



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. -TNR

From the Mayor's Office

3 important focuses of your elected officials are the Valley View project which includes the completion of the roundabout. Talent's Economic



Development citywide and the effort to effect energy use reduction within the City of Talent.

By now everyone should be able to see the Plaza that is taking shape just west of the roundabout. It promises to be a great public space that is unique from any other in Talent. Talent Irrigation District reports that the appraisal of their property is complete. We will negotiate together very soon to purchase the land needed to complete the Wagner Street extension off of the roundabout. We will be looking at some really great opportunities for Talent.

Recently the City of Talent, Talent Economic Development Group and the Talent Chamber co-hosted a Business Leaders Reception. We all worked together to organize a very well attended event. 50 business leaders of Talent attended the forum to share ideas and produce a visionary report which will serve to guide the City Council in the City's goals setting session beginning in December. Please find the summary from the event on the City of Talent's website. This Mayor was very impressed!

Other exciting efforts moving Talent toward less reliance on energy resources and closer to our collective desires to address a more sustainable energy future have really gotten some traction. Councilor Collins has completed a report for our goal setting session that should give clear direction on what we can do immediately to reduce our reliance on energy resources and what long term measurable goals we can develop to impact energy use reduction throughout our entire community. The completed summary will be made available at www.cityoftalent.org, once we have the final draft.

We are a great City because of our volunteers. If any of these efforts excite you, please find opportunities to participate at www.cityoftalent.org

Grateful to serve,
Mayor Darby Stricker



GOODBYE PLASTIC!

In October, many Talent residents participated in the semi-annual Plastic Round Up put on by the Jackson County Recycling Partnership. In two days, almost 44,000 lbs of plastic was collected and kept from the landfill by sending it for recycling. All types of hard, soft and nursery plastic are collected at the event, providing an outlet for the plastic that we cannot normally recycle.

- We have some limited options recycle plastic on a regular basis:

In your Commingled Bin (with the Blue lid), you can put the following types of your hard plastic: containers with a neck smaller than the body e.g, milk jugs and rigid sided clean containers like yogurt. No lids or any other plastic.

- Take your clear soft/squeezable plastic to the Recycle Station on Water St. in Ashland.

For the rest of the plastic that finds its way into your household, you can sort it into hard, soft or nursery types for the next Round Up (not yet scheduled but hopefully next April).

For any questions on plastic recycling, call 541-535-9055 or email scanderson1@charter.net.

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

Join us on **Tuesday, December 8th** there will be the Annual **Holiday Tree Lighting**. This will begin at **6:00 PM**. Come on down and meet Santa, sing some carols and enjoy some light refreshments.

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

2016, Here We Come! At its November meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission set its goals for 2016. Please help us achieve these goals for improving and maintaining our parks by joining the Commission, which is currently three Commissioners short of capacity. The time commitment is minimal: attend

a monthly meeting and do some occasional homework. But the reward is enormous: the deep satisfaction of seeing your Talent friends and neighbors playing, relaxing, and enjoying the outdoors in the parks you have helped shape.

Contact Parks and Recreation at Parkscomm@cityoftalent.org if you would like a copy of the 2016 goals, are interested in joining the Commission, or have questions/comments.

News from Talent PD

By Chief Mike Moran

The members of the Talent Police Department wish you all a happy and safe Holiday Season. With that, just a reminder that we do have crime in Talent, even this time of year. Criminals are more brazen in their thefts it seems. Some of the thefts this past year are amazingly audacious. Please lock your homes and secure your cars.

Scams are another social plague that doesn't seem to be going away. Again, we had a recent report of a Talent resident sending several thousand dollars to Nigeria. The new wrinkle in these cases is the scammer criminals, or what I like to call "scaminimals", initially get the victim to send small amounts to addresses within the United States. Those addresses are often non-working so they call back and say to send money to a foreign address because the people who are handling the transaction are in a meeting in that country. Or they have some other convoluted story.

Remember, two things:

1. You don't need to pay money when you win money. (Oh you will pay the IRS later on April 15 if you really did win a real windfall but that is on your official tax return form)

2. If it seems to good be true, it is.

We have been very busy in Talent this year. So back in October I forgot to mention that it was the 40th anniversary of my affiliation with Talent PD. It was back in October 1975 that Chief Charles H. Roberts swore me in as a Talent PD Reserve officer. I was here for about a year and went on to later work for a little town down the

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road, Medford, for 29 years. I have been back at TPD for over 7 years. I wanted to thank Chief Roberts for giving me my start in police work.

Talent PD has had several recent alumni go on to serve other agencies after starting as reserves or volunteers at TPD. Officer Bernard Rogers is returning from the police academy this month as our latest officer.

Prior volunteers who are serving with other law enforcement agencies include London Westerlund, who is now with the Portland Police Bureau; Ben Weaver, now a deputy for Jackson County; Robert Lebel, a Corrections deputy for Jackson County; Stephen Barrett a University of Oregon police officer; and Joe Gall, our most recent volunteer, who is in training with the Los Angeles Police Department

News from Community Development

Flood Prevention and Leaf Collection

Did you know that December is on average the rainiest month of the year in the Rogue Valley? According to the Western Regional Climate Center, we receive over 3 inches of precipitation throughout the month. That may not sound like much, but it adds up! With an abundance of rain in-bound, there is no better time to think about reducing localized flood risks around your residence.

