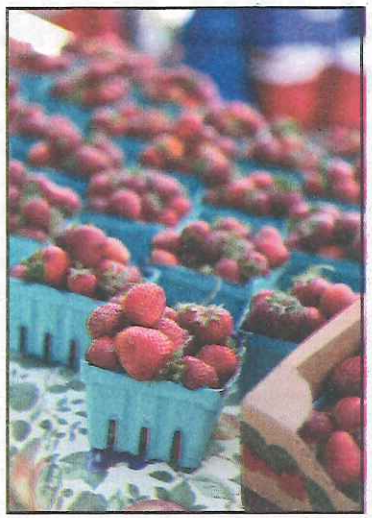
# Tualatin Tomorrow Going Back To The Community In Tualatin's Centennial Year

*SUBMITTED BY:* ***CANDICE KELLY***

Tualatin Tomorrow is a community visioning effort which will gather community input on what the community wants to see in the future. The Plan was first adopted by the City Council in 2006 and it requires a check back with the Community of Tualatin about every five years. SO, it's time for an update and we need YOU!

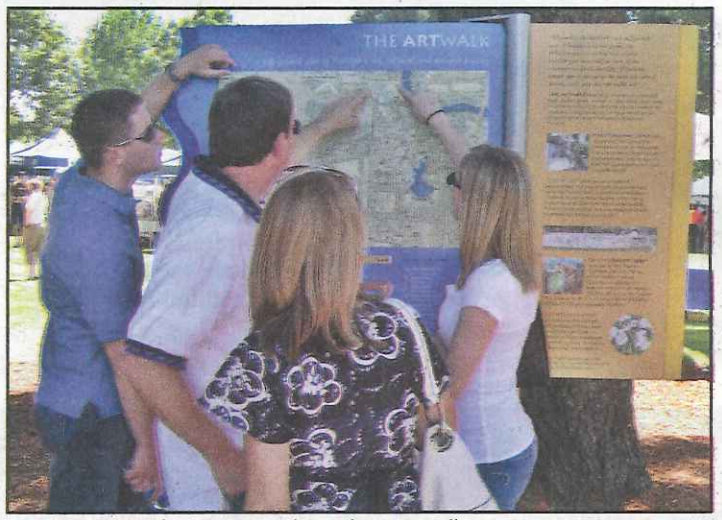
I know I don't have to tell you of the MANY changes in the world in just the last five or so years. We now have tools which were not available when we started this project. We had little social media available to speak of, no "interactive" websites, no Citizen Involvement Organizations (CIOs), not much use of emails and even this wonderful monthly periodical wasn't up and running yet. I could go on but you get the picture. With these new tools, so many more people will have a chance to share their ideas and influence the Tualatin Vision.

What a really great time to be able to update the Vision, during Tualatin's Centennial year. At 100, Tualatin looks pretty good! She looks a bit different than in the beginning as you would expect, don't we all after we get a few decades on us. In Tualatin's case the changes made seem to enhance her already good bones, with parks, trails and natural areas; plenty of good places to eat, shop and play; a great school system; a place for our 50+ population to eat lunch, enjoy each other's company and games, take classes of all kinds; we have beautiful and diverse community art displayed throughout our city, as well as, the ArtWalk and the Ice Age Tonquin Trail, the Ki'a Kuts bridge, our first Dog Park; health care from Legacy, Providence and Kaiser Permanente all right here in our city. And don't get me started on our amazing Library and fabulous Farmer's Market!



Luscious Strawberries at the Tualatin Farmers Market

So while we are reflecting on the history of our wonderful city and enjoying this present year of celebration we will also spend some time looking at what we want going forward. Change comes no matter what and we want to decide how that looks for our community!




Community members enjoying the Tualatin ArtWalk

The Tualatin Tomorrow Advisory Committee along with our Tualatin Tomorrow Partners are excited to begin this centennial year by having our remarkable community, both residents and businesses, check in and tell us what they see as the important steps to continue towards our future Vision year of 2030.

There will be plenty of opportunities to be involved in sharing your voice and giving us your "wish list" of suggestions, visions, dreams, and thoughtful questions that can lead us to the road ahead as we go through this process. Granted, it won't be as extensive as it was in the beginning of the process because it doesn't have to be as we already have the framework and many visions accomplished or ongoing. There may be some items which we will need to revisit, revise, or say good bye to all together. Equally important are those things that we will add to the Vision. It's exciting to think of the many possibilities! There are big and small ideas out there and we know YOU have them to share. We are looking for you to step up and help build our future so this city will thrive and the next 100 years will be as vibrant and special as the first 100 have been!

There will be community meetings, online forums, events, and outreach of all types as we go forward. Watch for these opportunities on our city's website, the Tualatin Today Newsletter, your CIO's website/newsletter and at community events. For more information, please visit, **www.tualatintomorrow.org** or email Sara Singer, Deputy City Manager at **ssinger@ci.tualatin.or.us**

Candice Kelly is a grateful 7 year resident of Tualatin. She keeps busy with Tualatin Tomorrow Advisory Committee, Tualatin Budget Committee, Metro Public Engagement Review Committee and other assorted interests!

# The Chamber and Small Business Development Center Partner in 2013

*SUBMITTED BY:* ***LINDA MOHOLT***

Your Chamber continues to create strong service partnerships on behalf of local businesses. The chamber is privileged to partner with the Small Business Development Center- Portland Community College (SBDC-PCC), a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Starting in January 2013, the chamber will host SBDC advisor, Jon-Michael Kowertz every fourth Wednesday of the month from 1:00 to 3:30 PM for free and confidential, one-on-one business advising.

As additional resource for small businesses in Tualatin, owners and entrepreneurs can meet with an SBDC advisor by appointment only. Candidates for advising may need help in business start-up, marketing, planning, financing, loan package development and more. Business advising is at no charge and available at the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce. To learn more about how the SBDC can help your business or to arrange an appointment contact the chamber at 503-692-0780.

**Linda Moholt** is the CEO of the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce (**www.tualatinchamber.com**).

Tualatin
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