



# THE FLASH OF TALENT

May 12, 1999

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, Police and Fire Departments. Vol. 2 No. 5

## Down By The Riverside

### River Enhancement, Cleanup & Appreciation Day

On Saturday, May 22, 1999, volunteers from all over the state will work together to improve and protect the waterside spaces they love best by participating in *Down By The Riverside – Enhancement, Cleanup and Appreciation Day*. As part of the state-wide event, the City of Talent and the Rogue Valley Council of Governments have coordinated a cleanup day right here in Talent. Starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday the 22nd, a team of volunteers will gather at Lynn Newbry Park to help cleanup illegal dumping, paint the entrance sign, plant trees, and remove invasive vegetation along Bear Creek. If you are interested in coming out to lend a hand, you'll need to wear sturdy shoes, a pair of gloves, and dress for the weather. Drinks and snacks will be provided by Wal-Mart and Safeway.

For more information on the Bear Creek cleanup, please contact Kevin Cronin in the Community Development Department at City Hall, 535-7401.



## Talent's Tree Inventory

The Community Development Department has been awarded a **\$1,500 grant** from the Oregon Department of Forestry to conduct a tree inventory. All public trees located along streets and in parks will be accounted for as the City begins to develop an Urban Forestry program and apply to the National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA designation. Proposals for the tree inventory will be accepted from consultants this summer. Stay tuned to the Flash for more information about the Urban Forestry program.

## FIRE SEASON in Talent



Fire season is just around the corner and Jackson County Fire District No. 5 would like to remind all Talent residents that Section 3 of Ordinance 272 will be in effect as of June 1, 1999. What does this mean to you? It means that if your weeds or grass are over 10" in height you **must** trim them down – and keep them trimmed for the duration of fire season to avoid the possibility of a fire. Also, Fire Fighter Devin Hull advises, "Be aware of open flames and be careful around dry open fields. Let's make a community effort in being fire safe."

The FLASH of Talent is published by the City of Talent

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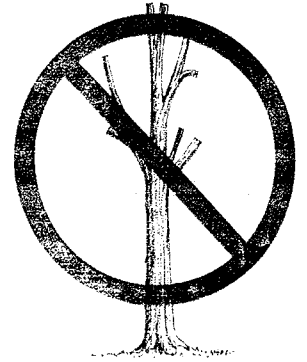
e-mail: [talent@cityoftalent.org](mailto:talent@cityoftalent.org)

Fax (541) 535-7423

# Don't Top Your Trees!

Trees are a great indicator of a livable community, but require care and maintenance to ensure their health. There are times when the size and shape of a shade tree needs to be controlled. With the care and skill of responsible pruning, this can be accomplished without marring the tree's beauty and usefulness. "Topping" a tree is not a recommended practice for controlling its growth. Some people top their trees because of a mistaken impression that the practice is good for trees. Here are 8 reasons why trees should **not** be topped:

- ◆ **Starvation** – Good pruning practices rarely remove more than 1/4 to 1/3 of the crown, which in turn does not seriously interfere with the ability of a tree's leafy crown to manufacture food. Topping removes so much of the crown that it upsets an older tree's well-developed crown-to-root ratio and temporarily cuts off its food-making ability
- ◆ **Shock** – A tree's crown is like an umbrella that shields much of the tree from the direct rays of the sun. By suddenly removing this protection, the remaining bark tissue is so exposed that scalding may result. There may also be a dramatic effect on neighboring trees and shrubs. If these thrive in shade and the shade is removed, poor health or death may result.
- ◆ **Insects and Disease** – The large stubs of a topped tree have a difficult time forming callus. The stubs are highly vulnerable to insect invasion and the spores of decay fungi. If decay is already present in the limb, opening the limb will speed the spread of the disease.
- ◆ **Weak Limbs** – At best, the wood of a new limb that sprouts after a larger limb is truncated is more weakly attached than a limb that develops more normally. If rot exists or develops at the severed end of the limb, the weight of the sprout makes a bad situation even worse.
- ◆ **Rapid New Growth** – The goal of topping is usually to control the height and spread of a tree. Actually it has just the opposite effect. The resulting sprouts are far more numerous than normal new growth and they elongate so rapidly that the tree returns to its original height in a very short time – and with a far denser crown.
- ◆ **Tree Death** – Some older trees are more tolerant to topping than others. Beeches, for example, do not sprout readily after severe pruning and the reduced foliage most surely will lead to death of the tree.
- ◆ **Ugliness** – A topped tree is a disfigured tree. Even with its regrowth, it never regains the grace and character of its species.
- ◆ **Cost** – To a worker with a saw, topping a tree is much easier than applying the skill and judgement of good pruning. However, the true costs of topping are hidden. These include: reduced property value, the expense of removal and replacement if the tree dies, the loss of other trees and shrubs if they succumb to changed light conditions, the risk of liability from weakened branches, and increased future maintenance.

