

# THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

April 25, 2001

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.  
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## Talent's Graduates

Officer Shane Wilson and Officer Jennifer Freeman recently graduated from the Police Academy in Monmouth, Oregon. They both have been in training 8 hours a day, Monday through Friday, since January 15, 2001. They graduated from the academy together on March 23rd at a ceremony attended by Talent's Police Chief, Sergeant, family members and friends.

The DPSST (Department of Public Safety Standards Training) certifies police officers to serve in the State of Oregon. At the academy, officers are put through numerous scenario-based exercises that emulate in-field situations. They also attend classes on cultural diversity, community policing, etc.

Police Chief Kammel says, "Both Officer Freeman and Officer Wilson did real well at the academy. I am very proud of them as they did a fine job in representing the City of Talent."

## May is Talent Enhancement Month

The month of May is when Talent residents pitch in to help *enhance* the community. The highlight of Talent Enhancement Month is the city-wide yard sale, taking place this year on Saturday, May 12th. Yard sale flags will be available for \$1 at City Hall the week of

May 7th and maps showing locations of some of the yard sales will be available the day of the event. If you would like to place *your* sale on the map, please stop by City Hall, 204 East Main Street. The cost is \$2 to add your address and a "dot" marking the location of your sale. While you're at City Hall, pick up some seeds for your garden – packets are only \$ .50!

Talent Enhancement month is a month long celebration in which **everyone** can participate. Need some ideas? Try trimming up your yard, pick up trash when out on walks, weed around downtown sidewalk trees, fix a fence, plant flowers, paint or touch-up paint on your house, or help an elderly neighbor with their yard work.

## Sprinkler Start-ups

Each year, the first warm days of spring seem to be met with a flurry of lawn sprinkling activity. While some of the earliest startups are likely prompted more by spring fever than an actual need to irrigate, certainly at some point in the spring it usually becomes necessary to start giving your plants a little water. And as you start up your sprinklers, it's an ideal time to do a little inspection and maintenance of your irrigation system. Following are a few items to check out:

Make sure sprinkler heads aren't choked by grass or obstructed by vegetation, including branches that block spray patterns. If you have a spray system in a mature shrub area, it may be difficult to clear all obstructions. If so, consider converting that area to drip irrigation. It could be easier than you think and may well be a more effective option.

Confirm sprinklers are spraying the right distance and direction. Making a few simple adjustments can significantly improve the effectiveness of your irrigation, as well as preventing water damage to areas not intended to be irrigated.

## Thank You Earth Day/Arbor Day Volunteers

On Saturday, April 21, 2001, members of the community gathered at the Downtown Park to assist in the planting of three Deodora cedars, one Incense cedar, one Autumn Blaze maple, and one Red Oak.

The City of Talent would like to send a heartfelt "**thank you**" to all the volunteers and businesses that made this event possible: Meghan Mac Kenzie, Cheryl Nadler-Voss, Farrien Jensen, John Halverson, Kathy Claussen, Doug Edwards and Dianna Barr (pictured on right), Shayna Lawrence, Bill Goggin, Courtney Xelphinstine, Evelyn Reichert, Dewayne Conner, Jodi and Jerry Yap, Bill Harrington, Pacific Power, Dan Bish and the Plant Oregon family, Tark's Sentry Market, the Espresso Shack, and Shop-n-Kart in Ashland.

## Flea Market Makes a Monthly Appearance

The Talent Parks and Recreation Commission has reserved the first Saturday of each month for the flea market. The next date will be Saturday, May 5, 2001, from 9

Verify that drip emitters are still functioning properly. If emitters and tubing are difficult to locate, run the system for awhile. Then look or feel for wet spots around plants. Uncover buried emitters and/or ends of tubing. They will be easier to find in the future and won't be as likely to become clogged.

If plants have grown much since drip emitters were installed, consider increasing the number and/or size of emitters to serve the larger plants. If you currently only have one emitter per plant, adding emitters can also be beneficial by better distributing water around the root zone, along with reducing the chance of a plant dying due to a single clogged emitter.

Clean out filters. You may not even be aware that you have a filter, but a properly installed drip system will have a wye filter, and other systems may as well. While regular cleaning of filters is more important if the water source is untreated irrigation water, occasionally cleaning filters is a good idea regardless.

Many irrigation controller have battery backups to keep irrigation programs from being lost during power outages. Regular batteries generally should be changed yearly, while rechargeable batteries may last up to three years.

Set an irrigation schedule that is appropriate for the time of year. And encourage deep rooting by not watering too frequently, but using multiple short cycles when you do irrigate. For current, weather-based watering information call 857-0904.

**(Information in this article comes from the Medford Water Commission)**

a.m. to 3 p.m. at Talent's Community Center. Admission is free and it's open to the public.

For space and cost information, please contact the Parks Commission Chair, Cheryl Voss, at 535-3532. Proceeds from space rentals benefit the City's parks.

## **Helmets are on their way**

The City of Talent would like to extend huge thanks to the Ashland Elks for their contribution toward the purchase of helmets. May is National Bike Safety Month and the Talent Police Department would like to remind young riders that state law requires persons under the age of 16 to wear protective headgear when operating or riding a bicycle.

The police department will soon have helmets available for young riders free of charge. If you would like more information, or to make a donation, please contact the Talent Police Department at 535-1253, or stop by 604 Talent Avenue.

### **City Council Agenda Items**

**May 2, 2001 – 6:45 p.m.**

#### **New Business:**

Review agreement for use of driving range.

Amendment to Liquor License Ordinance.

Executive Session to discuss purchase of real property.

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