



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

June 11, 1999

CITY OF COOS BAY

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HM ENDEAVOUR TO VISIT COOS BAY JULY 9, 1999 – The HM Endeavour is a replica of Captain James Cook's 18th century ship of discovery. The vessel will visit Coos Bay from July 9th to July 19th as part of its west coast visit to the United States. The Endeavour is a museum-quality reconstruction of the ship in which Captain Cook explored the south Pacific as part of a scientific expedition. In addition to taking astronomical sightings and collecting samples of flora and fauna, the crew was charged by England with finding a new site for a penal colony to incarcerate American revolutionaries and other criminals their choice was Botnay Bay in Western Australia. The Endeavour's explorations were major feats of seamanship, navigation, and geography.

The ship will be open to tours daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 10 - 18. Additional information may be obtained by calling 541-269-8921. Teachers, educators, and youth groups are welcome to book tours during Endeavour's visit. Any person who would like to volunteer or help sponsor the visit may also call the Coos Bay / North Bend Promotions and Convention Bureau at 541-269-8921.

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR ESSAY CONTEST – All elementary and middle school students are eligible to enter Mayor Verger's 4th of July Essay Contest "What the 4th of July Means to Me". Entries must be received at Coos Bay City Hall by Monday, June 21st at 5 p.m.

The essay can be of any length and can be either written or typed. Please make sure the writer's name, address, age, school, grade, and telephone number are included in the entry. Winners must be present at the celebration in Mingus Park on Saturday, July 3rd to read their essay and receive their award. Entries may be mailed to "July 4th Celebration", City Manager's Office, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay OR 97420. For more information call 269-8912. Prizes: One \$50 US Savings Bond for the winner in grades 1, 2 or 3; one \$50 US Savings Bond for the winner in grades 4 or 5, and one \$50 US Savings Bond for the winner in grades 6, 7 or 8.

JOINT WORK SESSION SCHEDULED – The Cities of Coos Bay and North Bend will hold a joint work session on Thursday, June 17, 1999 at 7 p.m. in the conference rooms at Bay Area Hospital. The agenda includes discussion of coordinated city cleanup, sharing information on city involvement with youth activities, discussion of the ambulance service, discussion of 9-1-1, and an update on PEG access TV. The meeting is open to the public and will also be shown on the government access channel 14.

LIVABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING – The Livability Committee met on Wednesday of this week to begin finalizing the economic development plan and expects to have a draft ready for their next meeting on June 22nd. Chair John Sweet met with members of the governor's staff last Friday to report on the committee's progress. A report to the community will be made either in late July or early August.

SWOCC GRADUATES – The Fire Department would like to congratulate two department members who will be getting their degrees this month. Volunteer firefighters Jared Corrigall, Russ Thackery, and Christie Farmer will receive their Fire Science degrees this Saturday in graduation exercises at Southwestern College.

JULY 4TH FIREWORKS SHOW – This years fireworks show will be held on Sunday, July 4th at

approximately 10 p.m. This years show will be larger than in the past and should be visible from most of the downtown areas. The July 4th celebration will also take place at Mingus Park on Saturday, July 3rd with the annual fishing derby and other fun activities around the lake.

“CULTURE AS A CONCEPTUAL TOOL FOR JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION” – On June 8th and 9th, Police Sergeant. Eura Washburn, and Officers Tony Wetmore and Dan O’Loughlin participated in a two training seminar at the Red Lion Motor Inn in Coos Bay. Training topics focused on cultural competency, dealing with race/gender issues and developing practical skills for implementing organizational strategies. The seminar was sponsored by The Governor’s Office, Oregon Youth Authority, Department of Human Resources, Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, Oregon Commission on Children and Families and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee (JCPAC). Additional funding was provided from Federal Formula Grant Funds.

EMPIRE SUBSTATION VOLUNTEERS CONDUCTING DRUG ACTIVITY SURVEY IN EMPIRE DISTRICT – Police Department volunteers are working in the Empire District for the next several weeks conducting a survey. The purpose of this survey is to determine ways residents, businesses and workers in the area believe the area could be improved as a neighborhood. The information gathered may also be used in cooperation with the Coos-Curry Housing Authority to apply for state and federal grant funds to increase police services in that area.

1998-99 DARE PROGRAM A SUCCESS – Coos Bay Police Department DARE Officers Rob Scoville and Scott LaFevre culminated the 1998-99 DARE training in Coos Bay Schools this past week with graduation programs at Eastside and Madison Elementary Schools. The Police Department is looking forward to another successful year when school resumes this Fall.

MINGUS PARK POOL BATHHOUSE – The construction phase of the new pool building will officially begin on June 21 with an on-site **Ground breaking Ceremony** scheduled for 10:00 am. The major players for this project are Rob Porter from Rich Turi Architecture & Planning and Larry Burroughs from D.L.B. Construction, Inc. as the general contractor. This long awaited addition to the community is the result of voter support and the cooperation between the Pool Management Assoc. and the City of Coos Bay.

TRUCK AND TRAILER PARKING - Another informal session has been scheduled at City Hall on Saturday, June 26, 1999 at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers. Everybody who is interested in this issue is invited to attend.

“F” STREET PROJECT – The “F” Street project is moving along with curb and gutter scheduled to be installed next week. One section of road at 12th Street had to be narrowed due to the steepness of the bank. A small retaining or sheet piles will be needed to support the new curb. Look for paving in the near future. Any questions about the project can be directed to the Dept. of Community Services at 269-8918.

EMPIRE BOAT RAMP – Community Services staff have applied to the Oregon State Marine Board for emergency money to repair the south boarding floats at the Empire Boat ramp. The Marine Board will be sending a design to retrofit the boarding floats so they will be able to removed in the fall and placed back in the spring. Once the City receives the plans, quotes will be obtained and forwarded to the Marine Board with a request for funding.

PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS – A significant portion of the collection has been made available to library patrons although remodeling of the old library wing is in full swing. The library plans to remain open through June 17th during which time the staff will move into their new workroom. Last

minute changes of electrical, telephone, and computer outlets are almost completed to allow the move to commence. The staff looks forward to using their new, spacious accommodations.

MANUFACTURED DWELLING GFCI AND SMOKE DETECTOR TEST – Due to a number of failures reported by home owners, the Manufactured Structures and Parks Advisory Board adopted Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 918-500-00065 requiring manufactured dwelling installation inspectors to test the ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) and the smoke detectors on each manufactured dwelling installed. If any of the smoke detectors or GFCI's fail the tests, the inspector will identify the failure as a code violation on the inspection report and require a correction. If you have any questions on this please contact the Building Dept. at 269-8918.

LABOR TRENDS-SOUTH COAST ADDS JOBS IN APRIL - Nonfarm employment was higher on the South Coast in April. Coos County posted a gain of 180 jobs, while Curry added 80. Unemployment in both counties decreased significantly from the previous month. Over the year, Coos County's nonfarm job total increased by 430. Unemployment in the county was 8.2 percent compared to 9.7 percent in March and 10.7 percent in April 1998.

Coos County's Manufacturing sector added 60 jobs in April. As was the case in March, increases came from wood products and seafood processing. Non-manufacturing added 120 jobs in Coos County in April. Retail trade increased by 80 jobs, with half the gain in eating and drinking places. Public education employment was up by 60 and construction by 20. These gains offset losses in communications and utilities of 70. Much of the loss came from fewer beach cleanup workers within utilities. Services jobs were down slightly for the month. Non-manufacturing employment increased by 350 over the year. Local government (+170) and services (+140) accounted for most of the gain. Local government gains were in public health services and tribal activities. (Information excerpted from State of Oregon Employment Department)