



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

News From the Mayor's Office

A recent Mail Tribune article stated the unemployment rate in Jackson County was 8.7% in May of 2014, up from 8.6% in April. A few days later they reported that home and commercial construction was



up 31% year over year in Medford. To me this seems like a mixed message. How does the construction rate rise and unemployment rise at the same time. What I do know, however, is that the demand for food at our downtown Talent Food Bank has been steadily rising. In a recent visit to the food bank, I noted that they were scheduled to close at 4:00 pm but people were still coming through the door and food supplies were dwindling. Without the generosity of the good people in Talent through the Green Bag program, there would be a lot less food to deliver to those in need.

One of the big problems our downtown food bank has is space. They currently occupy a small section of the Historical Society Museum. As a temporary measure, this arrangement with the Historical Society has worked reasonably well to keep the Food Bank open, but is presently stressful for both the Food Bank and the Historical Society. The time has come for us to put our heads together and find the downtown Food Bank a real home. Several years ago a group of citizens were proposing to set up a non-profit to oversee the Food Bank. I was (and still am) supportive of this effort. A non-profit has various ways to generate resources that are not available to private citizens or local government.

I am asking that we all give some serious thought not to just supporting, but finding, a real home for our downtown Food Bank. It is important that we view our Food Bank as not a social service but as a real part of our community which defines who we are as Talentonians.

I obviously cannot commit City Government to a course of action, but I am personally committed to seeing the Food Bank become a part of our community that provides assistance to our citizens in need. Get in touch with me or a representative of the Food Bank if you have ideas how we can make this happen.

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

News from the Talent PD By Chief Mike Moran

July is always a good time to remind you about fireworks. The use of them often goes on well after the 4th, so if

you have a problem with them in your area please try to give a location. Not all fireworks are illegal. Essentially, if it explodes or flies they are illegal. The people who shoot the ones that fly and then explode are the most often complained about. If we get a report, we will attempt to locate the source.

The heat this time of year leads to houses and cars being left unlocked. Sadly, Talent is not exempt from the ills of society. One of those ills is that drug abusers need to steal to feed their habit. They need to steal something every day in most cases. Most thefts are results of unsecured things. Thieves look for the easiest opportunities. So please lock up your car and house.

There seems to be a surge in parking violations. There are several safety reasons for enforcing parking Ordinances. For example, if you park facing the wrong direction on your street, that means that the car was driven on the wrong side of the road when it was parked and it will be again driven on the wrong side of the road when you leave your parking spot. This creates dangerous situations for cars, bikes and pedestrians. When a car is parked in a driveway across a sidewalk that forces people walking to go into the street. These are two of the most frequent violations.

Other recent new violations include people living in motor homes or trailers on public rights of way as well as on vacant land. We have a couple of Ordinances that deal with that. It takes some time to fix the issue but we have currently handled several. There are many reasons this is discouraged including the unsanitary conditions that often occur.

News from the Talent Public Arts Committee

Thank you to all the loyal fans, followers and sponsors of Talent's arts, music and dance scene, this past weekend, who attended the Chamber hosted Friday night **Arts & Music Festival** and the Public Arts Water Media show at City Hall. This lively evening was followed on Saturday with the Chamber's first annual **Southern Oregon Grape Fair**, held on Urban Renewal grounds surrounding our very own Camelot Theater. A great showing of local arts, artists and music were displayed, The Talent Public Arts "Plein Air Paint Off" contest was held Saturday morning and displayed many final finished, framed, judged and exhibited art at their booth by early afternoon; 1st place was Janice Ellison and 2nd Place was Elizabeth Aitken. 20% of these sales were donated to support the Boys & Girls Club / Talent Branch. Great fun. These two downtown Chamber hosted events were capped off with the **Bike Chata Memorial Bicycle Race and BBQ** Sunday. All in all a wonderful community weekend. Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Talent and all of its many volunteers and sponsors for their support. Let's do it all again next year! TPAC

Utility Billing News
Just a friendly reminder to all those customers that pay their Utility bills through their bank. Your bank will be mailing the City of Talent a paper check. When your bank processes the check, it can take up to 14 days

for the City to receive your payment. Also please make sure that the mailing address that is listed for the City of Talent is PO Box 445 Talent, OR 97540. The City of Talent does not receive mail at our street address, and payments that are mailed to the street address will be returned to your bank by the post office. Please make sure that the account number or numbers that you would like your payment to be applied to are listed. The City uses that number to apply your payment.

URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

Roundabout to be Built this Summer on West Valley View:

Pilot Rock Excavation was recently awarded a contract to build Phase 1C construction of the West Valley View project. Work is scheduled to begin mid-July, and heavy work is expected to be finished before school starts. This phase will create the long-awaited roundabout, connecting with the extension of Main Street as the new way into downtown Talent. The remaining segment of West Valley View between the roundabout and Talent Avenue will be 50% plaza (nearest the roundabout) and 50% slow-speed traffic and on-street parking (nearest Talent Avenue). In addition, a new mid-block alley will be built to connect Main to West Valley and line up with Seiber Street, creating a traditional downtown grid pattern for pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle access.

The new roundabout is a small-scale traffic device, rather than a gateway feature. It has been intentionally designed to place visual focus on the future plaza as the gateway feature all the way down to downtown Talent. The roundabout will be 2-way at this point, but eventually -- when Wagner Street is extended sometime in the future -- it will become 3-way.

Other work planned during this phase is installing additional lighting, putting overhead wires underground to three existing residences on West Valley View, relocating bus stops to Talent Avenue, and -- depending on budget - landscaping. Because TURA is nearing the end of its lifespan, the timing of projects becomes very important. Our projections show we will have the funds necessary to finish the job, but we must be cautious about what we spend -- and when we spend it -- so that we can pay off the last of our long term borrowing in December 2016.

Truck deliveries please note: All truck traffic -- larger than a school bus or fire truck -- must now use Colver Road or Rapp Road. Businesses expecting large trucks should contact their carriers as soon as possible to let alert them to the change. Truck route information will be posted when construction begins.

Bus riders please note: RVTD is re-routing its buses to Talent Avenue. There will no longer be a bus stop on West Valley View or at the Anjou Apartments. Northbound riders will need to use the temporary stop at Wagner Street or the new stop at the gas station near Colver Road. After the West Valley View construction is completed, there will be new northbound and southbound shelters at the Talent Avenue & West Valley View intersection. For questions about stop locations, schedules, and

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future plans please contact RVTD directly at 541-779-2877.

Community Development News

Fire Danger Level Elevated to High

Fire season is here! During this time the City enforces the Noxious Vegetation and High Grass Ordinance as a preventative measure to reduce the likelihood of an urban wildfire and to keep weeds from spreading. The Talent Municipal Code prohibits the growth of any noxious weeds or high grasses over 10 inches on properties located in the City.

What is considered noxious vegetation?

Noxious vegetation includes items such as Poison Oak, Poison Ivy, or blackberry bushes that extend into a public thoroughfare or across property lines. It also includes weeds or grass that exceeds 10 inches in height. Noxious vegetation does not include agriculture crop unless it becomes a health, traffic, or fire hazard.

Who is responsible to remove noxious vegetation?

It is the duty of an owner or person in charge of property to cut down or to destroy noxious vegetation on private property and areas along the right-of-way adjacent to private property.

How do I file a complaint?

Please visit the City's website at www.cityoftalent.org and download the Code Complaint Form. Please provide detailed information including the address you are reporting and what you have observed. Be sure to include your name and number so we can call you back if we need more clarification about your complaint.

For more information?

For other questions or concerns please call the City's Code Enforcement Officer at 541-535-7401, leave a detailed message with contact information and your call will be returned.

