

# TALK OF THE TOWN



OLD TOWN PLAYERS  
PRESENTS

## FLAMING GUNS OF THE PURPLE SAGE

**GALA OPENING ON FEBRUARY 17, 2006**

Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium

Gala tickets, \$30 per person, may be purchased on-line at [oldtownplayers.com](http://oldtownplayers.com),  
at Clarkdale Town Hall, or by calling 639-0538.

Tickets for the Gala are not available at the door. A portion of the proceeds  
from the Gala Opening benefits Clarkdale Parks and Recreation.



## BUS TRIPS!

### DINNER THEATER

*Oklahoma,*

February 18, 2006, \$45

*Funny Girl,*

April 15, 2006, \$45

*Disney's Aladdin Jr.,*

May 6, 2006, \$20

*Disney's Beauty and the Beast,*

June 24, 2006, \$45

Reservations taken at Town Hall.  
Payment required at the time of  
reservation. Tickets are non-  
refundable. Children are welcome,  
but they must be accompanied by an  
adult. Food may be brought onto  
the bus.

The bus leaves the Town Hall  
parking lot at 9:00 a.m. for Phoenix.  
The theatre matinees begin at  
11:45 a.m. The meal is buffet style.  
Cost includes transportation, show,  
dinner, tax and gratuity.  
Transportation is by yellow air-  
conditioned school bus.

## Dances

Featuring  
*Sentimental Journey*

January 21, 7:00 p.m.  
February 11, 7:00 p.m.  
March 25, 7:00 p.m.



Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium. \$5.00 per person.  
Refreshments available. For all of the 2006 dance dates pick up a  
flyer at Town Hall or go to [www.clarkdale.az.us/events.html](http://www.clarkdale.az.us/events.html).

Sponsored by the Heritage Conservancy Board  
and the Clarkdale Heritage Center.

## Made in Clarkdale

Free and open to the public.  
Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium  
A Clarkdale Chamber of Commerce Event

Exhibition Dates: December 2 - 12  
Saturdays & Sundays: 10 am to 5 pm  
Monday - Friday: 9 am to 4 pm

## Mayor's Corner - The State of Our Town

The Town Council and the town department heads recently held our annual strategic planning session to review the previous year and to prioritize and plan for the upcoming years. Last year's planning identified several goals worthy of extra consideration in 2004-2005:

- 1. *Continue work on the purchase of Cottonwood Water Works.*** This project appears on track for closing in early January 2006. The final steps will be the approval of the purchase by the Arizona Corporation Commission and a few cleanup items. Then Clarkdale will own its own water company the work really starts. We'll need to create a set of water-related ordinances and policies, convert CWW's records and practices to comply with our own, and hire new staff to handle the new utility. I'm confident that we have the staff and the Council in place that will tackle this task seriously and thoughtfully.
- 2. *Review and/or create "Quality of Life" ordinances.*** In the past year, we enacted, reviewed or amended ordinances relating to water conservation, fire protection, dark skies, landscaping, and development.
- 3. *Continue work on the wastewater treatment plant.*** During the last year we had two wastewater projects. First, it was necessary to upgrade the effluent quality from our existing plant so that the discharge could be removed from the Phelps Dodge tailings and sent to the new disposal site near the slag pile. That project is on track and should be completed within the next six months. This will allow P-D to reclaim the tailings by covering them with soil and planting native vegetation. The second, larger project is the design and construction of a new waste-water plant that will more than double the old plant's capacity, and will be built to allow expansion as needed. We expect to begin construction by mid-2006. This will improve the Town's ability to attract suitable businesses, and will eventually provide high-quality effluent for such purposes as park watering, cemetery maintenance, construction water, and so forth.
- 4. *Formation of the new Clarkdale Fire District.*** This effort saw a setback in 2005 when technicalities prevented it from appearing on the ballot, but we expect to see it on a 2006 ballot. The new district will relieve the Town of a major expense and will allow the

new fire department to provide much better service to our citizens, especially in the area of emergency medical response. Right now, effectively 100% of the property taxes collected by Clarkdale are being spent on the Fire Department. State law prohibits the kind of increases in property tax that we would need to bring service up to contemporary standards without formation of an independent fire district.

