



January 2014



Mayor
Crystal Shoji



Council President
Stephanie Kramer



Councilor
Gene Melton



Councilor
Jennifer Groth



Councilor
John Muenchrath



Councilor
Mike Vaughan



Councilor
Mark Daily

Looking Back...

The ball in Times Square will soon drop signaling the beginning of the New Year. Many people utilize the beginning of the New Year to not only make new resolutions, but also a time to reflect on the past year. In looking back at 2013, I am most thankful for all those who have volunteered to make this a great community! Here are just a few examples of those who gave of their time and talents this past year:



On Saturday, July 20, 2013, approximately 400 volunteers / members from congregations of the Church of the Latter-day Saints from Brookings to Florence converged on Coos Bay to provide a helping hand throughout the City's parks.



On August 3, 2013, approximately 50 volunteers from Northwest Community Credit Union renovated Ed Lund Park and the community park near Wasson and Taylor Ave.

Coos Bay also benefited by the volunteering of students from School District 9, and employees from the South Slough Estuary who assisted the City with invasive species removal in Mingus Park this past year. In addition, employees from CH2MHill, staff and students from School District 9, employees from SCEBC, and members of the Parks Commission all volunteered with Arbor Day tree planting.

Our City is also blessed to have so many citizens who regularly give of their time and talent in assisting on the following boards, committees, and commissions:

Our 2013 **Budget Committee** members included Brian Bowers, Peter Cooley, Lucinda DiNovo, Howard Forte, Philip Marler, Roy Metzger and Colin Myatt.

Hilary Baker, Bruce Harlan, Weldon Laiche, and Robert Vandervelden all serve on the City's **Building & Fire Code Board of Appeals**.

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Greek Films to Whales: Something for Everyone at the Library

January might be the middle of winter but that only means more to do at the Coos Bay Public Library. Several cinema events will take place. Enjoy **Attenberg**, an off beat coming of age story from Greece, on Foreign Film Friday, January 10th at 7:00 p.m. On January 14th, experience some surf and sun by travelling to Hawaii through the Armchair Adventure film series at 2:00 p.m. And if you still need more film, come celebrate Oscar Season by watching, **Argo**, the winner of the 2012 Academy Award for Best Picture on January 24th at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, the library will be hosting a local Authors Panel on January 25th at noon. During this Brown Bag lunch session, four local authors will discuss their works and field questions from the audience.

For the younger crowd, the library's Lego Club will kick off on January 9th at 3:30 p.m. And also for children is a special event on January 28th. Educators from Oregon Museum of Science and Industry will host a session on Amazing Whales and a Portable Planetarium. **These programs will be open to children ages 6 – 14. Registration is required due to limited space.** These OMSI programs will be held at the Coos Bay Fire Station on Elrod at 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The Fire Station has graciously agreed to host these programs because the exhibits OMSI is bringing are so large they won't fit inside the library. For more information about the library or library programs, please call 541-296-1101.



Hours

Library:

Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Friday - Saturday 12:00pm - 6:00 pm

Sunday Closed

Friends of the Library Book Store:

Wednesday - Saturday 12:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Looking Back...

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The 2013 **Design Review Committee** members were Hilary Baker, Darla Lesan, Andrew Locati, Ariann Lyons, Perry St. John, Sara Recken, and Robert Sasanoff.

Our Library benefited from Bruce Bennett, Dennis Dater, Kathy Erickson, Steve Metz, Teri Jones, George Ruggles, Gina Sutherland, and Gene Melton who all served on the 2013 **Library Board**.

The 2013 **City's Parks Commission** members included Christine Coles, Ariann Lyons, Carmen Matthews, Bev Meyers, Bill Otton, Patty Scott, Jennifer Stephens, and Mike Vaughan.

Our 2013 **Planning Commissioners** were Jim Berg, Christine Coles, Bruce Harlan, Chris Hood, Jeff Marineau, Philip Marler, and Rex Miller.

Beth Clarkson, Ariann Lyons, Rex Miller, Jake Robinson, Kim Sign, Cora Vadervelden, and Mike Vaughan all served on the 2013 **Tree Board**.

The 2013 **Egyptian Theatre Restoration Steering Committee** included David Abernathy, Gene Melton, Bob More, Greg Rueger, Chrystal Shoji, Mike Vaughan, and Susan Watson.

Our newest committee, the **Urban Renewal Advisory Committee** was formed in 2013. Committee members include Jim Berg, Deb Lal, David Petrie, Scott Frasier, Andrew Locati, and John Rockwell.

