

Tualatin Youth Baseball League Gets Sporty Lawn Tractor from Local Businesses



From Left, Jay Malhi & Darrel Boyd, owners of EleMar Granite & Marble and Dave Carney of Tualatin Auto Body came together to make this happen.

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The Tualatin Youth Baseball League is about to get a sporty new addition to the team. A custom painted, glimmering red, 'T' logoed lawn tractor.

Three local businesses have worked together to provide this riding lawn mower

tractor to the Tualatin Youth Baseball League. For years, the league has had no way to mow the baseball fields at Bridgeport Elementary School. The grass was completely over grown and unless a parent volunteered to mow, or the school found it within their budget to hire a landscaper, the field was unruly. So when Tualatin business owners Darrel Boyd and Jay Malhi of EleMar Oregon Granite & Marble found themselves with an unused riding lawn mower at their warehouse, they thought of the kids.

"It was in pretty good shape but it needed some TLC," Malhi shares, "and after we decided to donate it, the project just seemed to grow."

A couple of phone calls later and Service Manager, Don Sutherland and General Manager, Ryan Sale of Stark Street Lawn and Garden in Sherwood happily agreed to donate a tune up, assuring that the mower would run as reliably as ever. Several parts were required for the fix, and EleMar

covered the cost.

Next came a quick trip over to the Tualatin Auto Body shop. "David Carney [the owner] was completely supportive from the start", says Malhi. "They completely disassembled the body and painted it with the Tualatin colors. They even ordered new factory decals and provided the Tualatin logo on the front."

Freshly refurbished, shining with a new red coat of paint, Jay rides the lawn mower tractor back across the EleMar parking lot. Boyd chuckles as he watches Malhi driving towards him at a blistering 3mph. "We ended up with one sporty looking mower! It's beyond our expectations," he smiles.

The sporty new tractor is ready for delivery and will begin mowing Tualatin baseball fields this spring. Thanks to a team of spirited volunteers, the tractor will be housed in a brand new shed built on the field.

"It's amazing what can happen when you get a team of good people together," says



Malhi. "It gives you a good feeling inside. And in these hard economic times, that's especially nice."



Tracey Whitney is a daughter of EleMar co-owner Darrel Boyd. She has a Master's from Portland State in Media Communications. She works part time right now at EleMar as an Office Coordinator and Marketing Assistant. After years of volunteer work, she was recently hired by OPB as an Associate Producer for Oregon Art Beat.