COLVER TRIANGLE UPDATE & THANK YOU

The next time you go by the intersection of Colver Rd and Hwy 99 and admire the landscaped area to the East, you have these folks to thank:

Sharon Anderson, Jim Larsen, Carol Nosko, Andee Creger, Jeanne Tribble, Lorna Chateaufneuf, Linda Ohmans, Dieter Rilling, Jenny Kuehnk, Linda Weinhold, Ron Weinhold, Elizabeth Zwick, Kathy Damas, Linda Ohmans, Jane Hardgrove, Kelly Lamb, Sally Hankins, Cindy Page, Lynda Bill, June Hall, Josue Delgado III, and Carl Shauger, Dolly Warden and Jill Illes. These volunteers put in a total of over 100 hours weeding and raking to pull off this minor miracle in our community.

It started as a work project as part of the Green Up and Clean Up Week in May with a dream of only two sessions that we'd need to complete it. It turns out that we needed 4 additional sessions to tackle the large area.

Thank you all! ~Together for Talent

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

Summer is here!

The summer recreation schedule is available at City Hall and on the city website (click on "Departments," then "Parks," then "Recreation, Programs & Clinics"). The summer program offers classes that will keep your child active, creative, and intellectually stimulated during summer break.

You can now register and pay online using GovTeller on the City website.

All ages are invited to check out the new beach volleyball court in Chuck Roberts Park.

Have some fun this summer playing volleyball in the sand!

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY WITH THE CITY OF TALENT

The following individuals have unclaimed property with the City of Talent. Please make arrangements

to claim your property before October 1, 2014. Any property unclaimed as of October 1, (and having met the appropriate abandonment period), will be turned over to the Oregon Department of State Lands. Please contact Assistant Finance Director Kurt Sexton at 541-535-1566 with any questions or to claim your property.

ADROIT CONSTRUCTION
NICK & APRIL BRANDT
RAMONA CARTER
LESLIE CHAMBERS
DAILY JOURNAL OF COMMERCE
TERI DAVIS
LEVI & KRISTY DOTY
MATT ENTENMAN
JULIA EPPERSON
STEPHANIE FARRELL
TAYLOR FREEBORN
STEVE GODWIN
DANIEL GOYETTE
JOHN HILL
MELISSA HUHTALA
CAROLYN IRBY
DONALD D KOHAL
CASEY LEBLANC
TAI LEVENTHAL
JOHN & MARNE LICHTENWALNER
ERIKA & MICHAEL LOWE
TIM MORGAN
BROOKE NEWSON
GREG NORTON
SABRINA PODSOBINSKI
JUAN & SYLVIA REYES
KIM RICKERT
JOHN & MARCELLA RUIKIS
KATHERINE SADZEWICZ
SONIA SALAIS
STEVE SCHMITT
BRETT SCHUMACHER
ELLIOT & CAROLYN STONE
DARBY STRICKER
EMILEE WARNER
TOM WEINER
DAKOTA WOLF
W C WOOD

Save The Date

October 4, 2014 / 7 am - 6 pm



2014 Event Theme:
"Under The Harvest Moon"

Working Toward
Zero Waste!

Hosted by The City of Talent, City Sponsors & Volunteers

- 7:00 am The Chamber's Pancake Breakfast served until 11 am.
- 8:00 am The 5K/10K Run / Walk
- 10:00 am The Grand Parade down Main Street
- 10:45 am Live entertainment and music on the City Hall Main Stage in the park begins following the parade and continues through the day until 6:00 pm. There will be locally grown produce*, arts and crafts, local beers and wines, apple pressing, some of the areas favorite food vendors all day long, Harvest Home for Kids, games and much more!

* FREE booth space for produce growers!

To participate, volunteer, become a vendor or sponsor, and/or to join in the parade contact: Melissa Huhtala: melissa@cityoftalent.org or call (541) 535-1566. You can also find information on the City's website at: www.cityoftalent.org

Please join us for this seasonal family treat.