



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

This month I would like to call your attention to an important legislative initiative, Property Tax Reform, proposed by the League of Oregon Cities. Of the five initiatives



the League is promoting for the 2015 Legislative Session, I believe that Property Tax Reform would have the most direct effect on the citizens of Talent.

The Initiative, as proposed, has three distinct sections. The first is "Voter Control Referral". Basically, this would allow local governments to propose local levies that would be outside of the tax limitations we now have. The idea is that if local citizens want to tax themselves, they should be able to do so. I believe we should seriously consider the long term consequences of this proposal. Yes, it would provide local governments with more revenue, but it may also encumber future citizens with a tax levy they may not want.

The second section of the Property Tax Reform Initiative is "Reset at Sale". The basics of this proposal is to reset a property's assessed value to its real market value at the time of sale or construction. I think this proposal has merit. A good example -- two homes in Portland sold for \$325,000 each in 2013. Because of different assessed values, the annual property taxes on one home was \$2,164, the property taxes on the other home was \$5,411. Resetting the assessed value at sale will go a long way in promoting equality in taxation.

The third section of the proposed property tax reform initiative is to "Change the Property Tax Ratio". Presently, new property is added to the tax rolls by applying a county-wide ratio of assessed values to real market values. This can create wide differences in property tax liability between different communities. The League of Oregon Cities is advocating to provide an option of applying a city-wide property ratio to new property.

Obviously, I have given you only a brief description of the League's proposal for property tax reform. You can find more detailed information at orcities.org/taxreform.

Taxes should be applied as equally



TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL FUN OCTOBER 4, 2014

and fairly as possible. The League's proposal on Property Tax Reform may go a long way in achieving this goal, but we must always be mindful of the pitfalls along the way.

Bill Cecil, Mayor
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TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL OCTOBER 4th!!!

The time is finally here for the **ANNUAL TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL!!!** Join us **Saturday, October 4th** for a fun filled event for all ages. Festivity **hours will remain extended to 6 pm.** There will be many activities for all to enjoy including: delicious food vendors, local beer and wine garden from **EdenVale Winery**, arts and craft booths, petting zoo, rock climbing wall, a dunk tank, face painting, pie throwing, and much more. Our live music features: **Djangoholics, H'aena, LEFT, Mariachi Centella, Thor Polson, Maestro and the Captain's Flat**

Five Flim Flam, Olaf Soderback & Morgan O'Shannessy, Rewind, ScienceWorks, Ballet Folklorico and a clown show by Jill & Darrell -Clowning around!

***Please note** there will NO Parking on a short piece of Schoolhouse Street and in the TES parking lot until 11:00, after the parade.

As we strive to reach **zero waste** we encourage bringing your own water bottle as we will have the Water On Wheels (WOW) Station where you can fill your own water. This year we will also be **selling our very own Harvest Festival Water Bottles which you can purchase near the WOW station and other various locations.**

MANY THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER PROVIDENCE MEDICAL GROUP!

You don't want to miss out on this wonderful community event so be sure to stop by. There is still time if you would like to participate in the **Parade** or be a **vendor**. You can find applications on the City website: www.cityoftalent.org or at City Hall. For more information



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News from the Community Development Department

October – Leaf disposal options for Talent residents

Fall is finally here! We'll have some cooler temperatures and rain to look forward to, but it will soon be time to start raking up the leaves and winterizing our homes. Since leaves have a tendency to block storm drains and lead to flooding, residents are encouraged to occasionally check their storm drains *before* issues arise. But how do we keep these leaves from filling up our trash cans *and* our storm drains?

Fortunately, residents of Talent have several methods of lawn leaf disposal available to them. Recology Ashland Sanitary Service is offering two *free* leaf drop-off days at their Recycling Center, which is located on the corner of Water Street and Van Ness Avenue in Ashland. The drop-off dates are: November 16th and December 7th (Sundays).

