



# THE FLASH City of Talent

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works and Police Departments

**The Flash, which occupies the following two pages, is a publication of the City of Talent and is editorially separate from the rest of the Talent News and Review. All content and editorial choices contained in the rest of the paper are the sole responsibility of the TNR and are not in any way associated with the City of Talent. -JG**

## From the Mayor's Office

The City of Talent collaborated with the Talent Chamber to throw a celebration honoring Talent's volunteer community. All were welcome, all were honored, a good time was had by all! We go a long way on small town resources. We owe it to our volunteers! Thank you for all you do!!!



I ran into Barbara Gould at the volunteer celebration. She has volunteered with Meals on Wheels program since the 60's. She shows up at the community center to serve meals to seniors with Food and Friends, and she still drives one route a week for Meals on Wheels. She said that Food & Friends offers seniors lunch for a donation of \$2.75, on Tues/Wed/Thurs at 11AM at the Talent Community Center behind City Hall. Please come all ye seniors and make new friends!

Our parks are very well attended and most appreciated as we approach the better weather. In Talent, we can play in grassy fields, cool off our kids on a splash pad, play basketball, tennis and pickle ball. We can skate board in a bowl and picnic by the swing sets. A topic of discussion among city officials is that Talent must find sustainable funding for parks maintenance. Our maintenance costs have continued to grow over the years. Our current discussions are to find funding, without additional burden to households in Talent. I will keep you posted!

Also, we have closed one half of the tennis courts due to major cracking. We are exploring ways to repair or perhaps someday replace the courts. That corner of Chuck Roberts Park is not a good place for courts due to a high water table. We are researching how to solve the issue. We would love to hear from you on that! Submit written and signed comments to City Hall.

Please join the exciting volunteer efforts in Talent. There are City Committee openings. Please apply online at [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org) or by visiting City Hall.

Grateful to serve  
Mayor Darby Stricker

## From the Parks and Recreation Commission

**Tennis Court Closed:** One of the two tennis courts at Chuck Roberts Park has been closed because of cracks in the surface. The other, which is lined for pickleball as well as tennis, remains open, although it, too, may have to be closed if the cracks become much worse. It will

cost at least \$25,000 for both courts to be resurfaced. Therefore, the Talent City Council urges your input on this issue. Do you think the courts should be repaired? Or should the City give up on providing tennis/pickleball, and spend your parks money on other parks facilities? Please help the City Council decide by commenting via email at [Talent@cityoftalent.org](mailto:Talent@cityoftalent.org) or by phone at 541-535-1566.

## DEDICATION OF THE TALENT POLLINATOR GARDEN

The City of Talent, a designated Bee City USA, on April 14 at 3:30 pm, invites the public to the dedication of the Talent Pollinator Garden. The garden is located near the roundabout at Valley View and Main in Talent. Our Mayor, Darby Stricker, will read the dedication, and our special guest Phyllis Stiles, founder and director of Bee City USA, will give a short presentation. The garden is always a work in progress, and it needs us to help in removing the plants that nature has seen fit to grow in the empty spaces, but that might not be pollinator flowers. Please Note: Dandelions are pollinator flowers. The bees and other insects depend on them for food, especially in the spring time.

For more information, please contact: Dolly Warden, Chair, Bee City USA - Talent, at 541-897-0065

PESTICIDES, PEOPLE, POLLINATORS, AND THE PLANET: SAFER, HEALTHIER PRACTICES, AND POLICIES CONFERENCE

WHEN: April 16, 2016, Saturday from 8 AM to 5 PM

The Bee City USA subcommittee of the Together for Talent Committee is one of the co-sponsors of an all-day conference hosted by Southern Oregon University in the Rogue River Room of the Student Union. The conference features national and regional experts and costs only \$10 (Students free with ID). Additional co-sponsors are the Pollinator Project of Rogue Valley, SOU's Bee Campus USA, ECOS, Eco-Solutions, the Cascade Girl Organization, Bee City USA-Ashland and Bee City USA-Phoenix.