**5. *Improve communication between the Town, the Council and the Citizens.*** During 2005, we placed information kiosks in several areas that are used to inform the citizens of our neighborhoods about what's going on in our Town. We know that informed citizens are good citizens, and we will continue to work on ways to get the word out in 2006.

**6. *In addition to the above, your Town staff and Council worked on other projects:***

- The new "Highlands" (formerly "Cliff Rose") development was approved with some very stringent requirements and concessions from the developers.
- The "Mountain Gate" development began work and the Council and staff continue to work on various aspects of its plans, water service agreement, and more.
- The Council reviewed the entire general plan during the last year, so that we are all familiar with what our citizens told us they wanted during that planning process.
- We also began to hear reports from each Board and Commission serving the Town on a rotating basis.
- Finally the Downtown Revitalization was completed in 2005, giving the downtown a beautiful new look, feel and function!

For 2005-2006 the Council and staff identified these as the issues worthy of extra consideration:

**1. *Complete the review and implementation of a comprehensive set of Impact Fees.*** In 2005 we awarded a contract to provide a required Impact Fee Study. This will allow us to implement new impact fees on development. The assessment and use of impact fees are governed strictly by state law, which states that impact fees can only be assessed when development directly impacts the area addressed by the fee. For example, you cannot assess a road impact fee to improve roads off the development site unless they are feeders to the development. Furthermore, the



money collected by impact fees can only be spent on capital expenses, like roads, buildings, etc. You cannot spend impact fee money to increase staff or training. During 2005-2006, we hope to complete the study and start assessing appropriate fees, so that development can be responsible for its impact on our citizens.

2. ***Create an Effluent Delivery Master Plan.*** There are three main water distribution systems in a mature town: the drinking water system, the wastewater collection and treatment system, and the reclaimed water delivery system that distributes the effluent from the wastewater plant. Having a plan for where the treated effluent (reuse water) will be delivered and how it will be used is essential to proper growth planning.

3. ***Create a comprehensive set of Water Ordinances.*** When we become owners of our water system, the responsibilities and rights formerly granted to Cottonwood Water Works by the Arizona Corporation Commission will cease. This allows us the opportunity to write a new set of ordinances that will govern water in Clarkdale. These ordinances will cover how we regulate water and its use, water conservation, emergency and drought planning, service and franchise rights, rates and rate assistance, exploration policy, aquifer protection, and more. This is a daunting, but necessary task that will consume a lot of the staff's and council's time for the next year.

4. ***Continue to analyze and upgrade staff compensation.*** During 2005, we studied staff compensation and made significant advances in pay and benefits. These improvements allow us to attract the most qualified people for positions in our Town. The Council recognizes the need to continue to attract and retain highly qualified professionals in every department if we are to provide the service that our citizens need and demand.

5. ***Continue to review and update existing Town ordinances.*** Recognizing that many of our ordinances were adequate when they were written, but that the world is an ever-changing place, the Council and staff feel that a continuing review of every Town ordinance is in order. These reviews will help position us legally and practically in the Town's future. We know that the time to get these things done correctly is *before* we need them, not after the fact.

So, the State of Our Town is improving, every day and in almost every way. Greater challenges and greater opportunities face us than have ever faced us before. The pledge of your Town Council and the town staff is to position Clarkdale favorably so that we can take advantage of future opportunities and face future challenges with the knowledge that we are prepared. We know that change is inevitable, but that it can be controlled and directed appropriately. Our job is to see that changes to our Town are as beneficial as possible to our citizens, and to maintain to the greatest possible extent the look, feel, and character of the wonderful small town that we are today.

By Doug Von Gausig, Mayor

## Board & Commission Vacancies

By Janet Perry, Deputy Town Clerk

We are requesting applications for appointments to the following town board and commission:

- **The Parks & Recreation**

**Commission** has two openings, both for terms expiring September 30, 2007. This Commission advises the Town Council on park and trail development, recreational activities, and programming. In addition to meetings, members participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Halloween and Christmas events, and approximately 8 concerts in the park each year.

- **The Design Review Board** has an opening with a term expiring September 30, 2006. This Board reviews the exterior design of proposed new buildings and alterations to buildings, excluding single family residences, and major development or redevelopment projects to assure that they are compatible with the surrounding environment and to preserve the integrity and character of the town. This Board currently meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Applications may be downloaded at [www.clarkdale.az.us/forms.html](http://www.clarkdale.az.us/forms.html) or are available at Clarkdale Town Hall, 890 Main Street.

