

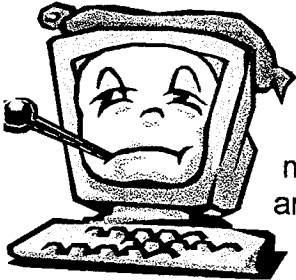


# THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

November 12, 1998

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, Police and Fire Departments. Vol. 1 No. 17

## The Year 2000 and the City of Talent



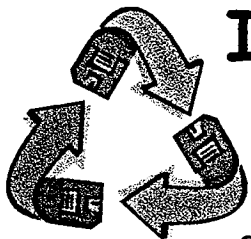
Y2K...The Millennium Bug...The Year 2000 Problem...each refer to a collection of problems that are expected to occur when the world's computer systems begin digesting dates that begin with "2000" instead of "1900." The Y2K problem stems from an effort by early computer programmers to save precious memory by entering dates in two digits (98) instead of four digits (1998). Systems that are not Y2K compliant will see "00" as meaning 1900 instead of 2000 and may not perform accurately, or may not perform at all. The potential problems extend beyond the computers we have in our offices and in our homes to include traffic control devices, telecommunications and power transmission networks, the vehicles we drive, and more.

The City of Talent is currently in the process of identifying the most critical functions and services that the City performs or provides, and identifying the systems to support those functions. Examples of critical functions include public safety, water delivery, and billing and payment processing.

We plan to carefully analyze the automated systems supporting these critical functions for risk. We will then resolve any identified problems by either fixing, replacing or bypassing the automated systems. Testing the critical systems to ensure they respond correctly to the century rollover is an important part of this process.

Talent is in a pretty good position at this point. Our water plants are older, primarily manual facilities and our primary computer hardware and software systems have recently been replaced. We are also working toward replacing our financial software as well. Part of our process will involve seeking statements of compliance from the suppliers of significant products and services.

The City will also focus on planning for a variety of situations beyond our control that could occur as the century turns. Look in this newsletter for periodic updates on the City's progress with the Year 2000 process. For more information, contact Leahnette York at 535-1566 or [talent@cityoftalent.org](mailto:talent@cityoftalent.org)



## If You're Not *Buying Recycled*, You're Not Really *Recycling*

The average American generates nearly 1500 pounds of trash each year, creating more than 208 million tons of solid waste each year. That is more than 4.3 pounds per person per day! By participating in **America Recycles Day** on **November 15<sup>th</sup>**, we can help raise awareness about the need to reduce waste. By reusing, recycling and *buying* recycled products, we can help save natural resources, landfill space, energy, clean air and water! And recycling creates jobs! Come on and make the commitment - buy "Recycled" today!

The *FLASH* of Talent is written and published by the City of Talent

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## 'TIS THE SEASON FOR *SENIOR SCAMS*

No, not Senor Sams! **SENIOR SCAMS!** You know, people who knock on your door and offer to pave your driveway or help clean up your yard. If this happens to you, please contact the Police Department before you agree to *anything!* The Talent Police will be able to check if the person has an actual business license in the City.

Don't get ripped off this holiday season – beware of scam artists and take the time to **call the Police!**

## *A Meeting of the “Minds”*

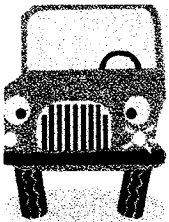
The future of downtown Talent was the topic of discussion at the joint goal-setting meetings, held in October and at the beginning of November. The City Council, Planning Commission, Urban Renewal Board, Architectural Review Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission all got together to develop a common set of goals and values relating to the future of Talent's downtown. They brainstormed ways to improve communication and coordination relating to development in the downtown area - this is what they came up with:



- 1) **To develop a downtown plan specifically designed to reflect the unique needs and goals of the citizens of Talent.**
- 2) **To develop a downtown which accommodates commercial and residential uses.**
- 3) **To develop downtown design standards and ordinances to be in place when the building moratorium ends.**
- 4) **A downtown which primarily serves the daily needs of Talent residents.**
- 5) **A downtown which accommodates multi-modal transportation needs of residents and visitors of all ages to move about safely and easily.**

The group also identified specific strategies for each goal. They will meet again in a few months to revisit these goals and assess progress in attaining these goals. All meetings are open to the public, and we encourage your participation!

