

## Hometown Boy Turns Author

Mark Beals, graduate of Butte Falls High School (1982) has written a book entitled "Dead Horse Falls" (56000 words). It is a humorous fiction about high school students in a small Southern Oregon town. Ask for Dead Horse Falls at your local bookstore (ISBN#1930430-531) or order it online at Sandra@waltsan.com.

About the author: Mark Beals lives in North Carolina with his wife BJ and their son, Mark II. He is a chemical operator (when he can find his gloves). Mark served in the Persian Gulf War with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and is an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God.

Happy Anniversary Pam and Corey Norton on August 17<sup>th</sup>!

## Community Garden Effort is Growing

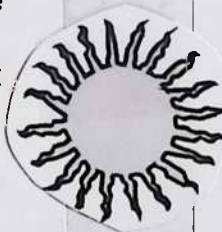
by- Bud Liberatore

The effort to implement the Community Garden component of the Ford Family Foundation Grant continues to grow!

A portion of the garden area has been tilled and a variety of plants have been seeded and transplanted. We are having good results keeping them alive with a soaker hose and timer. The compost that was incorporated into the soil also seems to be encouraging the tomatoes to bear fruit, although one of the plants is looking pretty anemic. Too much sunshine perhaps? Although a meager beginning, we have been busy making plans for the future of this project.

We have developed a rudimentary, generic blueprint of the features we would like to install in this section of the elementary school grounds. But it's not too late for you to have a say in what you think a community garden should be. Before any permanent water system is put in the ground, we need to have a firm landscape plan to guide the development of this garden.

The centerpiece and most costly item thus far is a greenhouse. This will not only extend our growing season, but also will provide the us with a means of income (selling starts, mature plants, arrangements, etc.) and a laboratory for the students of the school district. Other features include: raised beds, potting benches, tool storage shed, a gateway arch, various beds for ornamental and herbs, a small pond with fountain, and benches to sit and enjoy the surroundings.



In a meeting with the city council, we have been granted use of a section of land adjacent to the garden for composting. (I think this would make Butte Falls the only town in America with a compost pile with a Main St. address)! Furthermore, the city council has offered the use of a chipper to complement and enhance this effort. We hope to develop this compost aspect of the garden to accept your yard waste, fortify the garden soil, provide a living biology lab and create a saleable product.

In order to bring meaning to this community garden, we need to have your comments, your ideas and your commitment to seeing another piece of Butte Falls blossom, both literally and figuratively. Do you favor birdhouses for instance? Would you like to teach kids how to make their own? Are you more in favor of fresh vegetables and wish to see hands-on learning about good nutrition and where food comes from? Perhaps you have an interest in business and could help develop the income aspect of this effort? If you are a woodworker or builder there are many parts of a garden that can use your expertise and skills. Here is an opportunity to share what you know and learn what you don't from your community. No matter what your skill level is, no matter your physical abilities, you can be of help. Even if you have a dog that likes to dig (and is trainable) we can use the two of you!

Please call Bud Liberatore at 826-6994 or Stephan Torre at the school district office (865-3563, x276) to offer your mental and physical input to this community project. As the saying goes: "Many hands make light work"



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