



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

November 8, 2002

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@coosbay.org	

BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWALS - It is nearly time once again for firms operating in the city of Coos Bay to renew their business licenses. The renewal forms are in the final review process before we place them in the mail the week of November 18th. If you have any questions or need to update your mailing address, please give Community Services a call at 269-8918.

Last year, Community Services requested that all firms provide their "NAICS" code (North American Industry Classification System—replaces the old SIC/Standard Industry Classification system). The code allows the city to print out our business list by industry classification—useful information for many. Staff is currently working on fine-tuning the list, to eliminate duplication, and then will be recommending a reasonable fee for the list so that individuals interested in the list can have access to this valuable information.

EXPERIENCE WORKS! - The federal Experience Works! program has provided the City of Coos Bay over the past several years with many volunteers who have provided volunteer services for the public and in turn gained valuable on-the-job skills. The most recent Experience Works success story involves DeAnn Shaw who is leaving us within the next week because she has been hired through the Experience Works program as one of their coordinators. The public and city staff have appreciated working with you DeAnn! Congratulations! Experience Works is already working on a new volunteer for Community Services.

CITY HALL COMPUTER NETWORKING CONTRACT - The City of Coos Bay has partnered with School District 9 to assess City Halls computer needs. The City Council by consensus approved the plan set forth early this year. The next milestone to be accomplished is placing the cabling to network the servers and computers throughout the building. This project was competitively bid and was awarded to Valley Electrical Contractors at \$37,410 at the November 5th Council meeting. The funding for this project was set aside during the FY 2002-2003 budget process in a reserve account to pay for capital technology items. Funds used for this project were from the Repair/Replacement fund and are not available for operating expenses. The work will start within the month and should be completed by the end of January 2003.

NEW PLANTS ALONG CENTRAL - The ladies of Laureate Xi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi have adopted Central Avenue from Highway 101 to 4th Street. The ladies planted kale (donated by Agri-Tech) in the various planters along Central along with daffodil and tulip bulbs for spring blooming. Merchants along Central have helped with the watering of the plants. The ladies also have weeded the area several times and will continue to keep this area of downtown in nice shape. Great job ladies and thanks.

CBDA GETS GRANT FUNDING - Chris Coles, President of the Coos Bay Downtown Association is in New York November 7 to November 11 to attend the International Conference on Farmers' Markets. The Downtown Association received grant funding for Coles' attendance from the Kellogg Foundation. Topics at the conference will include Farmers' Markets in Low Income Communities, Economic Spin Off from Farmers' Markets, Upward Mobility, Public Markets for the Public Good and Funding Sources for Markets. Coles leaves following a successful Safe Halloween Trick or Treating. Coming up shortly after she returns will be the Tree Lighting in downtown Coos Bay. The Coos Bay Downtown Association is continuing to grow and develop new ideas and activities for the merchants and shoppers of the Bay Area.

ODF&W LEASES SPACE - The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is leasing an office space from the city of Coos Bay for the fall and winter. Each year ODF&W hires people to count fish in the streams around the county. Over the last few years they have used space in various government offices. This year they approached the city to see if there was a location that could provide them some small office space to use to transfer field notes to permanent notes and a place to park their rigs. Six individuals are sharing an office in Community Services. While the fish counting is still in the early stages, the relationship is working well. The space works well for them and was surplus for the city after recent staff reductions. ODF&W is paying \$200 per month for the space, and reimbursing the city for all phone, copy and fax expenses.

