



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

June 22, 2001

CITY OF COOS BAY

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PEACE TEAM RUN TO STOP IN COOS BAY - The Peace Run is an Olympic-style relay run emphasizing the themes of friendship and peace through sport. Since 1987, more than one million people have taken part – cheering the runners or running any distance from a few yards to a few miles, passing a flaming “Peace Torch” from hand to hand, from country to country – creating an arc of light that circles the globe. The Peace Run began in New York where runners from around the world gathered to light their peace torches from a single flame as a symbol of world unity. After the ceremony, the runners returned to their respective lands to launch a series of relay runs for peace.

The Peace Team Run will stop in Coos Bay on Sunday, June 24th and a ceremony will be held at 2:00 p.m. at Marshfield High School track and field. Sue Osborn is the coordinator for Oregon and everyone involved in the run is really excited to be coming to Coos Bay as this is the home of Steve Prefontaine. Mayor Benetti will be participating in the ceremony on Sunday and we hope that as many members of the community that can, will be able to attend.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIBRARY STAFF - Milestones were reached this month for Ann Couture, who completed 15 years, and Nancy Price, who celebrated her 17th anniversary. Congratulations to these two fine staff members! Ann is the Acquisitions Librarian, keeping new books and other materials flowing into the library. Nancy is the Database Specialist for the library district, responsible for quality of the countywide Coastline database and currently actively involved in planning and implementation of the new Web-based wide area network; one-fourth of Nancy's time is dedicated to Coos Bay Public Library. Our excellent Reference Librarian Stephanie Nored completed her first year with the library in April. She will begin maternity leave June 30th.

LIBRARY REFERENCE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT - Librarians from Coos Bay, North Bend and Southwestern libraries met June 5th for what has become an annual review of purchase of major reference books at the three libraries. Decisions were made on coordinating purchases and sharing superseded editions among the three libraries in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and spread book budget dollars further.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM - This year's program begins June 25th for children age 3 through 12th grade. The program theme is "Read A Wild Tale." Seven different free programs will be offered, including a series of "Western Star Showtimes." The first event in the "Showtimes" series takes place on Thursday, June 28th at 11:00 am with a performance by the popular national touring theatre group Act!vated Storytellers, called "Stars, Stripes and Stories." This event consists of three multicultural folktales, presented with zany antics, witty dialogue, and a program tied to literature, reading, and books. There will be a few roles in the show available to local children age 6 and over. Summer reading is made possible in part by the Oregon Library Association, the Craig Berkman Family, Wells Fargo Foundation, Oregon Public Broadcasting, and the Friends of the Library.

SENIOR FILM DAY AT THE LIBRARY - The June 12th showing of the video "Bonny Scotland" drew

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85 senior citizens! June's program features "Sunset Boulevard," a video in the Great Streets series. The program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

GOLF CADDIES - CHIEF KNIGHT AND MAYOR BENETTI - Mayor Joe Benetti and Police Chief Chuck Knight were auctioned off to caddy at the Women's Crises Service benefit golf tournament sponsored last Saturday by the Coquille Valley Elks Lodge. Mayor Benetti and Chief Knight were pleased to help raise funds for the Women's Crises Service.

FIRE SEASON BEGINS - Fire season began on June 20th this year. Please contact your local fire department if you are in Coos Bay, North Bend or the Charleston Fire District for burning regulations. All county residents must obtain a permit from Coos Forest Protection at 267-3161 before burning is allowed.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF - Deputy Fire Chief Mark Anderson returned this week from the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland where he completed the last class in the Executive Fire Officer series. Upon completion of an applied research paper, Deputy Chief Anderson will receive a diploma making him the 48th Oregonian to complete this series. This four-year program is designed to provide chief fire officers with leadership skills and tools to improve local fire services.

FIREWORKS SALES BEGIN - Commercial fireworks stands and retail stores will begin selling fireworks on Saturday, June 23rd. The Coos Bay Fire Department would like to remind everyone of the importance of fireworks safety. Oregon law states that all persons purchasing fireworks must be 16 years of age and older. Always use legal fireworks from licensed outlets. Always read and follow label directions carefully. An adult should always light fireworks outdoors in a safe area. Soak used fireworks thoroughly in a bucket of water and dispose of them properly. Have a safe and fun 4th of July season!

