



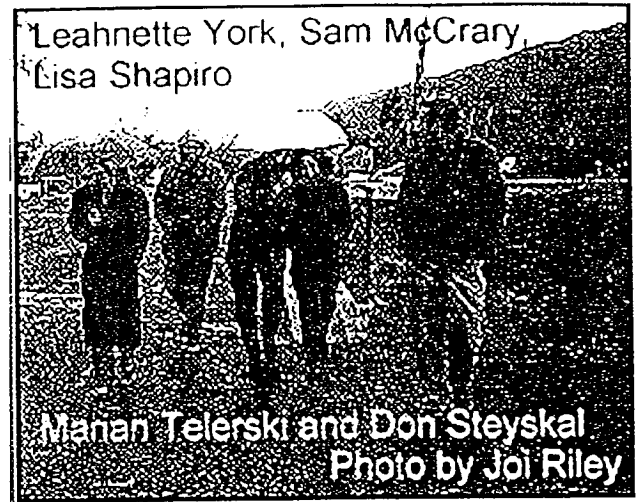
The *Flash* of Talent

Vol. 1 No. 7

June 1, 1998 update from Administration, Land Use Planning,
Emergency Services and Public Works.

City Council's Walk Study is Wet Study

Walking down Talent Avenue seemed like a good way to decide where sidewalks are needed, City Councilors thought. Rain was bearable, but hail turned the group around. That walk will happen though, because future sidewalk sitings are part of the development of a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan, giving governing bodies a sense of direction and city staff priorities. The final document will cover project descriptions, costs, time schedules and also funding sources. Each year the plan is re-evaluated and updated so it always reflects the will of the people. Everyone's input is valued and requested.



What physical improvements are needed in Talent? Share your ideas at a public hearing Wednesday, June 3, 6:30pm at City Hall.
or write/fax/e-mail by that date to the addresses at the bottom of this page.

Wet weather is also the reason Talent Ave. improvements are on hold and the cause of failures at both water intakes. Tim Dedrick, Talent Public Works Superintendent, says the citizen's response to emergency conservation requests last week was immediate and dramatic. Cutbacks kept the city supplied while crews worked to get the system producing water again. Work on the intakes will continue until creeks recede so careful water use is still greatly appreciated.

We're older than we look! Talent Historical Society's Historian, Yvonne Reynolds, kindly pointed out to the City Council that despite flags, brochures and letterhead to the contrary, Talent became a city in 1910, not 1911.

Strategic Planning Committees are meeting to share their work on a strategic plan that will help direct planning and economic development efforts for the future. On **June 8 from 7-9 p.m. in a Town Hall Meeting at City Hall** committee representatives will share their vision and proposed implementation strategies for better Transportation, Parks, Business and Jobs, and Community Identity. Everyone is welcome and it's not too late to express your thoughts and suggestions.

Produced by the City of Talent

PO Box 445, Talent, OR 97540

Talent@mind.net

(541) 535-1566

Fax (541) 535-7423

Fire Levy Fails.

What's next?

Talent's City Council met with Fire District Five's board last Tuesday night to answer that question.

With the help of a facilitator, input on legal requirements from the groups' respective attorneys and budget information from ranking staff comparisons of merger, consolidation, annexation statutes were discussed.

The consensus was to move together toward annexation.

A final decision will be made by a vote of the citizens of Talent and Fire District Five in the November 1998 general election.

Even though that election is six months from now, it's barely enough time to compile and disseminate information needed for voters to make an informed decision.

Not everyone in the city reads the *FLASH* and it's not realistic to rely upon the private media to get out detailed information.

You can help by telling everyone you know that decisions about lives and safety are coming up soon.

A budget is being created to show why and how much an annexation into Fire District Five will increase property taxes.

Another jointly held public meeting to go over the budget and answer questions about the new proposed fire service is scheduled for

June 24th at 7PM
Talent
Community Hall

This is the only opportunity for input at a meeting with council and board for Talent voters and Fire District Five patrons. That's because the deadline for placing annexations on the ballot is ninety days prior to the election.

Until that time Fire District Five will be providing Talent's Fire Service by contract.

Alert Neighbors Stop Meth Lab

Strange odors and suspicious comings and goings at a 2nd St. house caused neighbors to call the Talent Police.

Those calls resulted in the arrest W.M. Wohlhuter for possession and manufacture of methamphetamines within 1,000' of a school, being a

felon in possession of a weapon and probation violation.

Talent Police Chief CW Smith says, "Communication between citizens and police are crucial to ending drug activities. This kind of quick reaction shows illegal behaviors will not be tolerated in our community"

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Melissa, your water clerk, says "You can pay your water bill ahead if you're going away for a long summer vacation."

We're Taking it Back!

That's what Tim Dedrick, Public Works Superintendent, said about Lyn Newbry Park. He's referring to both the flood damage and low-life activities there. Memories of biking the path from Ashland to Phoenix in his youth inspired him to restore the park to it's previous state. Talent Police are bike and car patrolling daily and public works' crews have pruned, thinned, cleaned and rebuilt. Plans include fixing the Kiwanis exercise course, new restrooms and creating more park uses. The Audubon Society says they're putting in signs to help i.d. birds there. Tim thinks a neighborhood watch would be great! And he's looking for ideas for a new, more attractive entrance and other multiple uses.