On Friday, April 15th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, a fundraiser for the conference will held in the Meese Room of the Hannon Library at SOU and attended by Phyllis Stiles, Executive Director of Bee City USA. Cost: \$20 at the door

On Facebook find: Pesticides, People, Pollinators, and the Planet Conference.

## Ready for an Emergency? You can be.

Emergency Prep Workshops  
Workshops designed to help you and your family prepare for an emergency.

Day: Thursday  
Age: Adult  
Time: 6 PM-7 PM  
Place: JCFD5 5811 South Pacific HWY, Phoenix  
Cost: FREE

- Creating a Family Emergency Plan, April 7
- Family Emergency Supply Kit, April 14
- Preparing to Communicate During an Emergency, April 21

- Home Fire Safety, April 28  
"Pre-registration is required. Call 541-897-0570 to reserve a spot"

## WANTED- COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MEMBERS

### Talent Public Art Committee (TPAC)

Currently TPAC is looking for 3-4 volunteers for specific projects and/or to become TPAC members to enjoy a greater hands-on involvement in developing the arts in Talent. So whether you're just interested, ready to go or you're looking to support the arts with your time or just financially, give us a call. Call Ron Hodgdon at 541.535.1620 or email: [hodg1027@mind.net](mailto:hodg1027@mind.net). Please specify your name, contact information and TPAC related interest to be contacted.

### Together For Talent Committee

Interested in becoming a Talenteer? This is a great Committee to be involved in if you have a passion for trees, trails, forums and want to help make Talent an even better place to live and work. There are no term limits for this Committee. Meetings are every 1st Tuesday of the month at 3:00 PM in the City Hall Conference Room.

### Harvest Festival Committee

Looking for motivated, enthusiastic Committee members to help create an event that was even better than the last. The Committee meets monthly beginning in February and twice a month or more as we get closer to the event.

### Bee City USA

Education on Pollination. Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 PM for location and more information contact Dolly Warden at 541-897-0065 or email: [dolly.warden17@gmail.com](mailto:dolly.warden17@gmail.com)

### Architectural Review Committee

To reestablish this committee we need 5 members for the Architectural Review Committee.

This is a 5-person committee with no specified terms. The ARC advises the Planning Commission and City Council on Design Review criteria for the Historic District in Talent. Reviews development applications for new or renovation projects in the Old Town area. Meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

### Parks Commission

There are currently 2 Commission and 2 Alternate vacancies for the Parks Commission. This is a seven person commission each serving a two year term. The commission advises the City Council on planning and improvements to City parks and provides over site to the City's Summer Recreation Programs. The commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Members are active in raising community awareness of use of City parks and the importance of participation in recreational activities.

For other questions regarding the vacancies please contact Melissa Huhtala at City Hall: 541-535-1566 or email: [Melissa@cityoftalent.org](mailto:Melissa@cityoftalent.org). You can stop by City Hall for an application or find one online at [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org)

## Utility Billing News

Just a friendly reminder to all those customers that have their Utility bills paid by Automatic Withdrawal through the City of Talent. Please

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Talent  
110 East Main Street,  
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make sure to contact the City if there are any changes made to your bank account. If there are changes, you will need to fill out the Monthly Auto Pay Authorization form, and provide the City with a new voided check. Please contact the Utility Billing Department with any questions at 541-535-1566.

## Trees for Talent!

Help plant ten new trees in the Little League Complex, adopt a tree for your yard, and get answers to your tree questions from arborist Chris John on Saturday April 9, 10 PM – 12 PM. Come celebrate Talent's 16th Arbor Day at the Award Ceremony with Mayor Stricker at the Little League complex behind Chuck Roberts Park, Rogue River Parkway off Talent Avenue.

Refreshments, live music, snacks, and demonstrations will make this a fun and informative occasion for all the family.

