



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

August 23, 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	

BLACKBERRY ARTS FESTIVAL – Mark your calendar for this weekend, August 24th and 25th, to attend the 20th annual Blackberry Arts Festival. Held in downtown Coos Bay, the festival offers arts and crafts, blackberry treats, entertainment, food, and much more! While you're in the downtown area, drop by the local shops and enjoy a stroll on the boardwalk.

CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS – The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce presents Business After Hours on Thursday, August 28th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Oregon Pacific Banking Company, 915 First Street [Hwy 101], Coos Bay [across the street from Farr's]. This is an opportunity to get to know your fellow Chamber members, do business and enjoy the refreshments. For more information, contact the Chamber at 269-0215.

MUSIC IN MINGUS – Music on the Bay [MOB] will present concerts in the park every Wednesday at 7 p.m. during the month of September. The concerts will take place on the stage [just below the pool facility] and everyone is invited to attend. In the event of rain, the concerts will be held at the Marshfield High School auditorium. The schedule is as follows: September 4th – Acoustic Excellence featuring John Standefer; September 11th – September 11th Memorial; September 18th – Curtis Salgado; and September 25th Pink Martini. For more information, check out their websites: www.praiseguitar.com www.curtissalgado.com www.pinkmartini.com

Primary funding for the community concerts came from a Ford Family Foundation \$7500 matching grant, plus a \$4000 grant from US Bank's Community Foundation, and generous support from local citizens and businesses. Our thanks for the vision and hard work of the members of Music on the Bay!

VACANCY ON THE PARKS COMMISSION – Applications for a citizen-at-large position on the Parks Commission will be accepted in the City Manager's Office through 5 p.m. September 9, 2002. The appointment will be to complete an unexpired term ending December 31, 2004. Application and information about the Parks Commission is available at city hall or by calling 269-8912 during normal business hours.

LIBRARY TO RECEIVE NEW TECHNOLOGY FROM GATES FOUNDATION GRANT – The Coos Bay Public Library has been designated, along with all other Coos County public libraries and others throughout Oregon, to receive computer equipment through a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant. The grants are available to communities suffering from economic downturns. The library will receive four E6000 series Gateway computers, a content server, printer and Microsoft software. The equipment will include two Spanish language keyboards. All of the computers will be dedicated to public use, including one in the children's department.

The library is taking advantage of the grant's allowance for wiring to reconfigure the children's department in order to make way for the new computer. The project will allow the library to solve several problems: relocating the computer stations to a more visible area, moving magazine shelving to a more accessible spot, expanding capacity for shelving of videos and audio tapes. The Friends of the Library will be asked to fund the cost of added shelving. The grant includes two full days of training for library staff plus a year's unlimited toll-free technical support.

ART SHOW AT LIBRARY ENTERS FINAL DAYS – An outstanding exhibit of textile art by Dawn McIntyre continues at Coos Bay Public Library in the main reading room and in lobby display cases, through August 30th. McIntyre's art blends high fashion and surface design in one-of-a-kind fabrics and art clothing pieces.

SUSPENSION OF ALL BURNING IN EFFECT – As of 1:00 p.m. August 22, 2002, the Coos Forest Protective Association suspended all burning in their area due to the dry conditions. In cooperation with the CFPA, the City has also suspended all burning in the City, Bunker Hill, Libby and Timber Park districts until there is an improvement in conditions. These restrictions cover burn barrels, open burns, and DEQ permitted burns. **There is to be no burning in**

the City. If anyone notices someone burning, please contact the fire department at 269-1191 and we will send someone out to talk with the people.

SEPTEMBER 11TH COMMEMORATION – The City Council adopted a proclamation, “A Day to Remember”, Tuesday evening establishing an annual commemoration of September 11th. The purpose of the event is to promote global peace and goodwill, demonstrate America’s resolve to win the war on terrorism, advance responsible citizenship, encourage patriotism and love of country, and remember the innocent victims that died on September 11th. Events being held on September 11th include a choir group, under the direction of Phil Drehmer, will perform on the boardwalk at 8:30 a.m., the American Legion Bay Area Post 34 will hold a ceremony for the disposal of unserviceable flags at their headquarters [1421 Airport Way, North Bend] at noon, and the cities of Coos Bay and North Bend, with the help of many community members, will hold a special program at 7 p.m. on the stage in Mingus Park.

MARGIE SAUSE DONATES TUGBOAT TO THE CITY – This week the City Council accepted a generous donation from Margie Sause, accepting “The Irene” as a gift from Mrs. Sause in honor of her late husband Curt Sause. The Irene was Mr. Sause’s first boat and, built in Garibaldi decades ago, was the seed from which Sause Bros. Ocean Towing Company blossomed and grew. The Irene is currently being stored at Coos Bay city shops but soon will be relocated to a proud display location, likely in the grassy mall south of Taco Time on Highway 101. Thanks Mrs. Sause for this generous gift. We’ll display her proudly as a reminder of Curt and the great contribution Sause Bros. Has made to our area over the decades.

NATURAL GAS PIPELINE LAND USE HEARING – On Monday City Manager Bill Grile and Fire Chief Stan Gibson traveled to Coquille with Port of Coos Bay General Manager Allan Rumbaugh where the three each testified in support of the conditional use permit land use permit sought by Coos County to allow the gas pipeline project to move forward. The permit had been denied by the County Planning Commission on a split vote. “That decision is not likely to stand,” said Grile, who served previously for 16 years as Coos County planning director. “The evidence in favor of an approval seems compelling,” he added. A decision will be issued by the hearings officer from Bend, Oregon hired by the Coos County Commissioners to hear their appeal. Stay tuned.

2002 FUND EXCHANGE PROGRAM – Each year the City receives pass through money in the amount of \$75,000 to \$80,000 from the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) by way of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to do projects on local streets. Most cities in the State are not large enough to complete the necessary paper work required by the FHA to receive the money. ODOT steps in and administers the Fund Exchange Program and keeps 8% percent for administrative purposes and the remainder is distributed to cities and counties based on population. For the 2002 money, the City has tentatively earmarked LaClair Street from Newmark to approximately 350 south for a widening project. The widening will be necessary to accommodate traffic when the proposed widening of Newmark is complete. The LaClair Street project will provide a three lane transistion, with two lanes for turning right and left onto Newmark and a single lane southbound. The Newmark widening project includes the placement of a traffic signal at the intersection to allow for easier access onto Newmark.

COOS BAY DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING – The Coos Bay Downtown Association’s new website is up and running. Log on at www.coosbaydowntown.com to see what they have accomplished. The Association’s hope is that the website will make it easier for potential businesses to get information and connect to landlords to help fill our downtown locations. If you have comments about the website, contact President Chris Coles at 269-4065 or liverlives@aol.com

MARSHFIELD OVERLAY PROJECT MAKES HEADWAY -- Crews will be paving on South 11th and Johnson Street next week. Work on South 10th Street won’t be final for two more weeks to allow for some additional work and driveway access work to be completed. During the project it became apparent that the east side of the street needed work that had originally been thought to not be necessary at this time. The additional work will improve the stormwater flow in the area.