Applicants must live in Clarkdale.



# Using a Modern Roundabout

**Know Where You're Headed**—Roundabout traffic moves counterclockwise so look to your left for oncoming traffic.

**Slow Down**—When you enter the roundabout, speeds drop to 15 to 20 MPH.

**Yield**—to the motorists in the roundabout. Once you are in the roundabout, you have the right of way!

- Remember to use your **turn signals**.

- **Miss Your Exit?** No problem go around the roundabout one more time.

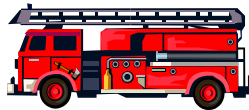


- **Pedestrians**—Use crosswalks and use caution.

- **Bicycles**—Follow the rules of the road or walk your bike and use the crosswalks.






- **Emergency Vehicles**—Yield to Emergency Vehicles in the modern roundabout. Exit and if you can, pull over.



- **Trucks**—Watch out for large trucks.



	<b>Know where you're headed.</b>
	<b>Slow down.</b>
	<b>Yield.</b>

For more information go to [www.arizonaroundabout.com](http://www.arizonaroundabout.com).

## Sherry Bailey

Interim Planning Director/Planning Manager

Sherry was hired by the Town in August 2005.

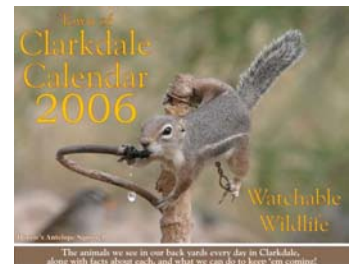
She shares the following about herself:

"I have been working with planning and zoning and housing for 25 years in California, South Dakota and Louisiana....and I still think it is the best job in the world. I have always loved research and being in the center of things, so planning was made for me. I like knowing something about everything and working for cities and towns allows you to be at the heart of what is happening. I have a BS in Political Science/Public Administration; a BA in Urban Planning; and a MA in Child and Family Counseling. I usually don't put my masters on my resume' for planning jobs, but I find I use my counseling skills all the time in my work. For fun I do bead work, make jewelry, weave and write children's books with my sister-in-law.

K.C. is my husband and he is a master welder turned drummer. Country, rock, funk or jazz are his favorites [must be all those welding fumes]. We have a 20 year old daughter Katie, whom we love dearly as long as there is 2000 miles between us. She is still back on our land in Louisiana with our horses, dogs, cats, goats, deer and turkeys. "

## 2006 Clarkdale Calendar "Watchable Wildlife"

Available at  
Town Hall &  
the Library  
\$10 each



Learn about the animals we see in our back yards everyday in Clarkdale, along with facts about each and what we can do to keep 'em coming!





## Planning Commission

The Clarkdale Planning Commission has been working on revising the Town Zoning Code by adding two new commercial categories: Neighborhood Commercial and Highway Commercial.

**Neighborhood Commercial** is intended to be a buffer area adjacent to existing residentially zoned areas. It will require additional buffering and design that more closely relates to the residential neighborhoods in scale.

**Highway Commercial** is located exactly as its name implies, along Highway 89A. It is intended to be more regional in scale and attract anchor commercial, i.e. grocery or other large retail. The town will still have the Town Center Commercial which covers the historic downtown area and is unique in its design and character.

Additionally, the Commission is developing overlay corridors that will lay over the existing commercial zoning and will have the trail, landscape and design standards for the Eleventh Street Corridor, the Highway 89A Corridor and the Broadway/Tuzigoot Road corridor. Each of those areas will have standards specific to its area and character, but with some unifying themes running throughout the zone.

### Town Employees Recognized for Excellent Service

In the October issue of the *Talk of the Town* citizens were given the opportunity to nominate employees for an award during Arizona Cities and Towns Week. The following employees were recognized for the quality of service they provide:

*Gayle Mabery, Town Manager*

*Elpidio Rangel, Lead Crewmember*

*Tim Wakefield, Crewmember*

*Kevin Adams, Lead Crewmember*

Of all the awards or recognition employees may receive, this award means the most because it comes from the people they serve! Thank you for sending in your nominations!

