



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 #1 inquiry to the Mayor's office is regarding the roundabout and Talent Urban Renewal Agency's sundown date. The Council vote in 2008 to "begin the



process to sundown in 2016", did not change the original 2019 sundown date. We still have 3+ years to work on the roundabout, if circumstances allow. Options are being discussed, in keeping a campaign promise. Citizen input is always considered.

Council President Ryan Pederson unveiled our Economic Development Plan 2015. Available at www.cityoftalent.org.

Please join me in welcoming volunteer Kittie Harrison as a Parks Commissioner and thanking Talent Police Officer Dave Lorenz for 10 years of service.

Sam Becker presented to Council a plan to ban Styrofoam in Talent, reporting on his successful ban in Medford. Subject to approval, please provide your thoughts.

Friends of the Library has disbanded but was quickly replaced with the newly re-energized group called The Library Club (TLC). Look for the TLC information booth at the Southern Oregon Grape Fair in downtown Talent on May 30th.

Speaking of the all-day Grape Fair, Chamber volunteers are bringing us a legacy event in Talent, celebrating Talent's heritage in grape agriculture. Thank you volunteers!

Finally, no matter where you fall on the issue of the Mt View Paving Asphalt Plant, everyone should know that there is a public hearing about its impact to Talent neighborhoods, since its opening in 2001. The Talent City Council has twice submitted objections stating our belief that it is a poor land use decision, to allow the Asphalt Plant to operate so near a long standing neighborhood of near 200 homes. The public hearing is at the Courthouse, 10 S Oakdale Ave. Medford, OR 97501 on June 1st at 9AM. I will be there!

Pollinator gardens are appearing in Talent. More to come.

Discover your Talent, by looking for volunteer opportunities in the Flash and at www.cityoftalent.org. Talent, where volunteers are valued!

Grateful to serve,
Mayor Darby Stricker

News from Talent PD

By Chief Moran

In past police columns you have read about the Police Department's concerns about Distracted Driving. We notice so many people texting and talking on their cell phones, it is impossible to cite everyone. There are those who hold their phones on their fingertips away from their ear and think that is OK. It is not. We hear many excuses for illegally using phones while driving. Talent PD has enforced this law as much as possible and will continue to do so. We were encouraged to learn that this past month of April was Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The topic is so important, I wanted to emphasize it again even if it was last month.

This information is from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Based on fatal accident reports, NHTSA data shows that at least 3,154 people were killed in crashes involving all distracted drivers in 2013, including those who were texting and driving. NHTSA estimates that 424,000 Americans were injured in all distraction-affected crashes in 2013.

To prevent distracted driving, motorists are urged to:

- Turn off electronic devices and put them out of reach before starting to drive.

- Be good role models for young drivers and set a good example. Talk with your teens about responsible driving.

- Speak up when you are a passenger and your driver uses an electronic device while driving. Offer to make the call for the driver, so his or her full attention stays on the driving task.

- Always wear your seat belt. Seat belts are the best defense against other unsafe drivers.

To put it succinctly, just hang up and drive.

A Talent resident told me about an area out of town in the Wagner Creek area where people are dumping trash and old appliances and furniture. If you see someone doing this, take down the license plate and descriptions of the vehicle and suspects, if you can do so safely. Then report to the dispatch center at 541-776-7206. They will determine if the Sheriff or BLM rangers will investigate the crime. So try to give as precise a location as possible.

Bicycles are starting to become a hot item to steal of late. Please secure your bikes or at least keep them from view at home. Bike thefts are often a crime of convenience but they also can be high loss amount thefts. The Talent Police Department offers bicycle licenses for free. The best thing is to bring in your info including serial numbers. Then the form can be more readily completed and we will issue a Talent PD bike license.

Utility Billing News Re-Starting Sprinkler Systems

The weather is starting to get warm and many people are thinking about turning on their sprinkler system for the first time. There are a number of tasks to do and items to look for when re-starting a sprinkler system after it has been turned off.

