



THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

April 14, 1999

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, Police and Fire Departments. Vol. 2 No. 3



Scott Cantrell

the newest addition to our
Public Works Department



Scott Cantrell moved to Southern Oregon from Burbank, California, in 1984. He lives in the valley with his wife and three children and loves to spend his free time with his family. He also enjoys playing golf, playing guitar and reading. Scott's father was a cameraman for NBC Sports, covering AFC West Football, so Scott grew up a devoted Raider fan. To this day, he stands behind the Raiders (win or lose) and a typical Sunday for Scott is simply "church and football."

Scott graduated from high school in California and hopes to finish a degree in History at Southern Oregon University. As for now, he is looking forward to the opportunities of his new position with our Public Works Department. He commented that his duties thus far have already proven to be rewarding and challenging. We would like to extend a giant welcome to our new employee Scott Cantrell.

If you're interested in the redevelopment of downtown Talent, don't miss the *Downtown Workshop!*

The second Downtown Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 1999, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Talent Elementary School's gymnasium. Genasci and Associates, a consulting team from Portland, will unveil the first draft of design standards for the Downtown study area. Participants of previous workshops are encouraged to attend, but new individuals are welcome (new participants may wish to review the work completed in previous work sessions). This event will be a community potluck so bring your favorite dish to share with your neighbors and new acquaintances.



If you would like more information on the redevelopment of downtown, please contact Kevin Cronin in the Community Development Department at 535-7401 or send email to: kevin@cityoftalent.org.

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When you set your clocks, change the batteries in your smoke detector!



A good rule of thumb. So, assuming you have already set your clocks ahead one hour, Sparky the Fire Dog and your local fire department want to remind you to check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Don't just change the batteries, but vacuum out the dust bunnies as well. Then, test the detector to make sure it is working properly. Sparky says, "Arf! The few minutes you take to do this are well worth the effort, as detectors provide early warning that may save you and your family's lives." If you have any questions, please contact Fire District No. 5 at 535-4222.

News from Arbor Day Celebration!



To commemorate Arbor Day, the City of Talent joined with Talent Elementary School to plant two sugar maples on school grounds. The new trees and supplies were purchased with a \$250 SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism) Cup grant. Prior to the tree planting, there was a short play and a "Litter Bug Dance" for the kids.

Thanks to Tom Gillie, Maintenance Director for the Phoenix-Talent School District, for his help with selecting a home for the trees and also for his commitment to the future maintenance of the trees. Also a special thanks to two dedicated volunteers: Jenne Brubaker and Kate Collins. Jenne is a graduate student in the Environmental Education program at Southern Oregon University, who volunteered many hours to her passion of trees. Kate exercised her theater and dance skills by designing and performing the Litter Bug Dance.

Thank You

Bear Creek Kiwanis!

The Bear Creek Kiwanis are responsible for repairing the flood-damaged exercise equipment at Lynn Newbry Park. They had purchased the equipment several years ago, installed it themselves, and now they have returned to repair the damage caused by the flood. The facility looks great and we are in appreciation of their kindness.



A giant thank you to all members of Bear Creek Kiwanis!

City Council Agenda

April 21, 1999

The City Council will consider the adoption of a Correction Plan for the Municipal Water Supply System which relates directly to the new Construction Moratorium. The Council will also consider the adoption of City Council Goals for fiscal year 1999-00 and consider a recommendation from the Community Center Restoration Commission relating to the installation of a new heating system in the Community Hall.

Budget Committee Meeting

April 21, 1999 (following City Council meeting)

A Budget Committee will directly follow the City Council Meeting. The Budget Committee will review the proposed Budget for 1999-00, and hold a public hearing to receive comments about the budget. The proposed 1999-00 will be available for public inspection beginning Friday, April 16, 1999 at 8:30 a.m. at the City Hall.



An Update on Talent's Water Situation

The City is currently in the design engineering phase of the TAP Intertie and Water Improvements project. The cities of Talent, Ashland and Phoenix are participating in this joint venture to bring water from the Medford Water Commission to this end of the valley. The project includes the construction of a water transmission line approximately six miles in length, connecting Medford's system to Talent's system. The water transmission line will be constructed in the Highway 99 right-of-way.



Talent's portion of the project includes the construction of a new water reservoir. The new reservoir will provide us with additional water storage which will improve our ability to meet daily peak demands. Additional water storage is also important for fire suppression and other emergency situations.

The project will go to bid later this summer, and construction should begin in early fall. The project should be complete by the end of the year 2000. The project is completely funded by state and federal grants and loans.

The City is currently under a building moratorium. This building moratorium prevents new construction which would increase demands upon our current water system. This building moratorium is necessary because the City's existing water system currently operates at maximum capacity for long periods of time to meet the needs of our existing water users, and we use as much water as our existing water rights allow. The 1997 New Year's Flood destroyed our water intake system at our Bear Creek Water Plant. Since the flood, we have drawn water from the creek through a temporary intake system. Our system is vulnerable during heavy rains, and has difficulty keeping up with supply demands during hot weather. The building moratorium will be in place until the TAP Intertie project is complete. This project will resolve our water capacity problems and allow us to provide water service to new customers.

