



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

Things are a changin' in the City of Talent! I am sure by now everyone has noticed the construction on the new Valley View entrance to the Old Town area. By the time this article comes out, construction on the Valley View



roundabout may be started which will be somewhat of an inconvenience as the Valley View entrance to Talent will be closed for a time. When completed, however, Talent will have a whole new look and will be something we can all be proud of. (I know you English majors won't like that I ended a sentence in a preposition, but it just seemed to fit). The real purpose of this Urban Renewal Project is to stimulate new development. I am hopeful that this new look and new entrance to the City will attract new business. Keep in mind that this is a City of Talent project in which we all have a stake.

Sometime this Fall (if our City Manager can get through the never-ending paperwork required by the Federal Government), we should be starting construction on the new Community Center. Just as soon as plans are available, we will be asking for public comment and input. We hope to put all the information on the City web page with a direct link for comment. As you review this project, keep in mind that we are limited to 5000 sq. ft. and limited dollars.

I recently did a 25-minute interview for K Love Radio about the City of Talent. This interview will air several times over the next year. Becky Hansen, Regional Public Affairs Manager for K Love Radio, was really impressed with our community. She loved how everything -- such as City Hall, Library, and Old Town core seem to be new and fresh. But most of all she loved our small town lifestyle -- safe streets, good schools and a sense of community. I think we can all be proud of the community we have created. I know I am! By the way, Becky is from Anchorage, Alaska.

Bill Cecil, Mayor
541-535-1566
mayor@cityoftalent.org

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2014

Don't forget to mark your calendars for **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4th for the 2014 Annual Harvest Festival!!** This year's theme is "**Under the Harvest Moon!**" There will be a wide variety of activities this year!

Come join us for the Talent Annual Harvest Festival! The 2014 Festival is Saturday, October 4th from 7 am - 6:00 pm. The Talent Annual Harvest Festival brings out the Community of Talent and the entire Rogue Valley.



Get ready for a full day of festivities. Vendors, artists, music, food, run/walk and many children's activities. The day begins at 7:00 a.m. with the Talent Chamber's pancake breakfast served until 11:00 a.m. The 5K/10K Run/Walk begins at 8:00 a.m. registration at 7:00 a.m. The Grand Parade down Main Street starts at 10:00 a.m. The live entertainment and music on the City Hall Stage in the park begins at 11:00 a.m. and will continue until 6:00 p.m. There will be growers' booths, arts and crafts, valuables, historic and fun information booths, apple pressing and some of the areas favorite food vendors all day long. For the kids there will be many activities for children such as: clown show, face painting, petting zoo and much more! The Talent Harvest Festival is striving towards zero waste!

Applications for VENDORS, PARADE ENTRANTS, 5 & 10 K RUN, AND SPONSORS is available on the city website: www.cityoftalent.org. You are also welcome to come by Talent City Hall or contact Melissa Huhtala (541) 535-1566 or melissa@cityoftalent.org for more information.

WANTED- COMMITTEE & COMMISSIONER MEMBERS!

Architectural Review Committee
There are currently 4 vacancies for the Architectural Review Committee. The Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Planning Commission
There currently are 2 Alternate Planning Commission vacancies. The Commission meets the 4th Thursday of every month.

Parks and Recreation Commission
There is currently 1 vacancy for a Parks Commissioner and 2 vacancies for alternates. The Commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

Talent Public Arts Committee
The Talent Public Arts Committee is currently seeking both voting members and alternates. This Committee is great if you are interested in supporting, promoting and developing public

art in Talent. The Committee meets every 3rd Thursday of the month.

For more information for any of these vacancies please contact Melissa Huhtala at City Hall: 541-535-1566 or email: Melissa@cityoftalent.org. You can stop by City Hall for an application or find one online at www.cityoftalent.org.

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

Weed Team: Did you know that two of our city parks—Old Town and Talent Commons—are herbicide-free? But to keep this no-spray experiment going, volunteers are needed to pull weeds. Contact us at ParksComm@cityoftalent.org if you are interested in joining the Weed Team.

