



# The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

October 5, 2001

**CITY OF COOS BAY**

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE EVENTS** - Just a reminder to everyone about the Fire Department open house events coming up next week. Monday, October 8th at Eastside Station No. 3, Tuesday, October 9th at downtown Coos Bay Station No. 1 and Wednesday, October 10th at Empire Station No. 2. All open houses will run from 6 to 8 p.m. A dinner of barbecued hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings will be served. Bring the kids in to climb into a fire truck, squirt water from a fire hose, try on a set of turnout fire clothes and don't forget to bring your camera along to take a picture with Sparky the Fire Dog. See you there!

**FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS TRAVEL TO NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY CEREMONY** - Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Firefighter Dan Crutchfield and Volunteer Captain Steve Schneiderman will travel to Emmitsburg, Maryland this weekend to attend the 20th annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial service. President George Bush will lead the nation in paying tribute to the firefighters who died in the line of duty last year. This year's memorial service and a candlelight ceremony on Saturday evening will pay a special tribute to the more than 300 New York City firefighters who were killed at the World Trade Center. The memorial weekend not only pays tribute to the men and women who died protecting their communities, but also gives new strength to their families.

**SUCCESSFUL VISIT FROM OREGON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION** - A team from the Oregon Downtown Development Association spent three days in downtown Coos Bay talking with elected officials, city staff, property and business owners and citizens on the street about their visions for downtown. The team consisted of an architect, landscape architect, public art specialist, business retention/recruitment specialist and community facilitator. On Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> there was a public meeting seeking input from the community to augment the interviews and observations of the team. On Wednesday, the team made a public presentation of their recommendations for downtown Coos Bay. A formal written report will be received by the city in four to six weeks. The presentation included recommendations on how to focus efforts to recruit more tenants for downtown Coos Bay as well as improvements to the public infrastructure and some ideas on how private property owners could better leverage their own investments. Attendees at the meeting generally felt the ideas were good ones and ones on which the community could build. A second step, training on how to do downtown recruitment, will occur in Coos Bay in about six weeks – stay tuned for more information. The team was brought to the City through the efforts of Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs by obtaining grant funds from the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department and the Coos Curry Douglas Regional Investment Board.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANTS** - Coos Bay Police Department re-applied for and received two Oregon Chief of Police traffic enforcement grants this week. The two grants pay for police officers' overtime to work special enforcement blitzes targeting Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants/Drugs, (DUI-DID), offenses; speed violations; and safety belt violations. The Department has received these grants in the past but this year had to keep in mind that not all who apply would receive funds. The Department was one agency in Oregon that not only received funds but obtained an *increase* in the amount of funding.

**CHAPLAIN DERBY ON NEW YORK STAND-BY STATUS** - Coos Bay Police / Fire Chaplain Rick Derby is presently on stand-by status with the State Chaplaincy Directors to respond to New York City. When summoned he will be assigned a location in the victimized city and provide disaster relief ministry at compassion centers for traumatic incident survivors and respite centers for rescue workers. He is one of ten pastors from his national church organization who will be mobilized within the next seven weeks. Each pastor accepting this assignment will be asked to serve for two weeks. We are grateful to Chaplain Derby for his willingness to “gladly serve whenever or wherever needed”.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT JOB OPENING MOVES INTO STEP TWO** - Coos Bay Police Recruitment has moved to step two: the Department is now scheduling 80 applicants to take the Physical Agility Test and Written Exam. The City received and reviewed 110 applications for the two position openings of Police Officer. These numbers represent a dramatic increase over past recruitment efforts in the number of applications submitted for consideration. Presently, the Department has three police office openings.

**OFFICER O’LOUGHLIN ACCEPTS POSITION IN HILLSBORO** - Coos Bay Police Officer Dan O’Loughlin has been offered and has accepted a position with Hillsboro Police Department. He will be reporting for duty there November 1<sup>st</sup>. He states he will miss us greatly in Coos Bay and that “it has been a joy working for an agency where professionalism is a priority”. Dan came with experience to us in Coos Bay three years ago. His assignments and collateral duties here included D.A.R.E. officer, Defensive Tactics Instructor, and certified motorcycle and bicycle patrol officer. He rapidly moved to a position of leadership and most recently has served as a Watch Commander on patrol platoon. Dan began his law enforcement career in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, where he was a Constable at the University of Alberta. We’ll miss him, too.

**POLICE SERGEANT ROBSON CELEBRATES 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY** - Coos Bay Police Sergeant Ron Robson arrived at his ten year anniversary with the Department on a busy night shift this week. Prior to coming to Coos Bay he had another career. After graduating from Luther Rice Seminaries in Florida, he became a pastor with the Cross-Cultural Ministries. He served in that capacity for twelve years in the Fiji Islands. His aptitude for teaching has served him well as a police officer. In addition to working patrol, investigations and supervising a patrol platoon, he has taught law enforcement classes at S.W.O.C.C. in the Reserve Officer Training Program, (R.O.T.A.). Most recently, he created and developed a popular new program for the Department: the Police Family Academy. He is looking forward to the upcoming year of training, coaching and mentoring the cadre of new officers beginning their careers with us in Coos Bay. Sgt. Robson lives at home with his wife and a very...big...(spoiled) dog, a Mastiff named GUNNER.

**TELECOMMUNICATORS TO CREATE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS** - Coos Bay Telecommunicators with the assistance of K-DOCK Radio are putting together a series of public service announcement, (P.S.A.s), about the proper usage of the 9-1-1 reporting system. Listen for them, soon.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HOST GOVERNMENT REPORT CARD 2001** - The Coos County League of Women Voters will host Government Report Card 2001 on Saturday, October 27 from 3:00 - 6:00 PM at the Red Lion Inn in Coos Bay. This event will feature State Senator Ken Messerle, Mayor Joe Benetti, County Commissioners Nikki Whitty, Pete DeMain and John Griffith, Judges Richard Barron, Michael Gillespie and Martin Stone, and Sheriff Andy Jackson. Each elected official will outline progress made in our state and community during his or her term in office. This event provides local citizens an opportunity to ask questions about current issues impacting our area. Tickets to Government Report Card 2001 will be \$7.50 and can be purchased either from a League member or at the door. Any questions about this event can be directed to Judith Van Duzer at 267-6508 or Jennifer Groth at 267-6662.

**COOS ART MUSEUM RECEIVES GRANT** - Coos Art Museum received important funding last week

from the Oregon Arts Commission. State Representative Joanne Verger presented a check for an Arts Industry Development Grant in a brief ceremony at the museum. The festivities were attended by Coos Bay Mayor Joe Benetti, Bill Flood of the Oregon Arts Commission as well as several members of the museum's Board of Directors. Museum Administrator Reed Lockhart remarked "It is particularly gratifying to have support from the Oregon Arts Commission and, with it, from the National Endowment for the Arts. We believe that State and National level participation in the museum's support base - especially when teamed up with the tremendous positive involvement of the local community - is an essential ingredient in the museum's continued success."