## Fire Department

By Acting Chief Jerry Doerksen



### Public Education

• Fire Department presentations are held each month at the Jerome-Clarkdale School. This month smoke detectors and the Fire Department's response were discussed with the students in kindergarten through third grade. Also, books were read to the children.

• Eighth grade student, Logan Islas from Oak Creek School spent the day with the Clarkdale Fire Department. This was part of Groundhog Job Shadow Day. Logan worked at the station along with the firefighter on duty.

### Employee news:

• Firefighter Bill Volk has been promoted to the newly created Captain position.

• Kenny Turner, a Reserve Firefighter with the department for 1½ years, began working as a full-time firefighter in November.

## Fire Sprinklers

By Mike Baker, Building Official

On October 13, 2005 the Town Council voted to amend the current ordinance governing the requirements for fire suppression systems. Under the old law, whenever an existing building changed use, it was mandatory that a fire suppression system be installed.

The new amendment states that if the new use is less of a fire hazard, a new fire suppression system is not required to be installed. Almost all new buildings are still required to be sprinklered, as are additions, depending on their usage. New residential structures and existing buildings that are changed to residential uses require the installation of a fire suppression system.

The Council, by passing this new amendment, has given flexibility to the requirement for fire suppression where it was needed but has not compromised residential safety. Call the Community Development Department at 649-3538 for more information.

# 2006 Elections

By Joyce Driscoll, Town Clerk



## Vote by Mail

Every voter will be mailed a ballot the week of February 20th. There will be NO polling places. However, persons who spoil or lose their ballots, or who do not receive a ballot may contact the Town Clerk for a replacement (928) 634-9591. The Yavapai County Election Department will be conducting the election for the Town.

## Primary Election Dates

- December 14    Deadline for candidates to file  
                    Deadline to submit arguments  
  for publicity pamphlets
- February 9     Sample ballots available  
                    Publicity pamphlets available
- February 13    Last day to register to vote in  
  the Primary
- March 14       Primary Election Day
- May 16          General Election Day

## Council Seats

Two council seats will be available for this election (Vice Mayor Jerry Wiley and Council member Tim Wills' terms are expiring). Both seats are for 4-year terms. Candidate packets are available at Town Hall. To become an official candidate, persons must file their paperwork no later than December 14th. Any candidate who receives a majority of all the ballots cast in the Primary election shall be declared to be elected. The council members-elect take office in June. The council members select a Vice Mayor from among themselves.

## Home Rule Option

There will be an Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule Option) question on the ballot. In 1980, Arizona voters approved a tax reform package that placed an expenditure limitation on cities and towns. However, this legislation allowed local voters to approve an exception to the state imposed expenditure limitation in their city or town.

Under the state-imposed expenditure limitation, a city or town may only spend a certain amount of funds. Regardless of the city or town's revenue or individual needs, its budget is limited by the state-imposed ceiling.

Under the Home Rule Option, the city or town may determine its own expenditures based on its budget. With voter approval of the Option, the Town will be limited to the expenditure of the estimated available revenues, whether such expenditures are less than or more than the state imposed limit.

To continue the Home Rule Option, it must be passed by the voters every four years. The Town of Clarkdale voters have approved the Home Rule Option every four years since 1980.

## Voter Registration

There are new voter registration requirements due to the implementation of Proposition 200. To avoid any problems with being registered in time for the election, we encourage everyone who is not registered to register early. The last day to register to vote in the Primary election is February 13th. Registration forms are available at Town Hall and Yavapai County Offices. To register on-line, or print a registration form, go to the Secretary of State website:

[www.azsos.gov/election/VoterRegistration.htm](http://www.azsos.gov/election/VoterRegistration.htm).

You may contact Yavapai County Voter Registration at 639-8100, Ext. 3248 if you have any questions or to determine if your information is current.

## Special Note

**Many Clarkdale voters are located in the Clarkdale-Jerome School district. The ballots those voters receive will also contain a Clarkdale-Jerome budget override question.**

## Need Help at Home?

From time to time some of our residents need a little help. **Verde Valley Caregivers** has volunteers who provide services at no charge. They can help with weekly visits, mail correspondence, bill paying, small home repairs, weekly shopping with or for a client, or transportation to a doctor or hairdresser.

They also have a service called **Guardian Angel Program**. This is a Personal Assistance Security system that provides a phone link to neighbors in an emergency. The units are loaned and installed by trained volunteers at no cost to the client. For more information, please call Linda Stevenson at 204-1238.

