

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

March 31, 2003

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

Vol. 6 No. 3

Officer Wilson Gets Recognition from MADD

At a breakfast reception in Medford, Officer Wilson was awarded a plaque from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). He was recognized for taking an active stand against drinking and driving. Officer Wilson had approximately 41 DUII arrests for 2002, and was a major contributor to increasing the police departments DUII arrest statistics by 550% over the previous year.

Betty Wheeler, City Manager, says, "We are proud of the success that Officer Wilson has achieved and are confident that this continued attention to removing drunk drivers from the streets of the community will make Talent a safer place to be."

City Council Vacancy

The City of Talent is now accepting applications to fill a vacant City Council position. The term of office will begin at the time of appointment and expire on December 31, 2004. Applicants must be registered to vote within Talent city limits at the time the application is submitted.

Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 204 East Main Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Monday through Friday), or on our website at www.cityoftalent.org.

Completed applications are due to Talent City Hall by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 15th. Applicants will be interviewed by the City Council at Talent's Community Center (206 East Main Street) on Wednesday, April 16th at 5:30 p.m.

Interested in Serving on a Commission?

Well, you're in luck! The City of Talent currently has an opening on its Planning Commission and *two* openings its newly-formed Traffic Safety and Transportation Commission. It is expected that the Traffic Safety and Transportation Commission will only meet on an as-needed basis to review public safety situations regarding streets within the city. Interested applicants should obtain an application at City Hall or from the city's website.

Tennis Lessons in Talent

The City of Talent will be sponsoring free tennis clinics on April 12th and April 26th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the tennis courts at Chuck Roberts Park. These clinics will be put on by tennis professionals and both children and adults are invited to attend.

Regular tennis lessons will be taught beginning in May. Lessons will last for 3 weeks and will be taught in both English and Spanish. The lessons are for youths and adults and all skill levels.

For more information, please contact City Hall at 535-1566.

City Wide Yard Sale

This year's city-wide yard sale will take place on Saturday, May 10th. All activities surrounding this annual event are being organized and managed by Jodi Yap. Please call Ms. Yap at 535-3105 for more information.

Think Before You Water

With the warmer weather upon us, people will begin planning their gardens and cleaning their yards. During the spring and summer months there is increased use of water. Recognizing that water is expensive, it should be used wisely.

Talent Celebrates Arbor Day

The State of Oregon recognizes the first full week in April (7-11) as Arbor Week. Arbor Day is an observance and celebration of trees

Cop Talk By Officer Shane Wilson

Lately, we've been receiving quite a few calls about car break-ins. I'd like to remind

in Talent, in the state of Oregon, and across the nation. The Arbor Day Foundation has recognized the City of Talent as a *Tree City USA* for the third consecutive year. A local representative from the Oregon Department of Forestry will present a flag and plaque to the City in commemoration of this accomplishment.

On April 9, 2003 the City of Talent will observe Arbor Day by planting a flowering dogwood tree in the Downtown Park at noon. The City's Public Works Department will plant this tree and another at the Community Center. The latter replaces one lost in a December windstorm. This is the fifth consecutive year the City has observed Arbor Day by planting trees in public parks. The Mayor, City Councilors, Parks Commissioners, and City staff will be on hand to celebrate this event.

If you would like more information on Arbor Day, or are interested in volunteering for other conservation-oriented events, please contact Kevin Cronin, City Planner, at 535-7401.

citizens to lock your car doors, roll up your windows, and set your car alarm (if you have one) when your vehicle is unattended. In warmer weather, people have a tendency to forget to roll their windows back up or they leave them rolled down too far. Also, don't leave valuable items in your car. Take them with you or tuck them under a seat or in the trunk. Don't leave them out to entice thieves. Although we have recovered a lot of stolen property and suspects have been charged with this offense, I'd still like to remind citizens to take precautions.

Just a reminder—the Talent Police Department conducts *free* security checks of your home or business here in Talent. We can make recommendations on how to better secure you, your family or your office. If this sound like something you'd be interested in, please call me at the Talent Police Department at 535-1253 to make an appointment.

OPEN HOUSE FOR HIGHWAY 99-TALENT PROJECT

The public is invited to attend an open house for the upcoming Highway 99-Talent modernization project. The event starts from 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, 2003 at Talent's Community Hall, 206 East Main Street.

The project will improve Oregon Highway 99 between Colver Road and Rapp Road. Improvements include curbs, gutters, sidewalks, access modifications, a raised median and landscaping. Construction should begin in spring 2005 with completion in summer 2006. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the City of Talent are working on the project, which is funded by the 2001 Oregon Transportation Investment Act and federal sources.

Other proposed improvements include:

Redesign of the intersection of Colver Road, Suncrest Road and Highway 99;

Traffic signal installation at the Rapp Road intersection;

Traffic signal evaluation at the Colver Road-Suncrest Road intersection;

Modification of the existing W. Valley View

Planning Department News

Applications Approved:

Conditional Use Permit (CUP 03-01): Suncrest Homes, LLC received approval for a conditional use permit to construct a swimming pool at Spruce Landing PUD. The pool will be sited in the open space area on Max Loop and be managed by the homeowner's association. The applicant will also restore and expand the wetlands and add a pedestrian path. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 27, 2003.

Policies Under Review or Adopted:

The Planning Commission and City Council will consider recommendations from staff concerning annexation policies. The current Annexation Ordinance No. 421 was adopted in 1980 and needs an update to comply with current state law and reflect changing needs in the community. The Planning Commission met on March 27, 2003 to discuss the recommendations.

The Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) presented the latest findings of the Regional Problem Solving process on March 27, 2003. The Planning Commission held a public hearing

Road traffic signal; and

Replacement of the Wagner Creek Bridge.

Project information will be on display and project staff will be available to answer questions at the open house.

Accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities. Alternate formats are available upon request. If a sign language interpreter is needed, please call John Morrison at (541) 664-6676, ext. 243 at least 48 hours prior to the open house.

afterwards to consider staff recommendations on the proposed future growth areas outside the existing UGB. The Planning Commission endorsed three areas and forwarded the recommendation to the City Council.

The City Council accepted and endorsed a "Code Concepts Report" on March 19, 2003. The report summarized recommended changes to the zoning districts, site plan review, and conditional use criteria to facilitate smart development. The Transportation and Growth Management Program, a joint effort of DLCD and ODOT, provided the funds for a consultant (Otak, Inc.) to audit the zoning code.