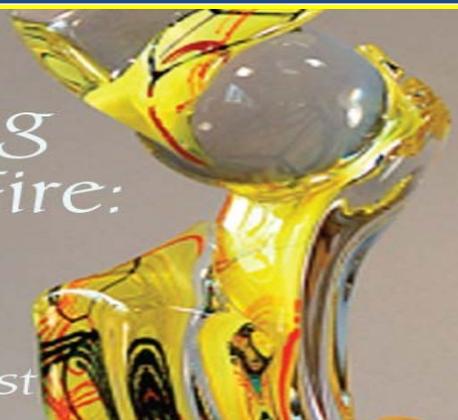
This past year also saw the creation of a **Streets Take Force** which is currently the largest committee. Those serving on the task force included Brice Bennett, Peter Billeter, Brian Bowers, Chris Christoffer, Jamie Fereday, Jennifer Groth, Randy Hoffine, John Kuntson, Dick Leshley, Phil Marler, Beck Mascarenas, Scott McNutt, Jeff Precourt, Bill Richardson, Larry Schoolcraft, Thea Wilson, John Briggs, Garrett Pallo, Rick Skinner, and Matt Whitty.

And not to forget, Mayor Shoji and Councilors Mark Daily, Jennifer Groth, Stephanie Kramer, Gene Melton, Dr. John Muenchrath, and Mike Vaughn all of who donate their talents, an enormous amount of their time and energy to make this a better community to live, work, and visit.

From a grateful city manager and on behalf of the City of Coos Bay, I thank you all!



Rodger Craddock



New Year Brings New Laws

There are dozens of law changes which take effect January 1, 2014. Two changes for motorists include the new ban on smoking in a car while a child is present, and fines for texting or talking on a cell phone while driving is going up.



The passage of Senate Bill 444 prohibits both drivers and passengers from smoking in a vehicle when a minor is present. The violation comes with a minimum fine of \$250 for the first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses.



Did you know that texting and driving is twice as dangerous as driving drunk? While common sense should tell us that the distraction caused when trying to do two activities simultaneously, spoils the chances of successfully accomplishing both tasks. The fact shouts this loud and clear!

A study at the Virginia Tech Driving Institute revealed that those who resort to texting while driving are 23 times more likely to end up in a car crash. According to the statistics compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 5,870 people died and 515,000 people were injured in various car crashes in the United States in 2008 alone. Around 28% of all crashes in 2008 were caused by drivers in the age group of 18 and 29 who admitted to texting while driving.

Driving while texting (reading, writing, and sending text messages and emails) is not only a bad idea, it's against the law. In an effort to persuade drivers from using their cell phones while driving, the penalties for calling or sending a text while driving are going up! Starting January 1st the maximum fine will double - \$500 instead of the current \$250.

Another new law prohibits tethering dogs for extended periods of time! The new law limits the time an animal can be tethered to 10 hours in a 24-hour period or 15 hours if the tether attaches to a line, pulley, or trolley. The law also forbids the use of tethers in a configuration that entangles and endangers animals. In addition, it forbids use of pinching and choking collars when tethering animals.



The law has some exemptions. It applies to the person with custodial control of the animal. It exempts people who stay directly by the animal. It does not apply to animals getting transported, used in a hunt, herding and protecting livestock, at a campground or other recreational area, and for dog sledding.

Business License Renewal Time



Business License renewals are due annually in January. The Community Development Department mailed renewal notices to all current business license holders in November. Just over half of the renewals for 2014 were paid and processed by the end of December.

Business licenses regulate businesses and provide revenue to help pay for their municipal services. Any entity conducting business in Coos Bay is required to have a current business license. This includes retail and service companies, owners of rental property, restaurants, independent consultants, taxi drivers, seasonal and transient businesses, contractors, and non-profits. Although the owners of rental property have been required to have business licenses since 1987, many property owners had not done so. The Community Development Department worked to rectify this in 2013 resulting in numerous new licenses in the past few months.

License fees are based on the type of business, then by number of employees for retail and service businesses, or by number of units for property rentals. The fee schedule is outlined in Resolution 13-01 and listed on the back of the Business License Application Form. It is also available on the City's web site at <http://www.coosbay.org/BusinessLicense>. Late fees are an additional 10% per month for payments not received by January 31st.

The Community Development Department changed the renewal process this year to make it easier for licensees and to save money for the City. The 2014 Business License renewal form included the license and a payment coupon with the amount due and directions for making any changes. Including the license with the renewal meant that City staff did not need to print and mail the individual licenses. While listing the amount due meant that licensees only needed to calculate the fee if there were changes. There were a few minor glitches, but overall the changes were well-received by licensees, saved staff time, and significantly reduced printing and mailing costs.

Committee Openings

The City of Coos Bay is seeking volunteers to fill positions on the Budget Committee. Applications are available from the City Manager's Office at City Hall, by calling 541-269-8912, or the City's website at www.coosbay.org. Applications will be accepted in the City Manager's Office through 5:00 p.m. January 9, 2014. The Budget Committee applicants will be contacted to schedule interviews with the City Council.