**Library Hours**  
 Mon & Wed 11:00 - 4:00  
 Tues 1:00 - 6:00  
 Thur, Fri & Sat 1:00 - 4:00

## Library Notes

By Charlotte Hawken,  
 Library Manager

### Upcoming Books

#### DECEMBER

##### Non-fiction

Love Smart: Find the  
 One You Want Phil McGraw

##### Fiction

Forever Odd Dean Koontz  
 Grave Mistake Stella Cameron  
 Long Time Coming Sandra Brown  
 On the Run Iris Johansen  
 S is for Silence Sue Grafton  
 There's Something  
 About Christmas Debbie Macomber  
 Turning Angel Greg Iles

#### JANUARY

##### Non-fiction

Bad Childhood-Good Life Laura Schlessinger  
 My Year in Iraq Paul L. Bremer

##### Fiction

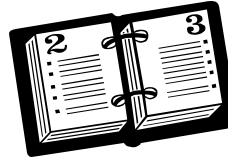
All Night Long Jayne Ann Krentz  
 Blindfold Game Dana Stabenow  
 Death Dance Linda Fairstein  
 Gone Lisa Gardner  
 Got the Look James Grippando  
 Hostage W.E.B. Griffin  
 Just Rewards Barbara T. Bradford  
 Life All Around Me  
 by Ellen Foster Kaye Gibbons  
 Memory in Death Nora Roberts  
 Night Fever Diana Palmer  
 Pale Horseman Bernard Cornwell  
 Phantom Terry Goodkind

### Online Library Catalog:

[www.yavapailibrary.org/clark.htm](http://www.yavapailibrary.org/clark.htm)

## Used Book Sale

To get to the sale, go through the  
 Made In Clarkdale art exhibit  
 in the Clubhouse Auditorium .  
 December 2-11



## TOWN CALENDAR

CML - Clark Memorial Library, 39 N. Ninth St.  
 TH - Town Hall Conference Room, 890 Main St.  
 ML - Men's Lounge, Clark Clubhouse, 19 N. Ninth St.  
 AUD - Auditorium, Clark Clubhouse, 19 N. Ninth St.  
 CD - Community Development Dept, 39 N. Ninth St.

- Dec 1 Library Advisory Board, 9 am, CML  
 Dec 2-11 *Made in Clarkdale Art Exhibit* and  
*Library Book Sale*, Dec. 2 at 6 pm, AUD  
 Dec 3 *Santa in the Park*, 1:30 pm  
 Dec 12 Parks & Recreation Commission, 1 pm, ML  
 Dec 13 Regular Council, 6 pm, ML  
 Dec 14 Design Review Board, 6:30 pm, ML  
 Dec 19 Planning Commission, 6 pm, ML  
 Dec 21 Heritage Conservancy Board, 5:15 pm, CML  
 Dec 26 Town offices closed, *Christmas Holiday*  
 Dec 27 Special Council, 6 pm, ML  
 Dec 28 Board of Adjustment, 7 pm, ML, as needed  
 Jan 2 Town offices closed, *New Years Holiday*  
 Jan 5 Library Advisory Board, 9 am, CML  
 Jan 9 Parks & Recreation Commission, 1 pm, ML  
 Jan 10 Regular Council, 6 pm, ML  
 Jan 11 Design Review Board, 6:30 pm, ML  
 Jan 16 Town offices closed, *Martin Luther King Day*  
 Jan 17 Planning Commission, 6 pm, ML  
 Jan 18 Heritage Conservancy Board, 5:15 pm, CML  
 Jan 21 Dance, *Sentimental Journey*, 7-10 pm, AUD  
 Jan 24 Special Council, 6 pm, ML  
 Jan 25 Board of Adjustment, 7 pm, ML, as needed  
 Feb 2 Library Advisory Board, 9 am, CML  
 Feb 8 Design Review Board, 6:30 pm, ML  
 Feb 11 Dance, *Sentimental Journey*, 7-10 pm, AUD  
 Feb 13 **LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION**  
 Parks & Recreation Commission, 1 pm, ML  
 Feb 14 Regular Council, 6 pm, ML  
 Feb 15 Heritage Conservancy Board, 5:15 pm, CML  
 Feb 17 *Old Town Players, Flaming Guns of the  
 Purple Sage*, Gala, 6:00 pm, AUD  
 Performances Feb 18, 19, 23, 24, 25 & 26  
 Feb 18 Bus Trip, *Oklahoma*, 9 am, Town Hall lot  
 Feb 20 Town offices closed, *President's Day*  
 Feb 21 Planning Commission, 6 pm, ML  
 Feb 22 Board of Adjustment, 7 pm, ML, as needed  
 Feb 28 Special Council, 6 pm, ML

Meeting Dates and times are subject to change.