For more information, contact Sharon Anderson: 541-535-9055 or email [scanderson1@charter.net](mailto:scanderson1@charter.net)

## Rogue Valley Earth Day 2016

Celebrate Rogue Valley Earth Day, Saturday, April 23, from 11 AM to 4 PM, outdoors at ScienceWorks in Ashland. "Rising to the Challenge" is the theme of this year's festival, where local residents will find abundant information on clean energy, food and farms, electric vehicles, wildlife conservation, sustainable lifestyles, and much more. Hours of fun will feature eco-friendly food vendors, craft beer on tap, live music, and "Earth Day Shout Outs" from local nonprofits inspiring people to take action. Kids will enjoy a full day of activity, including the 30' salmon storytelling tent, pictures with the world's largest monarch butterfly caterpillar, and dozens of hands on crafts and games.

Talent residents are encouraged to carpool or ride the Bear Creek Greenway to the event, and to bring their own refillable beverage container. Admission is free, and more information is online at <http://roguevalleyearthday.net>.

## News from Talent PD By Chief Moran

This is my last article for the Flash as I retire from my position as Police Chief in April. I have enjoyed this second police career for 7-plus years.

That tenure only puts me third on the list of longest serving Talent Chiefs of Police. Dale Kinnan served over 11 years in the 80's and 90's. The man who gave me my first break in law enforcement, Chief Chuck Roberts, set the record at 22 years as Chief from 1962 to 1984.

I began my involvement with Talent as emcee for the Harvest Festival in 1975. In October that year Chief Roberts appointed me to the Talent PD Reserve program. It was that experience that helped me get hired at Medford in 1977. After retiring from MPD in 2006, I tried some other things but found myself drawn back to police work in August 2008 when there was an unexpected opening for chief.

I have been very proud of the work of this department. One major accomplishment is the fact we have had 24/7/365 police coverage during my time here. That is a tribute to the police professionals who have chosen Talent PD as their department. I want to personally thank Lt. Jennifer Snook, Corporal Dan Moulin, Officer Dave Lorenz, Officer Lencin Carnighan and Officer Bill May for their long and dedicated service to Talent. Our two most recently hired officers, Bernard Rogers and Bruce Kelley are of the same high caliber officer and are already doing great things serving our city and citizens. In addition, we have had the good fortune to have as part time police clerk and evidence tech an exceptionally service oriented and hard working woman, Amanda Rogers. We are also happy to welcome Gail Fischer as full time police clerk starting in April. She is a highly respected long serving clerk from Jackson County Sheriffs Office.

Our new Chief is Curtis Whipple. Like me he retired from Medford PD as Lieutenant in charge of the Patrol Division. I've known him to be one of the hardest working men in police biz. He has done great work at Medford and he has experience in policing in Rogue River and Central Point previously. I am very pleased to hand him the reigns.

I will miss the good people of this City. It has been an incredibly rewarding experience to serve as Talent's Chief of Police.



**Why create your own Rain Garden?**

Stormwater runoff from your yard can carry pollutants that can negatively impact streams and wildlife. One way that homeowners can help reduce stormwater pollution is to grow rain gardens to capture and filter runoff before it enters our streams.

**Also, Rain Gardens are beautiful!**

Rain gardens can make an attractive addition to your landscaping and provide water storage and habitat for wildlife and beneficial bugs.



Instructors Lori Tella of Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District and Jennie Morgan of Rogue Valley Sewer Services will be giving technical advice and step-by-step instruction:

- Gain hands on experience in determining the best location for your rain garden and the ideal size
- By participating you may also be eligible to receive no-cost design assistance for your Rain Garden project.

**This Class is Free!**

Register today to receive a FREE \$12 gift certificate to a native plant nursery and your own copy of the Oregon Rain Garden Guide (total value \$17).

**Rain Garden Workshop**

The **New Talent Community Center** 104 E. Main St.

April 9, 2016 1:30- 4:00pm

To register contact  
 Rogue Valley Sewer Services  
 Jennie Morgan  
 (541) 664-6300  
 jmorgan@rvss.us

\*pre-registration required to receive the free gift