- First, you will need to know where the sprinkler system shut off valve is located.

- Determine which valve is the farthest from the sprinkler shut off valve. Open the valve so that the air can escape as the water fills the lines.

- Next, at the main sprinkler shut off valve, **PARTIALLY** open the shut off valve. It is important to let water into the system **SLOWLY**. You want to avoid filling the pipes to quickly, possibly producing water surging, or water hammer, which can damage sprinkler components.

- Look for any other open valves that need to be closed, especially drain valves. Once all valves are confirmed closed and no problems are visible, fully open the main sprinkler shut off valve.

- Operate each zone long enough to make sure the valves and sprinklers, or drippers, are functioning properly.

Paying your Bill Online

Many of our Utility customers use GovTeller to pay their bill online. GovTeller has updated their software, and this update has changed the look of their webpage. Please go to the City of Talent's website: www.cityoftalent.org and click on the link "Pay With GovTeller". This will take you to the new GovTeller page to pay your bill. It is recommended to always use the link on the City of Talent website when making an online payment. This will assure you are being directed to the proper payment location. Please contact the City of Talent with any questions regarding this change at 541-535-1566.

News from Fire District 5

By Chief Welburn

Summer is quickly approaching and we hope you have been working to make your home fire safe. Fire District 5 crews will be out and about in the City of Talent during the month of May testing fire hydrants. Our crews will be flow testing all hydrants to ensure they are all operational and flowing appropriately prior to an emergency. The process will involve some water flow into the streets as a part of the testing. In addition to checking flow, we are moving sediment within the system to maintain a clean and operational flow. This procedure is typically done in the summer time but was halted last year due to the drought conditions. We are performing it a couple of months earlier this year so that we can be done well ahead of peak water usage months. This may result in some minor discoloration in your tap water as testing occurs. Please watch for crews on the streets and give them a safe operating area.

Friends of Wagner Creek

is a group of volunteers who are working together with city government, land owners, and ecology experts to restore and protect Wagner Creek and its banks; as a **fish, wildlife, and pollinator corridor**. The creek flows through the center of Talent for about a mile. If you would like to learn more about riparian stewardship, help with clean-up efforts and new plantings, or get involved in outreach and education, contact Cynthia Care at 541-324-3094.

WANTED- COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Talent Public Art Committee (TPAC)

MAY 2015
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Talent
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Currently TPAC is looking for 3-4 volunteers for specific projects in this exciting new year 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**. 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 a better place. There are no term limits for this Committee. Meetings are every 2nd 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 March and twice a month or more as we get closer to the event.

Bee City USA

Education on Pollination. Meeting dates and times to be determined. For more information contact Dolly Warden at 541-897-0065 or email: dolly.warden17@gmail.com

Budget Committee

Currently there is 1 opening for the Budget Committee. Members serve 3 year terms and meet primarily in April and May each year.

Architectural Review Committee

Currently there are 5 vacancies 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.

For other questions regarding the 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

Community Development Gives Answers to Floodplain Questions

If you want to know if a property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, check our website at www.cityoftalent.org. Click on Flood Protection Information link for more information. You'll find a wealth of information about the City's Flood Insurance Rate Map, flood depths at your property, natural conservation areas and wetlands, flood insurance, special rules for building in the floodplain, and ideas for protecting your property from flood damage. Or you can contact the Community Development Department with all of your floodplain questions via email at building@cityoftalent.org or by phone at 541-535-7401. We also have copies of FEMA Elevation Certificates on all buildings constructed or substantially improved in the floodplain since January 1982.

CITY OF TALENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the City of Talent, Jackson County, State of Oregon, on the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, will be held at the Talent Town Hall, 206 East Main Street. The meeting will take place on the 7th day of May 2015 at 6:30 P.M. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place.

Listed below is the time and place of an additional, separate meeting of the Budget Committee that will be held to take public comment. Any person may appear at the meeting and comment or ask questions on the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. A public hearing regarding the use of revenue sharing funds will take place at this meeting.

