



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

November 15, 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

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING SCHEDULED – Community Services and Police staff are teaming up for a neighborhood meeting regarding parking around Marshfield High School. The meeting will be Monday, November 18th at 5:30 p.m. in the Marshfield cafeteria. With the completion of construction at the high school, and the start of the school year, it is time to check in with residents regarding the balance of their parking needs with the needs of the students and staff of the high school. In the past there has been a parking district for several blocks around the high school. It isn't known if the district is still needed, if only a smaller area has impacts or if there are other issues entirely. Flyers advertising the meeting have been delivered to all the homes in the old parking district. The flyer includes a small survey that can be answered and returned by folks who are not interested in attending the meeting, but wish to give their comments. If you have any questions, please contact Shanda Shribbs at 269-8918.

LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE – Last weekend Mayor Benetti and Councilor Eck attended the League of Oregon Cities annual conference, held this year in Portland. This was the 77th yearly gathering of Oregon's nearly 240 municipalities, extending a tradition that serves to keep our state's cities united about core values, and strong. Mayor Benetti and Councilor Eck represented Coos Bay at this year's conference, attending sessions that included addresses by Senators Gordon Smith and Ron Wyden, sessions such as training for mayors and overviews of the states public pension crises. City Manager Bill Grile also attended the conference, gaining most from a day long workshop for Oregon's city managers designed to expand thinking about how best to deal with the municipal funding crises affecting the majority of Oregon's cities. "Consolidated services" was identified as one opportunity with many advantages. At Saturday evening's annual awards banquet, the Coos Bay and North Bend delegations shouldered up to share a table, conversation and an evening to build relationships. Sharing services is an opportunity both cities can capitalize upon, if the will is there to do so, and this can be done regardless of whether or not the 2004 proposed City of Coos Bay - North Bend consolidation vote combines the two cities. In side conversations after the managers' session, North Bend City Manager Jan Willis and Coos Bay City Manager Bill Grile both agreed that discussions about shared services should probably be held at some point to see where economies could produce savings beneficial to both of their cities.

To learn more about the League and its annual conference, visit <http://www.orcities.org/>.

CITY MANAGER ELECTED TO SERVE ON OREGON CITY MANAGERS' BOARD – During last weekend's League of Oregon Cities conference, Coos Bay City Manager Bill Grile was unanimously elected to a term on the Board of Directors of the Oregon City/County Management Association (OCCMA). The association is an affiliate of the League and the International City/County Management Association. Grile's election followed nomination of a slate by a committee comprised of League executive director Ken Strobeck, current OCCMA president Jon Nelson (Corvallis city manager), OCCMA president-elect Steve Bryant (Albany city manager) and OCCMA past-president Larry Lehman (Pendleton city manager).

The Oregon City/County Management Association (OCCMA), established in 1958, is a voluntary association of persons who hold the position of administrator, manager or assistant administrator manager of a city or county or as the administrator of a council of governments. The OCCMA Constitution and By-Laws specify three purposes for the association: to support professional management in local government by increasing the knowledge and ability of administrators and managers; by promoting the exchange of information between members; and by offering personal support to members. The OCCMA is also dedicated to sustaining the functions and aims of the International City/County Management Association. Although staff support is provided by the League of Oregon Cities, the leadership of the OCCMA is vested in a Board of ten directors which include a President, President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, the Immediate Past President, and six directors. The OCCMA sponsors an e-mail group wherein city and county managers can pose questions via e-mail and receive responses from other members about their experiences and practices. OCCMA also

sponsors a "range rider" program which makes technical assistance from a respected retired manager available to local government managers and administrators. OCCMA also publishes a quarterly newsletter for its members.

