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Councilor  
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Councilor  
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Councilor  
Thomas Leahy



Councilor  
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### Tsunami Awareness – Blue Line Project

The City of Coos Bay was one of four coastal cities chosen by the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to participate in the Blue Line Project. This is a Tsunami awareness campaign that has had success in New Zealand. The program incorporates a blue stripe and signage placed directly onto the road surface at the estimated high-water mark to remind residents and visitors of potential Tsunami hazard areas. The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has calculated what low elevation areas would likely be at risk of Tsunami wave and flooding. Their maps are available at City Hall, the Coos Bay Library, the Fire Station, and online at [www.oregontsunami.org](http://www.oregontsunami.org). Coos Bay held a Tsunami evacuation drill on March 11<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the magnitude 9.0 earthquake and subsequent tsunami that struck the Japanese coastline.

The thick blue lines and signs were installed this week by the Street Department staff. The stripe and signs, similar to our crosswalks, are a thick decal that is melted with a torch into the asphalt of the street. This installation process securely sticks the sign to the pavement, and the decals should last up to four times longer than conventional painted signs. This special material contains small glass beads that make the signs reflective. The five locations for the signs are:

- Newmark Avenue between Wall and Wasson Street
- Coos Bay Blvd. at 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Central Ave. between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> St.
- Hall St. between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> St., and
- 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue just north of E Street



These locations were chosen because they represent main routes leading out of the inundation zone and to the identified assembly areas.

The other three communities participating in this OEM Blue Line project include Florence, Reedsport, and Gold Beach.

## The PD gets a special delivery

On Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup>, the Coos Bay Police Department had a special delivery! Five year old Genevieve and her dad Grant stopped by to deliver some cupcakes. She wanted to make sure that our officers know "how awesome" she thinks they are! Genevieve took a moment to take some photos with Officer Krebs, Sgt. Merritt, and Sgt. Lounsbury prior to continuing her deliveries! She then went to the Coos Bay Fire Department as well as North Bend Police Department and North Bend Fire Department to drop off some more cupcakes.



## Worksource Coos Has Moved To Coos Bay!



Worksource Coos, the employment office, recently located from North Bend to Coos Bay. They are now at 990 South 2<sup>nd</sup>, the former site of Native American Technology Corp. Call Debbie Sargent at (541)756-8459 for more information.

Coos Bay City  
Hall  
500 Central  
Avenue  
Coos Bay, OR  
97420

[www.coosbay.org](http://www.coosbay.org)

Police  
Department  
(541) 269-8911

Fire Department  
(541) 269-1191

Library  
(541) 269-1101

Community  
Development  
Department

(541) 269-8918  
or  
(541) 269-8924

Public Works  
Department  
(541) 269-8918

Finance  
Department  
(541) 269-8915

City Manager's  
Office  
(541) 269-8912

## The Art of Lucy & Ellen Begay at the Library

An illustrated talk by art collector Gary Beaudoin based on his book "Unbroken Web: The Art of Ellen & Lucy Begay", celebrating the complex and beautiful works of these modern Navajo (Diné) weavers has been scheduled on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 pm at the Coos Bay Public Library.



## Celebrating Years of Service

April 1, 2016 marks the **20<sup>th</sup> year** that **Matt Fare** has been an employee of the City of Coos Bay.

Matt's time here actually goes back further than that – to June of 1990 – when he started with us as a volunteer firefighter. He served almost six years as a volunteer; and in April of 1996, he was hired as a full-time paid firefighter. Throughout his career, Matt has been a diligent, hard-working servant for the Coos Bay Fire Department. Matt has worked to improve himself and those around him. He holds several significant certifications: Firefighter II, Fire Officer II, Rope Rescue Technician, EMT Intermediate, and more. Matt has coordinated projects at the Fire Department that include fire hydrant maintenance, EMS program, fire extinguisher maintenance, janitorial supplies, and grounds keeping.



Most of Matt's adult life has been in service of others. After graduating high school, he spent four years in the United States Air Force as a firefighter. From 2003 to 2007 Matt served in the Oregon Army National Guard as a Sargent, and was deployed once to Iraq and once to Louisiana for hurricane relief. From 2008 to 2012, Matt served as the Director of Southwestern Oregon Veterans Outreach, and he continues to serve that organization as a representative to Veterans.

# The Friday Update

**Rhonda Wilson** began her career with the Coos Bay Police Department in September 1985 as a part time dispatcher, and she moved into a full time position in May of 1986. During Rhonda's **30 plus years** with the Coos Bay Police Department, she has accumulated over 1,400 training hours; and she holds a Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Certifications through DPSST.



Over the years, there have been six different police chiefs that have had the honor of being told “Where to go and what to do” by Rhonda as she dispatched them on calls for service. She is one of the centers training dispatchers, and she has been instrumental in seeing that the same high standards continue to be in place as new dispatchers are hired and trained.

In addition to receiving numerous department awards and citations, Rhonda has also received a “Life Saving Award” in 2014, and a “Distinguished Service Award” in 2010 from the Oregon Peace Officers Association. In 2007, Rhonda was one of the employees who was recognized by former Chief Eura Washburn as one “Employees of the Year” in the department for her dedicated service to the citizens of Coos Bay.

April 3<sup>rd</sup> will mark **31 years** of employment service at the Coos Bay Police Department, and 36 years over all for **Communications Supervisor Tia Akers**.



Tia began her law enforcement career while she was a student at the North Bend High School by first joining the Coos County Explorer program as well as a work experience student in the dispatch center at North Bend Police Department. After turning 21, Tia became a Reserve Police Officer with the City of Eastside and then with the Coos Bay Police Department when Eastside was annexed by the City of Coos Bay.

In August of 1980, Tia was hired as a full time dispatcher with the North Bend Police Department, and she worked in the center until April of 1985 when she was hired by the Coos Bay Police Department. In her 31 years at Coos Bay, she has served in several capacities; but she has supervised the North Coos 911/CBPD Communications Center for last 25 years.

In 1993, Tia was named the Oregon State Telecommunicator of the year, 1997 she received the Oregon Instructor of the Year Award through DPSST as well as many more awards and certificates throughout her career.

Tia recently announced her pending retirement in June of this year, and she is looking forward to spending quality time with husband Ron a North Bend Police Department Captain, her three children, and eight grandchildren.