

# THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

May 9, 2001

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.  
Vol. 4 No. 9

## Talent Awarded Budget Award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) announced that the City of Talent has received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget for fiscal year 1999/2000. This award represents a significant achievement by the City and reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the budget has to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as: a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories to receive the award.

Since the inception of the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program in 1984, approximately 800 entities have received this award. This year, Kelly A. Madding, City Administrator/Recorder for the City of Talent, is being recognized for her excellence in governmental budgeting.

Congratulations to Kelly Madding – the City is truly proud.

## Down by the Riverside

Talent's Community Development Department, in partnership with Stop Oregon's Litter and Vandalism (SOLV), will be hosting a river clean up and tree planting event on Saturday, May 19, 2001. Volunteers will meet at 9 a.m. at Lynn Newbry Park, and remove litter along the Bear Creek Greenway, plant trees and ground cover, and remove weeds from designated areas.

Down by the Riverside is being sponsored in over 125 communities state-wide. On May 19th, *everyone* will have a chance to participate in making Oregon a cleaner place to live.

For more information, please contact Meghan Mac Kenzie, Assistant City Planner at 535-7401.

## Understanding Energy Use

Understanding how your home uses energy isn't as complicated as you think. And, it's the first step toward learning about how you and your family use energy. To test your knowledge, cover the answers to the questions below and see how well you do.

**Q. Which of the following methods of generating power is currently most common?**

1. Steam-electric from burning coal, oil or natural gas.

2. Hydroelectric.

A. Steam-electric is the most common method of electric power generation.

**Q. Which of the following household energy users makes your meter spin the most each month?**

1. Refrigeration

2. Lighting

## Weeds and Fire Season

Fire season usually starts sometime during the first weeks of June. However, Fire Chief Dan Marshall warns, with the limited rainfall, that fire season could begin as early as mid-May. With that in mind, he would like to remind Talent residents that the weed abatement ordinance, Ordinance No. 272, will be in effect June 10, 2001. The ordinance states that weeds, grass, brush or bushes must not exceed 10" in height – and remain trimmed for the duration of fire season. Chief Marshall recommends participating in Talent Enhancement Month (enhancing the city of Talent) by doing some yard work – trimming back bushes, pulling weeds, mowing or cutting grass, etc. He states, "Getting a head start on weed abatement will help if fire season comes early."

To find out more about weed abatement or to report properties that are not in compliance,

**3. Heating and cooling**

**4. Water heating**

A. The biggest energy users in the home are, in order, as follows:

1. Heating and cooling
2. Water heating
3. Refrigeration
4. Lighting

**Q. Which of the following percentages represents the amount of total U.S. energy used by households?**

1. 55%
2. 45%
3. 20%
4. 10%

A. The percentage of U.S. energy used by households is 20% - or about one-fifth.

**Q. A new, energy efficient refrigerator saves approximately how much energy over an older model?**

A. A new, energy efficient refrigerator saves approximately 50% of the energy consumption of an older model.

**Q. How much energy from a typical incandescent light bulb is wasted as heat?**

1. 15%
2. 40%
3. 66%
4. 90%

A. Amazingly, up to 90% of an incandescent bulb's energy consumption is wasted as heat.

**Q. Where do most of the "power disturbances" (spikes, surges, etc.) in your home's**

**electric system originate?**

1. Inside your home
2. Outside your home

A. Most power disturbances originate within the home, usually from nearby equipment turning on and off.

Now that we got you thinking about how energy is *used*, in the next issue of the ***FLASH***, we'll give you some ideas on how you can conserve energy and save money.

**More Money for Helmets!**

please contact Fire District No. 5 at 535-4222.

## **Recent City Council Action**

At their April 18, 2001, the City Council:

Directed staff to develop a time and materials basis, labor cost for installation of new water meters. When this is adopted, it will do away with the flat fee currently charged.

Approved entry into the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System Local Government Rate Pool.

Amended Talent's Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Postponed a decision to fund the Rogue Valley Council of Government's request for a one-time cash donation.

## **City Council Agenda Items**

May 16, 2001 - 6:45 p.m.

**Study session:**

Discussion of Old Town District

**New Business:**

Discussion of Wacker's Hollow lease agreement.

Review Resolution establishing fees for City of Talent recommendations on Oregon Liquor Control Commission License Applications. Subject to adoption.

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

The City of Talent would like to send out huge thanks to the Talent Truck Stop, the Talent Enhancement Month Committee, and Parks Commissioner Doug Edwards for their contribution to the purchasing of helmets. There are many children in our community that will benefit from this generosity.