Budget Committee – Oregon State Statute Chapter 294 provides that local governing bodies of each municipal corporation shall establish a Budget Committee. The Committee is comprised of the members of the City Council and an equal number of citizens. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Coos Bay and are appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. The meetings are held mid-April and possibly the first week of May at 7 p.m.

There are currently three openings on the Budget Committee.



BROWN BAG LOCAL AUTHOR PANEL

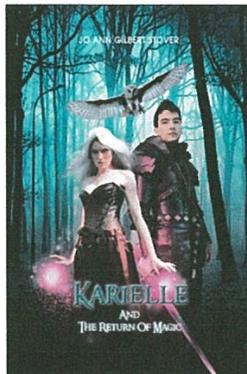


Coos Bay Public Library
Saturday January 25, 12:00pm - 2:00pm



Carlene Rae Dater has published eleven novels, three novellas, and two non-fiction books. She teaches writing at Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos Bay. Carlene will discuss her humorous mystery, *ROMAN CIRCUS*.

Carol Sanders will present *Spy on Clinton Street*, fictional coming of age story of Nancy, growing up in a Polish-American family in 1947 Los Angeles, spying on those around her to learn the secret of being good.



Jo Ann Gilbert Stover writes poetry, children's stories, and young adult fiction. She will showcase the first 2 published volumes of her YA fantasy series including her latest, *Karielle And The Return of Magic*.



Widely published, Shinan Barclay's stories have been translated into Japanese, Portuguese, Czechoslovakian, French and Spanish. She will share chapters from her forthcoming memoir *Arctic Heart: My Transformation among the Iñupiat Eskimos of Kotzebue, Alaska*.



Bring a lunch and enjoy some local literature!

Coos Bay Public Library, 525 Anderson Ave, Coos Bay, OR 97420 541-269-1101

Christmas Tree Pick Up

Coos Bay Firefighters will be picking up Christmas trees that are located within the City limits of Coos Bay on Saturday, January 4, 2014. Firefighters ask that you place your tree next to the curb by 8:00 a.m. on January 4th.

The Coos Bay Fire Department is asking for a canned food donation for the removal of your tree. This year the canned food donations will be given to the Salvation Army. There is no need to call the Fire Department because firefighters will check all streets located within the City limits.



Coos Bay Fire & Rescue



If you need any additional information about the Coos Bay Fire Department Christmas Tree pickup, please contact Battalion Chief Dan Crutchfield or Acting Fire Chief Mark Anderson at 541-269-1191.

Police Department

K-9 Athos Retires



Sergeant Mike Shaffer and K-9 Athos, a Belgian Malinois, began their K-9 careers with the Coos Bay Police Department in January 2006. During this time with the Coos Bay Police K-9 unit, Sergeant Shaffer and Athos were deployed over 150 times and together they located or assisted in the apprehension of over 60 persons as well as the retrieval of articles.

K-9 Athos was instrumental in the resolution of several cases and was an important asset to the Coos Bay Police Department as well as the other Law Enforcement agencies in and around Coos County. Sergeant Shaffer and K-9 Athos were members of the Oregon Police Canine Association from 2006-2013, in which they certified every year by meeting the OPCA standards.

K-9 Athos retired from police work in September 2013 after a long successful career. K-9 Athos will now enjoy his retirement days relaxing at Sergeant Shaffer's home.

City Calendar

- Jan. 7th Coos Bay City Council** - The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 7th Coos Bay Urban Renewal** - The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at the conclusion of the City Council meeting.
- Jan. 9th Coos Bay Tree Board** – The meeting will be held in the City Hall conference room in and will start at 4:00 p.m.
- Jan. 9th Coos Bay / North Bend Visitors Convention Bureau** - The meeting will be held in the meeting room at the Red Lion and will start at 8:30 am.
- Jan. 14th Coos Bay Planning Commission** – The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 6:00 p.m.
- Jan. 15th Coos Bay Library Board** – The meeting will be held in the Cedar room at the Coos Bay Public Library and will start at 5:15 pm.
- Jan. 21st Coos Bay City Council** - The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 7:00 pm.
- Jan. 21st Coos Bay Urban Renewal** - The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at the conclusion of the City Council meeting.
- Jan. 22nd Egyptian Theatre Restoration Steering Committee** – The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Coos Bay Visitor's Center and will start at 6:00 pm.

Coos Bay
City Hall
500 Central Ave
Coos Bay, OR 97420
www.coosbay.org

Police Department
(541) 269-8911

Fire Department
(541) 269-1191

Library
(541) 269-1101

Public Works
Department
(541) 269-8918

Community
Development
Department
(541) 269-8924

Finance Department
(541) 269-8915

City Manager's
Office
(541) 269-8912

For additional information on City meetings contact City Hall
at (541) 269 – 8912