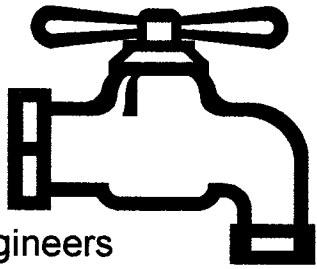
## **“Can't I Just *Leave My Car Here?*”**



As a matter of fact, no. Police Chief C.W. Smith would like to remind all Talent residents of the Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance #543 which prohibits long term parking on City streets, storing vehicles on City streets, and dismantling vehicles on City streets. The Talent Police Department will be stepping up enforcement of this ordinance and citing vehicles that do not comply. Police Chief Smith says, “When people dismantle their cars on public streets, they often leave behind debris, oil, or



even gas. It is not only dangerous and destructive to the street itself, but can also be very slick in wet weather. Another section of the ordinance being enforced is leaving cars parked on the street for more than 72 hours. It violates city ordinance and is often unsightly to neighbors and surrounding areas.” Just a friendly reminder from the Talent Police Department.



## "Water" we doing?!!

The latest news on the new water system is this: On November 17, the TAP Committee will meet with the design engineers from Montgomery Watson to discuss the alignment of the waterline project connecting Talent to the Medford Water Commission system. At that time, the engineers will make a presentation regarding the placement of the waterline along the railroad easement or along Highway 99, or a combination of both. The project also includes the construction of a **new water storage reservoir** -YEAH!

How are we going to pay for this you ask? Well, the City has received a \$2 million grant from Rural Development specifically for this project. The remainder of the project will be funded by a \$2 million loan under the Safe Drinking Water Program (the interest rate on the loan is estimated at 4.1%) and a \$4.1 million loan from Rural Development (with an estimated interest rate of 4.5%). The City plans to repay the loan with revenues collected from water users.



This project is designed to serve the water needs of the City for the next **50** years, and we expect the project to be completed in the year 2000.

## Did somebody say the *HOLIDAYS* are coming ???



No need to worry - this year we're here to help *you* out! The City of Talent is hosting a fundraiser **auktion**, **Sunday, November 15, 1998** at Talent's Community Hall. If you don't know what to get that special someone this holiday season, then come on down to our auction and shop til you drop!



Our silent auction starts at 2pm, so get here early to place your bids! Come before 4pm and enjoy a free hot dog and soda while listening to music provided by 107.5 KKJJ! The live auction starts at 4pm and we invite you to stick around afterward for more entertainment til 8pm. Admission is only \$2 and all proceeds will be donated to the completion of the Downtown Park. Our silent auction items are on display **now** at City Hall, 204 E Main Street in Talent. Stop by before Friday and check out what we have for you! Our business hours are 8:30am to 5:00pm!



## Turn over a new leaf...

If you don't want to burn your leaves, how about giving them away? Did you know that Jackson County residents can *give* their leaves away? That's right, just call Jackson County Air Quality at 776-7318 and they'll find someone who wants them. Or, if you'd like to receive some leaves, call the above number to put in your request.

## Them leaves just keep'a fallin'!

But the good news is that our Public Works Department will continue leaf pick up throughout the month of November! Scheduled pick-ups are for Tuesday, November 17 and Tuesday, November 24. All you have to do is carry your bagged leaves out to the curb and Public Works will take 'em away! But remember to leave only your bagged **leaves** - no limbs or branches please!





# “It’s Woodburning Advisory Season!”

This year, all the cities in the valley – including Medford, Central Point, Ashland, Talent, Phoenix, Jacksonville, and parts of Jackson County – will follow the same woodburning restriction guidelines. So it’s not only easier to understand, it means cleaner, healthier air for everyone in Jackson County. The ordinances apply to woodstoves, fireplaces, and boilers that burn solid fuel to heat the interior of a building. They do not apply to open and barrel burning. Please follow the burning guide to help clear the air in Jackson County.

	Green	Yellow	Red
<b>Certified Stoves</b>	Burning allowed* less than 50% opacity	Burning allowed No smoke	Burning allowed No smoke
<b>Non-Certified Stoves</b>	Burning allowed* less than 50% opacity	No burning	No burning

\*50% opacity is when an object is obscured by smoke so you only see 50% as clear

The above information was provided by Jackson County Air Quality. If you would like to know what color day it is, just call 776-9000.

## City Council Agenda Items

*November 18, 1998 - 6:30 p.m.*



### Public Hearings:

The council will accept testimony regarding an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance requiring a Conditional Use Permit for adult businesses.

### New Business:

- Adopting the City of Talent Strategic Plan which was developed by residents and community leaders
- Adopting the Water Conservation Plan
- An amendment to the City's annexation ordinance to incorporate language relating to the referral of annexation issues to the voters.
- Council will discuss the purchase of Lost Creek water storage.

**Complete meeting packets are available for review at City Hall, 204 E Main Street, Talent**

## Help plan for better sidewalks, streets and Intersections!



The City has grant funds to develop a transportation system plan. The Traffic Committee will be the citizen advisory committee for this project. If you're interested in filling a vacant position on this committee, or if you would just like to be invited to the meetings, please contact Nancy at City Hall, 535-7401.