenance in the coming summer months. If you have a hydrant on your property please take the time to clear the grass & weeds from around the hydrant. Department personnel will be clearing and spraying for weeds around those fire hydrants that are overgrown.

**SHERI LAYTON 5 YEARS AT COOS BAY POLICE** - Coos Bay 9-1-1 Dispatcher Sheri Layton, will be celebrating five years with department on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations Sheri!

**FAMILY POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION** - The Coos Bay Police Department Family Police Academy graduation has been set for June 19, 2001. Circuit Court Judge Richard Barron will deliver the graduation address at the ceremony. The Family Police Academy over the past two months presented an overview to family members the issues facing police officers, including stress factors, community relations, and critical skills training. The intent of the Family Police Academy is to support department members and to enhance retention of the departments excellent staff members. The police department is currently developing curriculum for a similar program for elected and appointed City of Coos Bay officials.

**POLICE CONDUCT "SURVIVAL SKILLS" TRAINING** - The Police Department will be conducting intensive survival skills training later this month. The one on one training integrates critical skills used by police officers (emergency vehicle operation, defensive tactics, communications skills, firearms proficiency, and legal liability) into an intensive training scenario. This training format brings the training of critical skills at Coos Bay to a new level. Coos Bay is fortunate to have seven highly motivated and trained staff members to conduct the training and evaluation exercise.

**SAFETY TOWN ENTERS 9<sup>TH</sup> YEAR** - For the ninth consecutive year the Coos Bay Police Department will be offering safety town for local pre-school youngsters. Sessions begin on June 18<sup>th</sup> in Coos Bay. Sorry, all sessions are full for the sessions this summer.

**K-9 REX FINDS HOMICIDE SUSPECTS** - Using Rex, a K-9 unit from the Coos Bay Police Department, Officer Rob Scoville tracked Darren Wayne Campbell, from North Bend and Deborah Kay Scott, of Versailles, Ind. Both suspects have been charged with aggravated murder in the case which took place at the camp ground at Horsfall Beach. Coos Bay Police K-9 units have been very successful in locating crime suspects and property.

**COOS BAY PARTNERS WITH LOCAL TRAINING PROGRAMS** - The taxpayers and the Department of Community Services have greatly benefitted in partnering with local agencies who have obtained funding to place people looking for positive work experience. This partnering has provided for needed work to be done and provided work experience and references on job applications for the participants. Through these cooperative efforts work experience has varied from office/computer experience to parks and downtown beautification tasks.

Community Services has partnered with many agencies over the years at either a very low cost or no cost to the taxpayers. Currently, Community Services has two Green Thumb employees, one in the Parks Division providing assistance in the upkeep of Mingus Park and the other in the Administration Division providing general office duties and updates to our contractor database in the building permit computer system.

Another local agency, South Coast Business Employment Corporation (SCBEC) has obtained funding to provide Community Services with two employees. The Parks Division has obtained assistance in the up keep of the downtown area during the summer festival season and the other trainee will provide valuable computer experience to assist in rebuilding several computers as well as setting up databases to provided analysis on capital improvement projects and the City's vehicle fleet.

**AFSCME HEADS SOUTH** - Congratulations to Terry Woodward for being selected 1 of 12 Oregon AFSCME Union members out of more than 21,000 statewide members to go to San Diego, California. AFSCME will be talking with City of San Diego workers on unionism. They will be going door to door providing information and answering questions the workers may have about unions and AFSCME in particular. Terry indicated that the Oregon AFSCME is targeting a membership of more than 25,000 within the next couple of years. Good work Terry.

**PEDWAY WORK CONTINUES** - Work on the Sportsman Pedway project is moving along. A small setback has caused the project to slow due to some of concrete slabs not conforming to specifications. The slabs have been removed and will be replaced as soon as possible. A structural engineer was on site this week to look at the south wall of the project area after the old cracked concrete was removed to view the extent of the damage. The engineer will then provide a means for repairing the wall and work can continue.

**MINGUS PARK BALLFIELD WORK** - City street and park's crews have been pouring the slabs that will hold the new bleachers at the ballfield. The final pour will be next Tuesday and bleachers could be installed by the end of the month. The new bleachers are aluminum and will last a long time. The City has applied to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to replace the lights and purchase another set of bleachers for the ballfield. City staff will be making a presentation to the Parks Advisory Board next week.

**YOUNG LIFE CLEANS BOARDWALK** - Young Life headed by Todd Tardy worked along the Boardwalk on Thursday cleaning and weeding the area. Young Life has provided this service to the City in past years and is greatly appreciated by the City. The Boardwalk is a highly visible area and needs constant attention to keep it looking good. Thanks again to Young Life for their commitment in helping the City keep the City beautiful.

**THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MARITIME ART EXHIBIT AND TUGBOATS OF THE SOUTHERN OREGON COAST EXHIBITS OPENS ON JUNE 15, 2001.**

The *Maritime Art Exhibit* is on exhibit downstairs in the Maggie Karl Gallery and features maritime art created by members of the prestigious American Society of Marine Artists including the work of this year's guest artist Grant Saylor, of Everett, Washington. This year's exhibit features the works from twenty-five artists residing throughout the western United States in a variety of media. On display upstairs in the Mable Hansen Gallery is the exhibit of *Tugboats of the Southern Oregon Coast* from the Victor West Collection of historical photographs. More than thirty photos, taken from the late 19<sup>th</sup> through mid-20th century, depict the tugboats that plied Southern Oregon's harbors and estuaries during the hey-day of maritime commerce in the region. A reception will be held at the Coos Art Museum, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m, Friday, June 15, 2001. Exhibits will run through July 28, 2001.

**UPCOMING PAVING PROJECTS** - Advertisement for bidding has now been published for paving segments of N. Front St., Elrod Avenue, and South 4<sup>th</sup> Street. With the opening of bids slated for July 10<sup>th</sup>, the low bidder should be selected and the contract awarded by the City Council at its July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. The majority of the work, to be completed later this summer, will be financed through several programs offered by the State of Oregon. ODOT Fund Exchange monies and the Local Streets Network Fund will be supplemented by the Coos Bay Downtown Urban Renewal Agencies to revitalize these high traffic areas. Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad Co. will be also be contributing to the project by performing track related activities on North Front Street. Stay tuned for further information relating to the proposed paving schedule on future Updates.

**YOU KNOW YOU WORK WITH GOOD PEOPLE WHEN...** Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs received a big "thank you" from a citizen for the Parks crew. The citizen explained that her car died just at the crosswalk on 10<sup>th</sup> Street at Mingus Park and the Parks crew took time out from work on the bleachers' concrete pad to push her car out of traffic and into the parking lot. The citizen was quite upset, and really appreciated the assistance and support! She specifically mentioned Parks Utility Worker Ray Fry as being particularly supportive. It's great to work with people who are willing to put out the extra effort. A car stopped on 10<sup>th</sup> could have had tremendous traffic implications. But, more importantly, someone who was pretty frazzled by what was happening to them got the help they needed, when they needed it, from City staff! Good Job, Guys!

**NEW CERTIFICATION, BETTER SERVICES** - In our continuing effort to provide a competent and quality inspection program to the members of this community, Codes Inspector Michael J. Perkins has just received certification from the Oregon State Building Codes Division as a Building Official. This certification, as well as certification as a A-level Structural Inspector, Manufactured Dwelling Inspector, One and Two Family Dwelling Inspector, One and Two Family Dwelling Plans Examiner and a Post-Earthquake Damage Assessment Inspector adds to the ability of our Building Codes Division to provide the best possible services to our community. Congratulations, Mike!