



October 2013



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Crystal Shoji



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Building Community – Not Walls

A Message from Coos Bay Mayor Crystal Shoji

This message was printed in "Your View," The World Newspaper

For the past 34 years, I have lived in the City of Coos Bay, and have experienced this as a tolerant, "live and let live" community. We all have different experiences, so I am certain that not everyone agrees with me. However, I have lived in a number of communities throughout my lifetime, and tolerance for others is a trait that I cherish in this community.

Our "community personality" comes from our heritage that has welcomed ships and seamen from all over the world, while sustaining fishing and blue-collar lumber wood products industries. The Bay Area is retail, professional, medical and educational center, and Coos Bay is the largest city on the Oregon Coast.

Because our community is geographically isolated from major metropolitan centers, self-sufficiency and homegrown creativity are key. At times, other regions use our community as a model; for example, the major donor of the Hillsboro Boys and Girls Club came to Coos Bay to see our facility because he wanted to emulate various features. Sharing is a two-way street.

The fabric of the Bay Area is rich with the traditions of two tribal governments who strengthen and develop the intricate weave of our community. Coos Bay is enhanced by collaboration and friendly competition with sister city, North Bend.

Our beautiful Pacific Coast bay setting continues to attract artists and photographers. Oregon Culinary Institute students become wonderful chefs who shine at international events.

Marshfield graduates make their mark in this community and elsewhere. For example, successful local business owners Lia and Brian Menten greet us in their fun and funky Coos Bay Shark Bites Restaurant. We applaud 2004 Tony Award for Best Book of a musical writer Jeff Whitty, and Oregon Ducks Football Coach Mark Helfrich, both Marshfield graduates. Some of us brag that we knew them when they were kids.

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Building Community – Not Walls (continued)

Our strength lies in our diversity, not in bland “sameness.”

Like many of you, I am discouraged with intolerance that has bred intolerance in relation to the Veterans’ Memorial with the cross at the top that has been located in Mingus Park for more than 40 years. I do not believe that the memorial’s location conflicts with our nation’s Constitution, nor do not think that moving the memorial to a better site over time should be a major problem.

The way that people feel is not a matter of black and white or right and wrong. Personal reactions and perceptions cause many shades of gray, and gray can be a beautiful shade, depending upon the context.

The issue does not get resolved by taking positions, which turn into “us against them.” The road to building community is found in open discussion, collaboration, negotiation, and sincere concern for our neighbors and our community. Demanding that others immediately comply with our personal beliefs will not achieve a better community. When we do not like the status quo, here are some techniques that help build a better community, rather than building walls:

- Get to know like-minded people who want to organize to present their concerns to other groups and/or decision-makers so that various sides of issues can be defined and understood.
- Get to know people who are not like-minded. Try to understand their point of view.
- Engage a neutral facilitator for healthy community discussions.
- Respect the opinions of others.
- Look for common ground. Set goals. Build consensus to build community. Then get to work to make things happen.
- Understand that threats and violence lead to divisiveness.

At this point it will likely be difficult to have the discussion that should have taken place about any possible enhanced location for the memorial. People have taken positions, and threats of various kinds have been made. Positions are hardened. Our community will get through this issue, and in the future, there will be other topics where we have diverse expectations.

We do know how to collaborate evidenced by newly expanded Bay Area Hospital, Southwestern Oregon Community College, which was the first community college in Oregon, our beautiful Coos Art Museum, and many other amenities achieved through collaborative efforts.

The historic downtown icon Egyptian Theater is on its way to reopening, and the new Historical Maritime Center will soon be under construction.

We urge our citizens to utilize the opportunities within our democratic society to continue to bring people together to affect change. The key is respect for others, a desire to work with others, and an understanding of all that we can achieve.

Coos Bay Mayor Crystal Shoji is a professional facilitator and a nationally certified urban planner.

Coming to a Library Near You...

The Coos Bay Public Library will be hosting a Star Wars Reads Day on October 5th. From 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm, there will be games, activities, crafts, and treats all focused on Star Wars. The basis for the day is to celebrate literacy and Star Wars. Star Wars books were introduced in 1976 and continue to be published for all ages to this day.

At 4:30 pm, Ric Morrison will present *An Insider's View of Lucas Films, 1979-1985*. As the former head of the Decorative Lighting and Art Metals Department, Morrison was with Lucas Films through two Star Wars films, Indiana Jones films, and several others. He will give an insider's perspective through an interactive discussion atmosphere.



This is a program for all age of Star Wars fans and costumes are encouraged. For more information contact the library at 541-269-1101 or visit the website at www.coosbaylibrary.org



Hours

Library:

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

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

Sunday Closed

Friends of the Library Book Store:

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

Halloween Safety



The Coos Bay Police Department wants everyone to have a fun and safe Halloween holiday. Here are some tips for adults, motorists, and kids that we hope allow for just that:

- If you plan on handing out treats, please welcome young ones with your porch lights and available exterior lights on.
- Please check your street from time to time in order to discourage speeding motorists, criminal mischief, and crimes against kids.
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to your Police Department immediately.
- Exercise extreme caution when driving a vehicle. Be on the alert for excited youngsters whose vision may be obscured by masks darting out into traffic.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.
- Try make-up instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable, and they can obstruct a child's vision, a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down steps.
- Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.
- Remind kids not to enter strangers' homes or cars.
- Do not eat any treats until parents have inspected them.
- Check out all candy in a well-lighted place when your trick-or-treater gets home.
- What to eat? Only unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers. Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade goodies for anything suspicious.
- Create a map of a safe trick-or treating route and set a time limit for your children to "trick-or-treat".
- Trick-or-treaters should always be in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.
- Make sure older kids trick-or-treat with friends. Together, map out a safe route so you will know where they are going. Tell them to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.
- Try to get your kids to trick-or-treat while it's still light out. If it's dark, make sure someone has a flashlight and pick well-lighted streets.
- Do not go inside anyone's home. Remain on the porch at all times.
- Cross only at street corners, never between parked cars, and never diagonally across an intersection. Look in all directions before crossing the street, and obey all traffic signals. Walk, never run, across the street, and use sidewalks, not the street, for walking.
- Do not take shortcuts through back yards, alleys or parks.

