

## What's Developing

A common thought that is expressed when people open up their Valley newsletter and read the new phone listing is "There are so many new people in Eureka. I don't know most of these names."

The reality of those new people has been seen through the distribution of the Welcome Wagon bags. There are two teams currently delivering the bags and welcoming the newcomers to town. After school begins additional teams will be added to the welcoming committee.

Initially, ten bags were assembled. It was thought they would last a long time. They didn't. That many more need to be assembled, and most will be given to new people to town right away.

The Welcome Wagon bags are beneficial to two main groups of people: 1) the people new to Eureka and 2) those that put items into the bags.

The bags contain information about every facet of the community to help the people new to town adjust to their new life here.

Businesses and organizations that put items in the bags have a very inexpensive way of reaching potential new customers. Business cards, brochures, items imprinted with the name of the business and contact information, gift certificates, and small gifts have been the most common items placed in the bags.

New people in Eureka mean more shoppers for local businesses, more people using local services, and increased school enrollment when those moving to town have school aged children. Those new shoppers increase tax revenue for the city. There are potential new members for churches and organizations. Available housing is rented or purchased.

Finding the new Eurekaans is done in several ways. Names in the Valley newsletter, those using city services, and new employees in town are normal ways of learning about newcomers. Word of mouth has also proved to be an excellent way of finding the new people.

Are people moving to Eureka? Definitely! The number of Welcome Wagon calls to the newcomers is proof positive.

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