Beach Volleyball: Have you tried the new beach volleyball court at Chuck Roberts Park yet? Volleyballs are available to be checked out for free at City Hall.

Park Signs: You might have noticed the new signs at our parks. We think they look great! We hope you like them, too.

Skateboard camp Coming Soon!!! August 18-22 Sign Up NOW space is limited. Instructor Ian Hammons will conduct a 5 day skateboard camp tailored to all abilities from beginner to advanced.

Join us at Talent Skateboard Park from 10 - noon for this incredible camp. Register online at www.cityoftalentparks.org or pick up a form at City Hall.

Mon. - Fri. August 18-22 10:00-noon \$40

News From Talent PD By Chief Mike Moran

One thing I like about my article each month is I can use it to talk about the many fine people who work with me at the Talent Police Department. This month I'd like to recognize Officer Gail Schweizer. In July Gail completed 5 years of excellent service to the people of Talent. Gail previously worked for Ashland PD and Medford PD. We were

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fortunate to gain his expertise and bring him to Talent in 2009 when he retired from MPD. Gail was recognized last month at the City Council meeting.

Of additional importance is the fact that even though he has been here 5 plus years, he has only one officer with less seniority. That is Officer Dan Moulin, who has been with TPD for four years. This is significant because small agencies such as ours often don't often have the benefit of long term employees. I deeply appreciate the commitment of our officers who have served Talent.

August is a long and hot month and a few more reminders about heat related calls can never hurt.

The heat this time of year is very hard on pets. Dogs are very good actors and often can convince you to take them with you for a ride in the car when you normally might not. Please think ahead and if you are going to have to leave your dog in the car at all, even for just a few minutes, don't take them on that trip. Heat in a car is horrible even with windows cracked open a bit. So please don't leave your pets in a car.

Plus be sure to think about your pets at home too. Here are some precautions to take for your outdoor pets:

Ensure adequate shelter from sun/midday heat

Outdoor kennels should be well-ventilated and in the shade

Provide plenty of fresh water in a bowl that cannot be tipped over

Avoid excessive exercise on hot days

Another thing that happens in the heat is a decline in the wearing of safety helmets in the heat. If you and your kids are riding bikes or skateboarding or even roller blading, don't do it without good helmets. Accidents are never expected so you really should be ready by always wearing a helmet. They are an inexpensive piece of equipment compared to consequences of not wearing one.

Together For Talent Committee Recognition

Together for Talent is always on the outlook for unsung heroes in our community. And while we recognize that there are a wealth of heroes in the volunteers who man the Food for Friends lunches each Tuesday and Thursday at the Community Center we have only found one genuine music man in their midst: Richard Blines.

Richard has been a professional pianist for 45 years, playing with many groups of renown across the United States. After settling in Talent he fell in love with the ancient Gulbranson piano at the Community Center and where he continues to volunteer his time and expertise.

The result is that on Tuesdays and Thursday's senior citizens get the opportunity for a great lunch from Food for Friends (\$2.75) and simultaneously are provided with world class entertainment. Unless Richard is on a gig somewhere else you will usually hear him playing between 11 AM and 12 noon.

We thank you Richard Blines for your many contributions that help make Talent such a great place to call home.

BEE CITY USA – TALENT **By Dolly Warden**

Talent is on its way to becoming the second city in the United States to receive the designation Bee City USA. On July 2nd, the Talent City Council unanimously passed a resolution for Bee City USA as one of the requirements to receive the designation. By the time this item is published in the TN&R, the application process should be finished and the decision received from the headquarters in Asheville, North Carolina. Talent's Together for Talent Committee is charged with pollinator conservation, and City Recorder, Melissa Huhtala is the City liaison. Although the title uses only "bees," it refers to all pollinators including insects, birds, animals, as well various species of bees and wasps.