"I'm really looking forward to working with the new OCCMA Board as the organization seeks ways to help Oregon's cities maintain position during the forthcoming session of the Oregon Legislature," said Grile. "Oregon cities face greater challenges today than they have for decades," he added, "and we need keep reminding the State of Oregon that most of Oregon's population depends on their municipal governments for many of the critically important services that are essential for maintaining the quality of life we treasure here in our home towns." As an interesting aside, Grile and OCCMA president-elect Steve Bryant served together on the Board of the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association in 1983 during previous careers as local government land use planners. To learn more about OCCMA, visit www.occma.org.

OREGON STATE TREASURER RANDALL EDWARDS STOPS IN FOR A VISIT – The state's chief financial officer, Randall Edwards, called for a visit this week with Coos Bay Council President Jeff McKeown and City Manager Bill Grile. Coos Bay finance director Janell K. Howard, CPA, also attended the hour-long meeting yesterday at city hall. Edwards was elected Oregon's 26th State Treasurer in November 2000 and is one of the youngest Oregonians to hold the office. As State Treasurer, he serves as the state's financial officer, with responsibilities that include management of the state's \$50 billion portfolio, the issuance of all state bonds and the central banking functions of state government. Yesterday's meeting provided an opportunity to exchange thoughts about challenges facing both state and local governments, and education here in Oregon. Council President McKeown shared information about efforts underway by the South Coast Development Council to strengthen the local economy and create jobs, with helpful suggestions provided by Treasurer Edwards that can help in this endeavor. "It was thoughtful for Randall Edwards to reach out to us like this," commented Grile after the meeting. "We're grateful that Oregon's Treasurer clearly wants to help build strong communities throughout the state," continued Grile. "Mr. Edwards indicated that the Coos Bay – South Coast area is one that needs special help and has his attention," Grile added.

Serving as a member of the Oregon State Land Board, Edwards affects policy in a number of areas near and dear to local residents, including management of the Elliot State Forest and submerged and submersible tidelands under state ownership. As a result of the meeting with Coos Bay officials, the Treasurer's office will likely be calling one Front Street property owner who has had issues with the State Land Board. Thank you, State Treasurer Randall Edwards, for reaching out to our community like this! We appreciate the partnership.

To learn more about the Oregon State Treasurer and the State Treasury, visit <http://www.ost.state.or.us/>.

HELPLINE THANKSGIVING GALA TO BE HELD – The first annual Helpline of the South Coast Thanksgiving Gala will be held at Old City Hall on November 23rd from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. This fund raiser will feature the band "Just Us" [sponsored by the Oregon Lab Band], a silent auction, a buffet of Hors D'oeuvres and a no host bar. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased from Bandon True Value, Oregon Federal Credit Union [Coquille office], South Coast Office Supply, Young's Southbound Sound and Music, or by calling Helpline office at 266-0250 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to make a tax deductible donation, you may send it to Helpline of the South Coast, Inc., 365 D Street, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MEETING – The League of Women Voters will hold a no host lunch meeting Saturday, November 16th from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the banquet room at Sumin's restaurant. The presentation will be on the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department's Ocean Shore Management Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan. Everyone is welcome to attend and may contact Judith at 267-6508 or Margie at 756-5290 for more information.

LIBRARY MARKS 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBRARY DISTRICT WITH OPEN HOUSE – Coos Bay Library invites the community to celebrate the 10th anniversary of formation of the Coos County Library Service District on Monday, November 18th from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The library, with the Library Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library, will host an open house featuring library tours, unveiling of a new library Web site, refreshments, and door prizes donated by area merchants. A continuous PowerPoint presentation in the

The Friday Update – November 15, 2002

Page 3

Myrtlewood Room will describe the services of Coos Bay Public Library, and information will be available throughout the library about the countywide resources provided by the Library District.

Demonstrations are scheduled at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. of the new computers gifted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The demonstrations will feature an interactive "Magic School Bus" program for children, several new Encarta tools such as an interactive atlas, dictionary and encyclopedia, various Microsoft Office Suite programs, access for computer users with vision problems, and access of computer applications in various languages. Tours will be conducted at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Stories for all ages will be read from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. by members of the Marshfield High School Honor Society.

Come in and help us celebrate!