One simple step you can take is to dispose of nearby fallen leaves. If permitted to accumulate, leaves can obstruct stormwater conveyance systems like gutters and storm drains, leading to flooding. This year, Recology is providing Talent residents with a *free* leaf drop-off day at the Talent Public Works Yard, located at 200 Suncrest road. Stop by on December 12, 9am – 3pm and they'll collect your leaves and pine needles, emptied bags used to haul must be disposed of off-site, no other types of green debris

will be accepted. Recology also offers two *free* leaf drop-off days at the Ashland Recycling Center on Water St., November 15 and December 13, 9am – 4pm.

For those who cannot attend these events, pre-paid leaf collection bags are available to residents (proof of Talent residency required). Visit Talent City Hall, now – 12/31 to purchase bags at a discount, Recology will haul the full leaf bags away during Green Debris Week. See their website www.recologyashland.com for specifics.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

The Holiday tree is up at the Talent City Hall and Christmas is just right around the corner! We are kindly asking the community to join our City employees along with Fire District #5 in effort to make Christmas special for some of the less fortunate families in our area.

If you would like to help please stop by City Hall and pick up a gift tag from our Holiday tree. Each tag will have the first name of one family member that will include the sex, age and suggested gift from the wish list for that person. We will gladly accept donations of wrapping paper, gift tags/stickers, bags, bows and ribbon to wrap these gifts in. There will also be drop boxes located at Fire District #5 in Talent for non-perishable foods for those who would like to contribute in this way.

These families will be receiving a Holiday dinner basket containing a turkey and several non-perishable food items. All gifts and dinner baskets will be hand delivered on a fire truck by Fire District #5 and Santa Claus the week of Christmas.

All gifts will need to be turned in, unwrapped or in an open gift bag with the original gift tag attached to it at City Hall no later than 5pm on Friday, December 11th.

If you have any questions please direct them to Coleen Bradley or Leslea Heiken at City Hall, 541-535-1566 or coleen@cityoftalent.org or leslea@cityoftalent.org.

Thank you so much for your support and Happy Holidays!

Bee City USA - Talent Needs Worker Bees

Bee City USA -Talent, a subcommittee of the Together for Talent Committee of the City of Talent, is in need of several more worker bees. The subcommittee is charged with all pollinator conservation, and it conducts educational programs and activities to promote and conserve pollinator habitat. We meet once a month on the second Tuesday. Please call or email Dolly Warden at 541 897 0065 (dolly.warden17@gmail.com) if you would like to join the effort.

PS Dolly reports that several monarch butterflies were seen flying by her house recently.

News from Fire District 5

By Chief Darin Welburn

Fall has finally arrived but not without a few last minute wildland fires to finish off the season! On

Saturday, October 31, 2015, our crews were kept extremely busy with a rash of wind generated wildland fires. With fire season ending the previous week burn season was open. At approximately 130 pm we were sent to 3 separate grass fires. The largest of these covered about 55 acres on Hwy. 66 outside of Ashland. The fire burned in grass and brush and briefly threatened about 8 homes in the area. A multi-agency response consisting of people from Jackson County Fire District 5, Oregon Department of Forestry, Medford Fire, Ashland Fire, Greensprings Fire, and Cal Fire all teamed up to control the blaze in about 3 hours. This alarm was followed up with a response to Dark Hollow Road where an escaped burn consumed 10 acres and again threatened multiple homes. With fall also comes the time change and we would like to remind all homeowners to make sure their smoke alarms are operational. If you need assistance, please give us a call at 541-535-4222. We would also like to invite you to visit us at www.jcfd5.com Remember at Jackson County Fire District 5 "We still make house calls".

REMINDER TO WINTERIZE YOUR SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Sprinkler systems are one of the most common reasons for water leaks. They are also one of the hardest leaks to detect because often, a leak will NOT cause water to rise to the surface.

- Turn off all of your sprinkler system controllers. If you disconnect the common wire during the winter, it will ensure that your system cannot accidentally be turned on.

- Shut off the water to your sprinklers. Sometimes there is a valve that isolates the irrigation from the main house water supply. If you do not have one of these valves you may want to consider adding one to your System. Your Backflow Valve System should NOT be used for this purpose. The backflow valve should be left open to allow for drainage.

- Drain your individual sprinkler components as much as possible. Most new sprinkler systems are properly equipped to be professionally blown out with air. This is generally at a minimal cost. If yours is not equipped for this, you can briefly remove sprinkler risers or prop them open to help them drain. This is particularly important for systems that are equipped with check valves. Installing drains at low points can be very helpful. If you do this, you may want to consider selecting a manual drain instead of an automatic drain.

Taking the time to make sure that your system is clear of water for the winter months, could save you time and money in the spring when starting up your system.

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New at Video Quick!

With the move to our new location, we have a few changes to announce to our loyal movie fans:

New Genres: We have added four new genres to our collection:

Adventure - for "family-friendly" action films such as *Night at the Museum* & *Indiana Jones*.

Fantasy - for "otherworldly" films such as *Lord of the Rings* and *Labyrinth*.

Superheroes - for all things Marvel/DC, such as *Avengers* and *Batman*.

Thrillers - For films that thrill, such as Stephen King films, *1408* and *Fracture*.

New Services: We have also added small machine repair to our services offered, such as dvd/vcr repair, as well as Blu-ray machine updating! If your machine is having trouble playing movies, we can help troubleshoot the problem before you buy a new one! Just ask!

Facebook: New updates regarding release dates and new inventory are listed on our Facebook page more frequently as they are announced, to keep you informed sooner!

If there is anything we can do to improve your experience at Video Quick, let one of us know! We are happy to help!

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December Releases

12/8 The Minions

12/15 Maze Runner 2

12/22 Dragon Blade

12/29 A Walk in the Woods

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