Talent will receive the Bee City USA logo to display at the northern entrance to Talent. We will be only the second city to have this designation in the US. Together for Talent will celebrate the first official proclamation as signed by our mayor, Bill Cecil. The newly formed group, Pollinator Project of Rogue Valley, will join in the celebration to be announced.

For more information, please contact Dolly Warden, 541 897 0065; dolly.warden17@gmail.com

Public Works

Let's all do our part to help conserve water this year, save energy, control costs and help the environment.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS FROM THE CITY OF TALENT

Water Wise Lawn Care

• Did you know that landscape water use typically runs 40-50 percent of your total use?

• Water no more than every third day so the grass develops deeper roots and uses moisture deep in the ground.

• Water in the early morning or late evening when there's no wind.

• After a rain, skip watering until the grass dries.

Tips to Conserve Water Indoors

• Change habits and use less water.

• Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save water and prevent damage to your home.

In the Bathroom:

• Turn off water while brushing your teeth or shaving. (Saves 35 gallons a week per person)

• Don't use the toilet as a trash can.

• Take shorter showers or bathe in half a tub of water. (Saves approximately 75 gallons a week per person)

In the Kitchen:

• Run the dishwasher only when it's full. (Saves 30 gallons a week)

• Don't rinse the dishes before putting them into the dishwasher, scrape them clean. (Saves 60 gallons a week)

• When washing fruits or vegetables, fill the sink with water instead of running the faucet. (Saves 30 gallons a week)

• Store a jug of water in the refrigerator for cool drink.

Laundry:

• Run only full loads in the washing machine (saves 100 gallons a week) unless you can adjust for smaller loads.

• Pre-treat stains to avoid the need for rewashing.

Install water-saving fixtures and appliances.

• Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.

• Share water conservation tips with friends and neighbors.

Please: Report broken pipes, open hydrants and errant sprinklers to the property owner or City of Talent.

Volunteers Needed

The City is looking to fill vacancies on the Talent Architectural Review Committee Except during the holidays the Architectural Review Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Civic participation can be very rewarding and educational. Please contact Zac Moody at 535-7401 or Melissa Huhtala at 535-1566 for any specific questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Transportation System Plan Update

In 1999, the City of Talent adopted a Transportation System Plan (TSP). A TSP establishes a system of transportation facilities and services to meet the local, regional, and state needs and provides direction for allocation of resources to various types of transportation projects.

Since the adoption of the most recent TSP in 2007, the City has experienced significant changes including an increase in employment centers, population changes, funding challenges, and outdated data sources. Further, updates have been made to the Region Transportation Plan, ultimately changing the way the existing TSP functions. These changes make it difficult for City to secure funding for transportation projects necessary to accommodate economic growth.

The City must update its TSP to meet the requirements of the Transportation Planning Rule (TPR). This includes updating the TSP elements including, the road plan, public transportation plan, bicycle and pedestrian plan, air plan, pipeline plan, rail plan, and water plan. In addition, the TSP needs to consider the street system functional classification updates, environmental justice, consistency between adopted state and local TSPs, land use changes, and changes to data sources.

If you are interested in participating in the Citizen Advisory Commission for this update or would like more information, please contact Zac Moody, Community Development Director at zmoody@cityoftalent.org.

NEWS FROM URBAN RENEWAL

For more information, contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 541 535 6170

Temporary Detour for West Valley View Roundabout: As you may have noticed, work began on the West Valley View project on July 17, with the goal of having traffic flowing through the new roundabout and onto the new extension of Main Street before school starts. At this writing, crews have excavated for the roadway and new alley, installed a fire hydrant, and are next working on installing sewer and water lines in West Valley View. In order to construct the roundabout on this busy roadway, there will be a 2.5 week detour period for through traffic between Monday, August 4 and Friday, August 22. This will allow the general contractor to move quickly on getting the roundabout built and operational in a relatively short period of time. While through traffic will be detoured to Colver or Rapp (trucks must use Colver), all businesses and homes with driveways on West Valley View will continue to be operational.