

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

April 24, 2002

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
Vol. 5 No. 4

Talent's New City Administrator Betty Wheeler

Betty is originally from Southern California and comes to the City of Talent from Middlebury, Vermont where she served as Town Manager for 14 years. She has over 23 years experience in city administration and, in her spare time, likes to read and garden. What does Betty like best about Talent? "I love the weather and the beautiful mountains!"

Betty started her position as City Administrator for the City of Talent on March 25, 2002. She has had a few weeks to get acquainted with the City and comments, "It's going to be a challenge learning government in Oregon and, equally challenging, will be providing services citizens want given the limitations of the tax structure."

We are happy to have Betty on board and welcome her to our city.

Bicycle Helmets on the Way

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. Thanks to a generous donation by the **Talent Lions Club**, the police department will soon have helmets available for young riders free of charge. We would like to thank Lions Club members on behalf of all the children in this community that will benefit from this generosity.

If you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of helmets, please send check or money order payable to the City of Talent, Attn: Bicycle Safety, P.O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540.

Down By the Riverside Cleanup

The 4th annual *Down By the Riverside* clean up is scheduled, rain or shine, for May 18, 2002, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lynn Newbry Park. The City of Talent Planning Department and Stop Oregon and Litter and Vandalism (SOLV), a statewide organization dedicated to helping Oregon communities improve neighborhoods and public spaces, is teaming up once again to beautify the park. Over the last three years, over 40 volunteers have helped clean up, plant trees, and remove non-native vegetation. This year, the City plans to mulch trees, remove blackberries, pick up litter, and educate the public about the value of the Bear and Wagner Creek Greenway system in Talent. Lynn Newbry Park is located on the south side of Valley View Road just off the Interstate 5 interchange. Volunteers will meet at the picnic shelter at 9 a.m. There is plenty of available parking and refreshments will be provided.

If you are interested in volunteering time or materials for this event, please contact Kevin Cronin, City Planner, at 535-7401, kevin@cityoftalent.org. Volunteer groups are welcome to participate, as well as local school groups interested in community service.

Talent Harvest Festival 2002

This year's Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, September 14th. The day will start with a run/walk, followed by a parade at 10 a.m. If you would like a vendor booth or parade application, please contact Allison at City Hall at 535-1566.

"Cop Talk"

By Officer Shane Wilson

I want to clear something up regarding fix-it tickets. I hear a lot of people say, "Oh, that's only a fix-it ticket." What you may not know is that it may only be a fix-it ticket *now*, but if you wait long enough, that won't be the case.

If you are stopped by the police for a violation, the officer may issue you a "fix-it" ticket at his/her discretion. A "fix-it" ticket means that the violation needs to be fixed and signed off by a police officer *prior* to your court date. If your court date passes and you have neglected to fix your violation, your "fix-it" ticket becomes a regular ticket and fines will be imposed. For example, if your headlight is out on your vehicle and you are stopped by the police, the officer may choose to issue you a "fix-it" ticket, meaning you would need to have the violation fixed and signed off by an officer *before* your court date. Like I said before, if you wait until your court date passes, your "fix-it" ticket becomes a citation for Operation without Required Lighting, a fine of \$109.

A good rule of thumb: if you have a violation on your vehicle that needs to be fixed, fix it.

I hope this clears things up a little. If you have any questions regarding this or other topics, please call or write me. My phone number is 535-1253 and my address is Officer Wilson, c/o Talent Police Department, P. O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540, wilsontpd@hotmail.com.

Planning Department News

Approved Applications: The City Planner has administratively approved the following applications:

Site Plan Review of new convenience store and laundry facility.
Applicant: Southern Cascade Structures at 618 South Pacific Hwy

Site Plan Review of expansion of storage unit facility at 1106 South Pacific Hwy; Applicant: HDK Inc.

Site Plan Review of duplex on Tulipan Way, Applicant: Jozef Slowikowski.

Site Plan Review of Bear Creek Professional Office Center; Applicant: Fred Cox Construction, Inc., 280 South Pacific Hwy.

Denied Applications

Planned Unit Development at 1737 Lithia Way, 26 lots proposed with dedicated open space, the application of Gregg Adams was denied on March 28, 2002—appeal period expires April 24th.

Applications Under Review: These applications are pending before the City Planner and/or the Planning Commission:

Site Plan Review of four manufactured units on four lots for individual lease, Applicant: Doug Vargas, 597 Rapp Road; granted a continuance before Planning Commission on April 25, 2002.

A pre-application conference was held with Batzer Design Build to discuss a proposed large retail center on North Pacific Highway. The applicant is proposing 100,000 square feet of commercial space in a C-3 Retail-Wholesale Zone. The proposed use is permitted subject to approval criteria, including the large retail design standards.

Policies Under Review:

The City Planner has developed a draft version of a new sign ordinance. After two study sessions, a first draft version will be presented at a public hearing before the Planning Commission on April 25, 2002.

Urban Renewal Hires Executive Director

The Urban Renewal Agency (URA) of the City of Talent has hired Marla Cates, long-time civic volunteer and local business owner, as its Executive Director. She will be responsible for overseeing the Agency's urban renewal projects in the downtown area, including infrastructure and economic development projects. If her name sounds familiar, it's because she has served as chair of the Talent Architectural Review Committee, Economic Development Committee, and Community Center Restoration Commission, and was a co-founder of the Talent Historical Society and Talent Enhancement Day.

For more information on the URA, please contact Marla Cates at 535-6170.

Skatepark Gets a Lift

If you've visited the skatepark lately, you would have noticed how clean it is and wondered, "*Who did all that work?*" Actually, a group of young men took it upon themselves to beautify the park and the skating facility.

The City of Talent would like to thank the following gentlemen: Yogi Davis, Nathan Lindsey, Scott Parrish, Jesse Ritter, Nik Sorensen, Scott Valquet, Casey, Chris, Juan, and Daniel. We thank you for caring about the park and the people who use it.

Citywide Yard Sale

The much anticipated, citywide yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 11th. Join in as the town celebrates Talent Enhancement Month! There will be individual yard sales, as well as an outdoor "market" on "I" Street, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on this event, please contact Jodi Yap at 535-3105.

Senior Meals Lunch Program

Just a reminder that Food and Friends volunteers serve lunch in Talent's Community Center every Tuesday and Thursday, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch is free to seniors over 60 years, however a donation of \$2.25 is suggested. For persons under 60 years of age, lunch is \$5.00. If you would like to become a meal-site volunteer or meal delivery driver for the Food and Friends program, please call Jan at 664-6676 ext 246.