**Important Numbers:**

Fire Department, non-emergency: 639-4591  
 Police Dept, non-emergency: 634-7240 or 634-2921  
 Cemetery Manager: 634-  
 Clark Memorial Library: 634-9760  
 Municipal Court: 634-1691  
 All other business:  
 Town Hall: 634-9591  
 Fax: 634-0407  
 TTY:: 1-800-367-8939



**Town of Clarkdale**  
 Post Office Box 308  
 Clarkdale, AZ 86324-0308

PRSRRT STD  
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 86324-0308

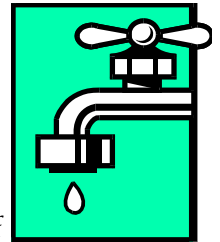
**POSTAL PATRON**  
**CLARKDALE, AZ 86324**

Town email: [townhall@clarkdale.az.us](mailto:townhall@clarkdale.az.us)

Town of Clarkdale Website: [www.clarkdale.az.us](http://www.clarkdale.az.us)

## Establishing a Municipal Water Utility

By Gayle Mabery, Town Manager



The acquisition of the Cottonwood Water Works system appears to be on track for an early 2006 closing. When a firm date is set for the transfer of ownership, all Cottonwood Water Works customers will receive a letter that will include pertinent information about the acquisition, including the timing of the change of ownership, where bills can be paid and the timing of the implementation of the new rate structure. Please watch your mail for the letters (which should be arriving shortly after the first of the year), and check the Town's website, [www.clarkdale.az.us](http://www.clarkdale.az.us) for updated information.

Water issues will be a top priority for the Town in the coming years. As we move into municipal ownership, there are many issues that need our attention. On November 15, 2005, the Council will begin their formal discussions about establishing a Water Utility Bill Assistance Program for qualifying low income members of the community who need assistance with their water bills. More details about that program will be made available as the program is defined.

In addition, the Council is expected to adopt a Notice of Intent to Adjust Water Meter Connection Fees at their December 13, 2005, Regular Meeting. The Water Meter Connection Fees are the fees that a new customer pays when they make a new connection to the water system.

Under the terms of the purchase agreement for the water company, the Town will be obligated to pay a \$1,500 per connection fee for each new connection for the next seven years. After exploring a number of options with our financial advisors, the recommendations that we are receiving is to increase our Water Meter Connection Fees by the \$1,500 for the next seven years, in order to recapture that expense from new connections. If the connection fee is not used to recapture this expense, then the Council would need to adjust rates across the entire user base to cover these fees. Since the expense is only generated due to new connections, the Council has expressed the desire to recapture those expenses specifically from those applying for the new connections, and not from existing users.

If the Council is supportive of adjusting the connection fee to recapture the \$1,500 per connection cost, we must go through the utility rate adjustment process, which takes approximately 60 days to complete.

The first step in the process to adjust the Water Meter Connection fee will be for the Town Council to adopt a Notice of Intent to Adjust Water Meter Connection Fees at their December 13, 2005 meeting. Following that, the Council will hold a Public Hearing on January 24, 2006 to receive input on the proposed new fees and then consider adopting the new fee structure. If adopted, the new Water Meter Connection Fees will become effective February 23, 2006.

The current and proposed Water Meter Connection Fees are as follows:

Meter Size	Current Water Meter Connection Fee	Proposed Water Meter Connection Fee		
		Type A	Type B*	Total
5/8"	\$500	\$500	\$1,500	\$2,000
1"	\$650	\$650	\$1,500	\$2,150
1 1/2"	\$850	\$850	\$1,500	\$2,350
2"	\$1,150	\$1,150	\$1,500	\$2,650
		*Type B Fee to be effective through June 30, 2012.		