From October 27th to November 3rd Talent residents may purchase (5) prepaid discounted bags for \$10.00 with a 2 package limit at Talent City Hall 110 East Main Street. This is first come first serve. Alternatively, Talent residents can swing by City Hall to purchase leaf collection bags at cost and Recology will haul the leaf bags away during Green Debris week (proof of residency required). See their website www.recologyashland-sanitaryservice.com for specifics.

Jackson County also offers a Leaf Exchange program that networks people seeking to dispose of leaves with people looking for leaves to make compost. To find out more about how to get rid of your leaves, visit the Jackson County recycling directory at www.jcredirectory.org.



Workers delicately remove a 100 pound bee hive here in Talent

HUGE HONEYBEE HIVE SAVED IN TALENT

On Wednesday, September 24th many stood by in the rain to witness the removal of a HUGE honeybee hive which was 20 feet up in a tree.

An estimated 100 pounds, 18 inches in diameter and 2-2/1 foot tall hive was removed from the tree and placed into a bee box constructed by Talent Public Works. With the cooperative effort from many this led to saving nearly 60,000 honeybees!! Many stood there in awe expressing that that was the largest bee colony they had ever scene.

A huge **thank you** goes to Charter Communications, Talent Public Works Department, United Rentals, Bee Activist from College of Melissae-Laura Ferguson, Bee Activist-Dolly Warden and Beekeeper-Toni Corsini. With all of your help the operation was a success!!!

The bee box is now at Jackson Wellsprings close to Ashland for the winter.

The City of Talent has recently become the 2nd Bee City USA in the NATION!! After this event the excitement in Talent is really **“BUZZING”**

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

Park on the Grass, Please: The new parking lot at Chuck Roberts Park is a lot larger than most people think. It includes the grassy area, which is designed to withstand cars driving over it. Public Works has even painted lines in the grass for parking spaces. So go ahead and park on the grass!

Contact us at ParksComm@cityoftalent.org

News from the Talent PD By Chief Mike Moran

October is a big month for signs, mostly political but also yard sale ones and realtor signs. Just a reminder, that signs can really only be posted in your yard essentially between the sidewalk and your house area. They cannot be put in the area between the sidewalk and the street. They cannot go on utility poles or be placed on public property or right of ways.

October is still a big month for park usage. We see, and hear, great use of the Bark Park next to the PD. But I'd like to remind everyone that if you are elsewhere in the city, your canine friend has to be on a leash. That includes other city parks and schools. You can be cited for that violation.

Speaking of which, our citations for traffic and ordinance violations are now heard in Justice Court. This cost saving measure will replace our Municipal Court. The Justice Court is at 505 oak St in Central Point.

With some contentious measures on the ballot and some interesting races, you may wonder what the police viewpoint is on some of those votes. When employees are on duty we don't discuss political preferences that we may have. As citizens public employees have the right to express their opinion, just not on duty.

Save & Sort Plastics for Recycling! Jackson Co. Plastic Round-up, Oct 24-25, 9:00-4:00

Nursery pots, bubble wrap, baling twine, snack food bags, discs, irrigation components, lawn chairs and toys are among the long list of plastics accepted for recycling at the Jackson County Plastic Round-up. Gather plastic from your home, garden, garage and business to keep it out of the landfill, and have it recycled into new materials. The event takes at Jackson County Expo, 1 Peninger Road in Central Point, Gate 11-2.

Only clean, presorted plastic will be accepted. Pre-sort plastic into 3 categories: soft plastic, hard plastic and nursery plastic. There will be a residential fee of \$5.00 per household; the fee for large loads and businesses is \$5.00 per yard.

A list of acceptable items and more event details are online at www.jcrecycle.org. Note that we can no longer accept video cassettes, tapes or 8-tracks.

Recycle, Reuse, Repair More:
Find the Jackson County Recycling Directory at www.jcrecyclingdirectory.org

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No Time Like the Present

to Keep Your Future on Track

Lots of times, changes in life also affect your investments. That's why there's never been a better time to schedule your complimentary portfolio review. We'll talk about the changes in your life and help you decide whether it makes sense to revise your investments because of them.

A portfolio review will help ensure your investments are keeping pace with your goals. Call your local financial advisor today.



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