

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

April 29, 2000

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.

Vol. 3 No. 8

Talent welcomes Elmer Kammel as its new Interim Chief of Police

Elmer Kammel was sworn into the office of Interim Chief of Police by Mayor Telerski at the April 19, 2000 meeting of the City Council. Elmer is no stranger to Talent's Police Department – he has been with the City for six years and served as Lieutenant before jumping into his new role as Chief of Police.

When asked what his goals were for the department, Elmer replied, "CW Smith and I have laid a foundation to which we can build a strong police department. Training will continue to be an important factor and we will strive to make customer service a priority. The door to the police department is always open and we invite citizens to come talk to us. We want to maintain a great working relationship with our Mayor, City Council, City Government and, most of all, with the citizens of this community. We are in the building process of having a well-trained and proactive police department and I'm just glad to be a part of this team."

The City of Talent would like to congratulate Chief Kammel and welcome him to his new position.

Stop for school buses

The law requires all motorists, in **both** directions, to stop when a school bus is flashing its red safety lights. This even applies to highway traffic – if there is a school bus on the opposite side of the road with its red safety lights flashing, all lanes on your side of the highway must come to a stop. According to Vehicle Code No. 811.155, "A driver commits the offense of failure to stop for bus safety lights if the driver meets or overtakes from either direction any vehicle that is stopped on a roadway and that is operating red bus safety lights (described under ORS 816.260) and the driver does not: (a) Stop before reaching the vehicle (b) Remain standing until the bus safety lights are no longer operating." The fine related to this penalty is \$295, however, if your action causes an accident, the fine is \$419. The safety lights are for the protection of children as they enter and exit the bus – please take the time to obey them.

There's an opening on Talent's City Council

The City of Talent is accepting applications to fill the vacancy of City Councilor, Position No. 1. The term of office will begin at the time of appointment and expire on December 31, 2000. However, the appointed Councilor could extend the term of office by running in the November election. Applicants must reside and be registered to vote within Talent city limits. The monthly compensation for this position is \$125.00. Applications must be obtained at Talent City Hall, 204 East Main Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The deadline to apply is May 31, 2000 at 5:00 p.m. For additional information, please call City Hall at 535-1566 or e-mail us at talent@cityoftalent.org.

Pennies for Parks

It just takes pennies for you to help restore and maintain our city parks. The program is simply called, "Pennies for Parks," and it was established by the Talent City Council back in 1980. It is strictly a voluntary program designed to allow donations to be given exclusively for the benefit of our parks. Here's how it works: Let's say your water bill was \$16.45. If you wanted, you could write a check for \$17.00 and the difference, 55 cents, would be deposited in the Parks Fund. It's as simple as that – your pennies help our parks! If you have any questions or would like more information on the program, please contact City Hall at 535-1566.

City Council Agenda Items

May 3, 2000 - 6:45 p.m.

New Business:

Appoint Budget Officer

Review and appointment Budget Committee members

Resolution to transfer budget appropriations

Develop committees to carry out 2000/2001 City Council goals

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

Earth Day Celebration April 21 –22, 2000

The City is proud to announce over **300** tree seedlings were planted in Talent in celebration of Earth Day! On Friday, April 21st, students from Talent and Ashland Middle schools planted a variety of tree species including white oak, mahogany, big leaf maple and amur maple trees. The seedlings were planted at the open space near Wagner Creek, (next to Rapp Road) and at the park on Joseph Street. Then, students from Talent Elementary planted approximately **50** tree seedlings on school property.

On Saturday, April 22nd, the Cub Scouts, joined by local volunteers, planted approximately **200** tree seedlings in Chuck Roberts Park (next to the

Council adopts Skatepark policy in regards to graffiti

There seems to be some confusion over the recent City Council discussion pertaining to the skatepark. The policy adopted is as follows:

The policy only pertains to the skating area, not the entire park.

The skating area of the park would only be closed until the graffiti could be removed.

The skating area of the park would reopen upon removal of graffiti.

An outside contractor is used to remove graffiti – the process involves special equipment that will not damage the concrete skating surface. **Each incident of graffiti costs the City of Talent approximately \$800 to \$1,000.** The City will make every effort to expedite the clean-up of the skating area, in an effort to minimize the amount of time it is closed.

The written policy can be obtained at City Hall, 204 East Main Street. If you have any questions, please call 535-1566.

police station) and at the Little League Park (the adjacent field to Chuck Roberts). The majority of the tree seedlings were donated by J. Herbert Stone

Nursery. Both Earth Day events were a huge success! We'd like to give a giant thank you to Talent Middle and Elementary schools, the Cub Scouts, Rogue Valley Council of Governments, REAL Corps, J. Herbert Stone Nursery, Plant Oregon Nursery, and Tark's market for supplying refreshments to the troops. We'd also like to extend a giant thank you to the City's Assistant Planner Matthew Mattia and Helen Scholom, a local volunteer, who coordinated the events with Talent's Public Works Department.

City-wide Yard Sale

Talent's city-wide yard sale will be Saturday, May 6, 2000. Maps of the city will be available at City Hall, but they will not include individual sale locations. The maps are only intended to help sale-goers find their way around town. Talent's City Hall is located at 204 East Main Street and office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.