Date: May 12, 2015 Time: 6:30 P.M.
Location: Talent Town Hall, 206 East Main Street.

Meeting dates and times are also posted on the City of Talent website at www.cityoftalent.org.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 7, 2015 at Talent City Hall, 110 East Main Street, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM.

This notice is also posted on the City of Talent website at www.cityoftalent.org

Thomas J. Corrigan
City Manager

**Date of publication of this notice:
May 2, 2015**

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

Volleyball Showcase: Our beautiful sand volleyball court never received a Grand Opening when it was added to Chuck Roberts Park last year. Well, better late than never. On Thursday May 14 at 5 p.m., an exhibition will take place featuring some elite local volleyballers, who will conduct a clinic for kids and families immediately after the exhibition. See you there!

Wagner Creek Park: A bench and picnic table have been added to this lovely park on Rapp Road, encouraging greater use of this little-known gem. Also, a group of Talent Elementary students and their teachers recently planted native vegetation by the creek with identification signs. Way to go, T.E.S.! Walk or bike to WCP; there is no room for parking.

Contact Parks and Rec at: Parkscomm@cityoftalent.org

Get in Touch with the Arts!

Come visit Talent City Hall lobby and enjoy our on-going Public Arts Exhibits, including many of the areas finest artists and artisans.

The Talent Public Arts Committee presents "Talent Artists Showcase" featuring the works of: Cathy Dorris, Joan Franklin, Miles Frode, Jane Hardgrove, Megan Headley, Betty LaDuke, Bonnie Morgan, Nancy Jo Mullen, Ron Sommers, Jim Thompson, Peter Van Fleet, David Lorenz Winston and Ron Hodgdon. These artists works, and others, will be on view for the next several weeks. Please take a moment to stop in and enjoy the variety of arts available within our valley. Open for viewing 8:30am - 5pm Monday through Friday in the Talent City Hall Lobby / 110 East Main St. To be on a committee, to participate in future exhibitions, to make a donation, or simply for more information, contact Ron Hodgdon at 541.535.1620 or the Talent Public Arts Committee through City hall or through our web page at: TPAC@CityofTalent.org

Recycle Drop-off

Saturday, May 9th from 10 am - 5 pm there will be drop off stations around City Hall:

- Electronic devices (i.e., computer, radio, cables, etc.)
- Metals including appliances-- sorry no refrigerators or freezers
- Household batteries--no rechargeables please
- Compact fluorescent bulbs
- Your used (but still useful) household items
- Styrofoam packing peanuts

For more details or to volunteer for the 2nd annual **Round it up, Turn it in...Talent Recycle Drop off**. Contact Sharon Anderson at 541-535-9055 or Julie Allemand at 541-531-7187.

URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

For more information, contact Marla Cates, Executive Director
541-535- 6170 or execdir@talenturbanrenewal.com

Board of Directors Vacancy: If you are interested in urban renewal projects, consider applying for a seat on the Board of Directors. There will be a new opening for a Citizen/Business Representative with a term running July 2015- June 2019, although the Agency may sunset earlier than that. An application and interview with the Talent Urban Renewal Agency as well as the Mayor is required. The Board of Directors is a policy setting body consisting of seven (7) citizens, business owners and representatives from the City Council. Monthly meetings are usually the 3rd Tuesday of the month. For more information, contact the Executive Director, 541-535-6170.

Civic Center Alley Goes to Bid: Bids will be opened on May 13 for parking lot and storm drain improvements to the alleys surrounding the Town Hall (old Community Center). Once a contractor is hired, work is expected to be finished sometime in July. Following that, power poles are anticipated to be removed and overhead lines placed underground to the historical society building, Town Hall and neighboring residence.

Landscaping near Roundabout: By the time this edition of the Flash is published, the landscaping near the roundabout will probably be finished. Carol's Colors is doing the work at a cost of approximately \$35,000. This completes "Phase 1C" of the West Valley View project.