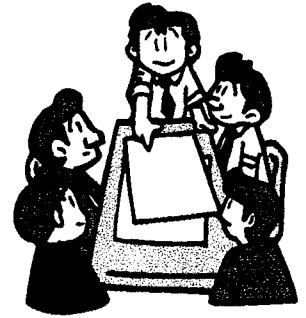


If you would like information on how to properly prune a tree, please contact Kevin Cronin, City Hall, at 535-7401 for a brochure, or call the Oregon State University Extension Service at 772-5165.

(Information in this article was supplied by The National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410)

# Plan to Serve on the *Planning Commission*

The Planning Commission currently has two vacancies. If you have an interest in community development, open space, architecture, urban design, or government, then this is a great opportunity for you to learn about Oregon land use planning and how to build community on a first hand basis. The Planning Commission meets regularly on the fourth Wednesday of each month and Commissioners have numerous opportunities to receive outside training by attending seminars, conferences, etc. If the Planning Commission sounds of interest to you, then stop by City Hall, 204 E. Main Street, for an application. For additional information, please call Nancy Kincaid, City Planner, at 535-7401.



## City Council Agenda Items

May 19, 1999 – 6:30 p.m.



### Presentations:

- Certificate of Appreciation to Michele Thompson for her service on the Planning Commission.
- Certificate of Appreciation to Maurey Glassy for his service on Urban Renewal Committee.
- Certificate of Appreciation to Mary Wright for her service on the Planning Commission.

### New Business:

- Council will consider adopting an amendment to the City's purchasing policy.
- Council will consider adopting an amendment to the water rates.
- Council will select a new City auditor.
- Council will consider a recommendation to sponsor the Paint Your Heart Out Program.
- Council will consider approving a Resolution transferring funds within the General Fund for the current fiscal year.
- The Council will consider adopting an Ordinance creating subcommittees under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City of Talent, and abolishing the Tree Commission and Wagner Creek Greenway Commission.
- The Council may take action to hire a City Administrator/Recorder.

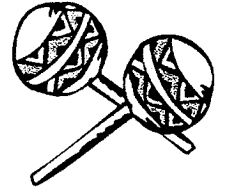
### Executive Sessions:

- The Council will meet in executive session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.
- The Council will meet in executive session to discuss employment of a City Administrator/Recorder.

**(Complete agenda packets are available for review at City Hall, 204 E. Main Street)**

# It's time to start planning the *Harvest Festival!*

The City of Talent is planning the Talent Harvest Festival to be held on Saturday, September 11, 1999. Applications are being accepted for vendor booths, such as arts, crafts or food vendors, as well as parade participants and entertainers. Don't miss the fun – get your application turned in early. Vendor applications can be picked up at Talent City Hall or at the Talent Police Department, or by calling 535-1253. As usual, volunteers are welcome to participate.



If you would like to be a parade participant or an on-stage performer, please detach the form below and return it to the **Talent Police Department, P.O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540**. They will be compiling an interest list and will contact you as soon as information is available.



## **PARADE AND/OR PERFORMER**

(Please circle which one you are interested in)



## **TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL**

September 11, 1999



Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone for Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone for Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

The parade route will be approximately 1 mile long. Please make sure you have circled either PARADE or PERFORMER or both if you can do both. If you know of an organization which might be interested in participating, please pass on this information. If you have any questions, contact the Talent Police Department at 535-1253.