

MAYOR'S CORNER

I would like to begin this month's article with a special thanks to Amber Hersom, Danny Krenwinkle, Lillian Lawrence and their families for all their time and efforts on the three community projects. Each project; the youth center, the "Mac Field" work and the cemetery improvements, were major tasks. Congratulations to each of you for a job well done. We are proud of you and wish you well in your future. I wish there was a scholarship for each of you! On behalf of the community, THANKS!!

The Jackson County "Dog Catcher" has been visiting Butte Falls. Citations are being issued. You may purchase a dog license at City Hall. Call Lori for more information.

The Budget Committee toiled over balancing the budget for the 98-99 fiscal year. There will be a public hearing on June 18 at the City Hall. Final adoption will be made on June 30 by the Town Council at a special meeting. The June regular council meeting will be held on June 11. A special thanks to Melissa Owens, our Budget Officer, and to our Budget Committee members and Council persons who put in all the extra meeting time to complete this task.

Scott Duff, Oregon state Director of Rural Development, came to Butte Falls to present the town with two "Big Checks" on May 13. One check was for \$829,000, the other for \$828,000. The over-sized checks are not negotiable, but were to signify the final approvals of our grant and loan dollars from Rural Development. The paperwork is in the process, the engineering agreement has been signed, construction bids are scheduled for next spring with work to be done in the summer and fall of 1999.

We have received the good news that our grant request for "RIF" (Rural Investment Fund) dollars for videoing our sewer lines has been awarded. This will allow us to contract with a company to check our main lines to locate areas that need repair. This will allow us to find and repair the breaks making the needed maintenance less costly. Additionally we have submitted a request for a "Block Grant" for a "Facility Plan" for our waste-water system. This grant was prepared for us by Dave Wilson, our financial consultant who prepared our water

system grant application. This request was submitted in May 1998 and is only the first block grant request for our waste water system. Additional grant requests will be needed to accomplish the work after we have determined our needs.

Until we hire a new Public Works Superintendent we will be doing some creative public works management. We are advertising for a local person to contract to keep our park restrooms cleaned daily and to empty the city trash cans a couple times per week. We need a volunteer to open them in the morning and lock them in the evening. We have one volunteer to mow the park weekly and will be pleased to have other volunteers. We need volunteers for litter patrol. I hope that some of our young people will help with this. Peter Vorbeck has been putting in a lot of hours of late, but will soon be returning to his seasonal job in Medford.

We are advertising for a new public works person, but have only two applicants to date. We must hire someone who has a Level I certification to operate our water system and a Level II waste-water system certification. We do not have the opportunity to train someone this time. In addition to the fact that we must offer someone a better salary that we have previously budgeted, we must be able to offer benefits to keep someone. Another cold hard fact is that we have the need for one person to operated the water system and waste-water plant, and someone else to take care of the other city public works functions. At the May council meeting, Gary Shipley submitted his resignation. He addressed some items that should be considered to help retain someone in the future. Peter Vorbeck was present also to voice his comments for the need of a second person.

A BIG THANKS to Ray Macy, our council person who has the designation of "Public Works Commissioner". The time he donates to our community is endless. Any Butte Falls resident who is interested in running for a council position this fall, contact Lori at City Hall. Please contact Lori also if you would be willing to help in any of the currently needed public works volunteer positions. Thanks in advance!

Sara Beck, Mayor

Lillian Lawrence

We appreciate you and the work you've done on the cemetery. You did an excellent job! Good luck in your future schooling. Love to you, Blanche Campbell



Congratulations to the Class of '98
From the management and staff of the Totem Pole