If you have any questions or comments, please call City Hall at 535-1566.



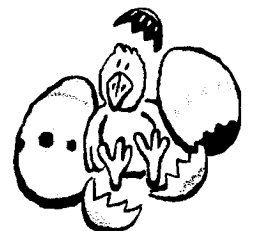
Jackson County Fire District No. 5's

Easter Egg Hunt!

It's the first annual event being sponsored by Jackson County Fire District No. 5. The fun starts at 1:00 p.m., **Saturday, April 3, 1999**, at Chuck Roberts Park (next to the Police Station on Talent Avenue). Prizes will be awarded to all age groups and there will be special appearances from Smokey Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog. Come early to our **child safety seat clinic** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring your car seats for inspection and learn proper installation. Be sure to mark your calendars so you won't miss the fun!

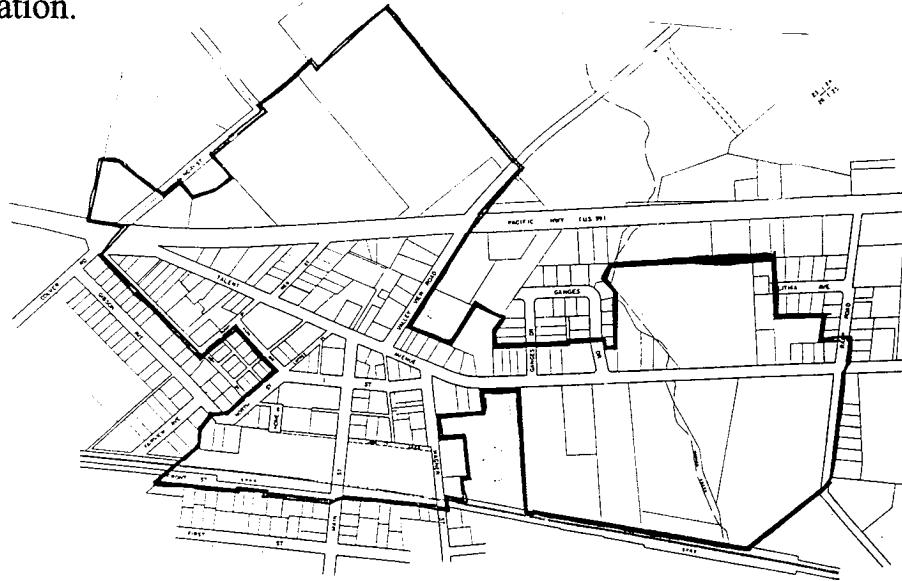
Talent Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt!

It all starts at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 3, 1999, at the Talent Elementary School playground. Children up to the age of 11 are welcome to participate in the hunt. Lots of chocolate eggs await! This is the **40th year** the Lion's Club will be bringing this event to the community. Chuck Roberts and his wife have generously donated prizes to be given to all the children.



What is the **Urban Renewal Agency** and what do they do?

The Urban Renewal Agency (URA) was formed in 1990 for the purpose of eliminating blight and deterioration within a defined area of Talent (see map below for Urban Renewal Agency boundaries). Its board members represent a cross-section of interests. Three members are from the City Council, three are Talent citizens, and three are members of the business community but not necessarily Talent residents. The Agency also retains an attorney, an engineering firm and an auditor, and City Administrator Leahnette York presently serves as the Executive Director. So, what do they do? At this time, the Urban Renewal Agency is involved in the Downtown Park Project, the future transportation depot, and they are working towards completion of Talent Avenue renovations from Wagner Creek Bridge to Rapp Road. The URA rebuilds streets, sidewalks, replaces old water and sewer lines, puts some utilities underground, plants trees, installs light posts, purchases property for economic development and builds parks. Future enhancement projects are planned for all the neighborhoods within the Urban Renewal Boundaries. The budget for these projects comes from loans, which are repaid with a portion of property tax funds. **Currently there are three vacancies on the board.** The agency meets once a month to discuss current and future projects. If serving on the Urban Renewal Agency Board sounds like an opportunity for you, then come on down to City Hall and fill out an application.



Urban Renewal District Boundaries

Presently about 121 acres, or 16% of the City, although legally it could be up to 25% of the total area

Don't miss the City-Wide *Garage Sale!*

The month of May is Talent Enhancement Month and that means it's time to "enhance" the city of Talent. Local residents are already calling City Hall wanting to know, "When is the garage sale?" This year, it is scheduled for May 8th and we invite all residents to participate. If you were thinking about doing some spring cleaning and having a garage sale, this is the perfect opportunity to join your neighbors for one huge, city-wide sale! It will be advertised with all the media and, as usual, we expect a great turnout.