THANK YOU WEYERHAEUSER - Weyerhaeuser Company has provided funding for materials on the temporary repairs on Choshi Bridge. Thanks to Ron Newlander of Weyco for following through on the company's pledge to help with the temporary repairs of the bridge. The City is formulating a plan on how to move forward with permanent repairs or replacement of the bridge.

BRUSH CLEAN UP ALONG RIGHT- OF -WAYS - Tremendous weather has accelerated brush growth throughout the city. Please remember that brush along right-of-ways are the responsibility of the abutting property owner. Brush should be kept trimmed and off of the street and/or sidewalk areas. The owner is responsible for the area out to the curb line on curbed streets, to the edge of pavement on striped paved streets and to the edge of gravel on gravel streets. **Thanks for your assistance in keeping our city looking bright and shiny!**

OLD WIRELESS LANE - The final review of the recently constructed sewerage system serving this newly annexed neighborhood is currently underway. A representative from the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department, the granting agency for a portion of the project's improvements, visited the site this week and gave preliminary approval for all phases of the work performed by JBS Construction, Inc. The State's Water/Wastewater Fund contributed \$20,000 towards the public pump station and pressure main. The remaining project costs will be distributed among the affected property owners who make up the Local Improvement District. The City and Old Wireless Lane Homeowner's Association members are appreciative of the funds received and the coordination of various governmental agencies who made this project possible.

BUS SHELTERS - On Tuesday evening, the City Council approved the use of bus shelters in the city. However, before a shelter can be placed, notice will be sent to nearby landowners for comments. The typical shelter will be approximately 5 foot by 10 foot in size with a steel tube frame and walls of 1/4" clear tempered

safety glass with simulated metal muntins. It is exciting that Coos Bay will be the first community on the south coast to have this kind of high-quality shelter. The shelters will look good in any area of the city and will be able to withstand the wind and rain - giving bus riders a comfortable, safe place to wait. Watch for the shelters in the fall - maybe you will even consider a ride on the system just to try out the new shelters!

BUILDING DEPARTMENTS MEET WITH OREGON CCB ADMINISTRATOR - The Coos Bay, North Bend and State Building Codes Divisions met Friday morning with the newly appointed Administrator for the Oregon Construction Contractors Board, Craig P. Smith. The meeting brings local building departments together with the CCB to share information and identify any areas that may need improvements. The goal is to reduce the number of unlicensed contractors and unauthorized construction on the South Coast which in turn benefits licensed contractors and code officials and provides a better product to the community.

CITY OF COOS BAY RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM SAYS “THANKS” - On Thursday, June 14th the City of Coos Bay and Crow / Clay and Associates Relay for Life teams held a spaghetti feed dinner to raise money for the Relay for Life. Our many thanks go to Outdoor-In, Umpqua Dairy, Williams Bakery, Benetti's Italian Restaurant, Ashworth's Market, Albertson's, North Bend Lanes, Coos Bay McDonald's, Gino's Pizza, Arctic Ice, 7-11, McKay's Market, Woodie's Quik Wok, Pepsi and Wal-Mart for donating products and door prizes. Also thanks to Debbie Erler for donating the spaghetti sauce supplies and Barbara Seeger, her helper in making the sauces, and the many staff, family, City Councilors and friends who helped make our spaghetti feed a success. Look for the 2nd annual spaghetti feed next year!

BAY AREA HOSPITAL GRAND OPENING - Come and see the wonderful results of the last 2 ½ years of construction. Dedication and ribbon cutting at noon followed by tours of the hospital and the Radiation Therapy Center. Saturday, June 30th, noon to 4 p.m. RSVP by calling 269-8543.

FOURTH OF JULY IN MINGUS PARK - For a sparkling, entertaining, old-fashioned celebration, plan to attend the annual Fourth of July in Mingus Park. The City of Coos Bay and friends will once again sponsor the popular event, which includes music and entertainment on the Mingus Park Stage, crafts, activities, popcorn, flags, swimming, food vendors and much, much more. The day begins with the annual Mayor's Firecracker 4K run at 9:30 a.m. and the 1-mile Kid's walk at 10:00 a.m. Entertainment begins at the Mingus Park stage at 11:00 a.m. and the Flag ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. In case of rain, some activities and entertainment may be canceled.