Have a great Halloween from all of us here at the Coos Bay Police Department!!!

-Chief Gary McCullough



Goodies Galore

The Coos Bay Downtown Association will once again be hosting the downtown Halloween Trick-or-Treat.

Last year over 100 businesses and organizations participated in the event. Kids and parents are encouraged to dress up and stop by local businesses for a Halloween treat.

The event will be held on Halloween, Thursday, October 31 from 3:00 pm—5:00 pm. Participating businesses will have an orange sign in their window.

For additional information or if you have any questions, contact the Downtown Association at 541-266-9706.

Coos Bay Firefighters Escorts National Fallen Firefighters Memorial

In October of each year, the Foundation sponsors the official national tribute to all firefighters who died in the line of duty during the previous year. Thousands attend the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend in Emmitsburg, Maryland. During October 4 - 6, 2013, the memorial will honor Firefighters who died in the line of duty during 2012 and previous years. Members of the fire service make the Memorial Weekend a special time for the families of our fallen heroes.

Firefighters have the opportunity to serve as a Fire Service Escort to the family of a fallen firefighter. Family Escorts represent the fire service family and create a lasting impression. The escorts who have accompanied families to weekend events in the past describe it as an unforgettable experience. Two Coos Bay Firefighters have been selected to be family escorts at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg,

For more information, please contact Battalion Chief Dan Crutchfield or Interim Fire Chief Mark Anderson at 541-269-1191.

Sponsored by Coos Bay Public Library Foundation



Coos Bay Public Library
525 Anderson • 541.269.1101
presents

"A Little Lunch Music"

Celebrate **Oregon Days of Culture 2013** with musical samplings for lunchtime enjoyment!

Sept. 30th - Oct. 4th noon - 1:30

Monday, September 30th

Beckstrom-Corbett Unit

Jazz

Tom Beckstrom on Vibes & Marimba Fred Corbett on Electric Bass & Vocals



Tuesday, October 1st

Wee Willie and the Auld Cuifs

Celtic, sort of Celtic, and not at all Celtic songs

William Crombie, Bryan Ibach, John Jones, Howard Crombie

Wednesday, October 2nd

The Little Match Girls

Celtic Music

Stacy Rose • Gail Elber • Ric Morrison

Thursday, October 3rd

J^Z

North Bend High School Jazz vocals

Directed by Ken Graber

Friday, October 4th

Just Jensens

Woodwind Quartet

Bonnie Jensen Cox, Flute; Judy Marsh Jensen, Flute; Peggy Jensen Christensen, Clarinet; Judy Jensen Snyder, Bass Clarinet

Support the Coos Bay Public Library Foundation by purchasing soup & bread provided by **Black Market**

Gourmet, or bring your own lunch. Coffee is free!





National Fire Prevention Week

National Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

The biggest blaze that week

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

Eight decades of fire prevention

Those who survived the Chicago and Peshtigo fires never forgot what they'd been through - both blazes produced countless tales of bravery and heroism. But the fires also changed the way that firefighters and public officials thought about fire safety. On the 40th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America (today known as the International Fire Marshals Association), decided that the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire should henceforth be observed not with festivities but in a way that would keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention. The commemoration grew incrementally official over the years.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9th falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

Fire Prevention Week in Coos Bay

October 6-12 - Coos Bay Fire Department is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind local residents to 'Prevent Kitchen Fires.' During this year's fire safety campaign, fire departments will be spreading the word about the dangers of kitchen fires--most of which result from unattended cooking—and teaching local residents how to prevent kitchen fires from starting in the first place. Throughout the week, members of Coos Bay Fire Department will be in local schools and businesses providing training and promoting fire safety. Many of the students grades K- 4th grade will be going on field trips to the Coos Bay fire station.

Open House

On October 9th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, the Coos Bay fire station at 450 Elrod will be the site of our annual Fire Prevention Week Open House. This is a fun filled event to which all citizens are invited to partake in free food, games, music, prizes, fire prevention messages, and more. In the past years this event has been a great time for the community to come together and enjoy one another in a positive family atmosphere.

City Calendar

- Oct. 1st Coos Bay City Council** - The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 1st 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.
- Oct. 15th Coos Bay Planning Commission** – The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 6:00 p.m.
- Oct. 10th 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.
- Oct. 15th Coos Bay City Council** - The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 7:00 pm.
- Oct. 15th 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.
- Oct. 15th Coos Bay Street Task Force** – The meeting will be held in the council chambers in City Hall and will start at 11:30 a.m.
- Oct. 17th Coos Bay Parks Commission** - The meeting will be held at the City Hall's conference room and will start at 4:00 pm.
- Oct. 16th 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.
- Oct. 23rd 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 5:30 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