



# 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.

## From the Mayor's Office

There is nothing more rewarding or idyllic than a community coming together to celebrate their heritage. The heart of any community is never lodged in government, but in citizens who live there. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, the City of Talent will host the Talent Harvest Festival, an annual event that celebrates the harvest season and the agricultural roots of our community. I hope everyone can take part in this celebration by just attending, or better yet, taking part in the Harvest Festival Parade or volunteering to help out with the many, many, events. This year's parade looks to be the best ever, so get your neighborhood or business together and be sure to take part in this unique parade. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, you can start off the morning with a 5K run, then follow up with a pancake breakfast at the Community Center, then on to the parade. All this you can do before noon. Then you have the afternoon to listen to music, eat good food, and, just maybe, dunk the City Manager or other official in the dunk tank. This is truly a fun day and a small town celebration. I would like to give special thanks to Rick Nagel and the Harvest Festival Committee, along with the many volunteers that make this event possible. They are the unsung heroes of this wonderful celebration.



I look forward to seeing you at the Talent Harvest Festival.  
**Bill Cecil, Mayor**  
 mayor@cityoftalent.org  
 541-535-5863

## TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL FUN OCTOBER 6, 2012

Now in its 43<sup>rd</sup> year, the Talent Harvest Festival is one of the region's liveliest and most popular outdoor fall events. Adults and children of all ages are welcome and there is no admission fee. The Festival features fine arts and crafts, community exhibits, a wide selection of local foods, apple cider pressing and much more. For the kids there are pony rides, face painting, jugglers, fun games and the Harvest Home Farmers Market and crafts area near the Talent Library.

You can kick off your day with the Talent Chamber of Commerce's \$5 pancake breakfast (7 am-11 am), Harvest Festival 5K and 10K fun runs (8 am), and the ever-popular



community parade (10:00 am startup). Then you can continue with the festivities until 4 PM. There will be plenty of live music by several favorite local bands as well as other entertainment throughout the day such as a live clown show at 11:00 am and square dancers throughout the day!

New this year is a scarecrow decorating contest and a separate area featuring Rogue Valley wines and beers, for adults to enjoy.

Don't miss your opportunity to visit the dunk tank which will feature Talent city officials, Talent Police Dept. staff and other dignitaries!

Come one come all and mark your calendars for October 6<sup>th</sup> to join the community as we come together for this seasonal celebration of Harvest Hometown Fun!

You can be a part of this event in many ways such as: Arts and Crafts Vendor, Food Vendor, Sponsor, Parade Participant and by joining the Fun Run/Walk. If you would like an application for any of these or for more information please visit the city website: www.cityoftalent.org or contact Melissa Huhtala at 541-535-1566 melissa@cityoftalent.org

## Harvest Festival Volunteers

"Of course just coming to the Talent Harvest Festival is a blast however, being PART of the Festival is the very best! As a VOLUNTEER, you get to be in on all the skinny of what's happening for the day, you could be rubbing elbows with some of our awesome entertainers or you could be walking in the parade, waving to the crowd as you pass out flyers outlining the day's events! You will also get to wear a special T-shirt and badge that tells the world that you are an official VOLUNTEER and are able to answer any question from vendor to attendee regarding anything Festival as well as being able to leap tall buildings in a single bound! The training, as you might imagine, for that feat is rigorous and totally worth it!

Do consider being a Festival VOLUNTEER for 2-4 hours or all day. We even have a special insider pre-event celebration for VOLUNTEERS and vendors the night before (Friday, Oct. 5) from 6-8 pm to encourage more of our vendors to set up early and avoid the rush on Saturday morning.

We'd love to have you be part of the team! Give City Hall a call or drop them

an email with you contact information and our committee chairwoman, Jesse Hodgdon, will get back to you!

Thanks for help create this great community event, sincerely!"

## 2012 Harvest Festival Scarecrows



In anticipation of a great Harvest Festival celebration, the city has introduced a new opportunity to let Talent represent their own friendly or funny "talent" in creating scarecrows for the festival! On Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, hand-crafted scarecrows will be displayed in front of the Community Center during the Harvest Festival. We invite everyone to participate and come up with their own interesting creation! Entry is FREE and you will be able to put the name of your group, friends, business, or neighborhood next to your talented design. The possibilities are endless and the guidelines are simple. Best of all...you'll have a beautiful decoration in time for Fall or Halloween parties! For rules and sign-up, please contact EJ at emcmanus@cityoftalent.org or call Melissa at 541-535-1566.

## TREES PLEASE!

By Sally Hankins- Talent Resident



A fruitless Mulberry tree, Morus alba, is my choice for the September tree of the month feature. As a member of the Talent Friends of Tree, I picked this giant shade tree which is 75' tall with a 65' canopy which towers over my Meadowbrook Subdivision neighborhood in Talent.

The Brewer family who lived next door to it in the 1970's estimate that the tree is approximately 60 yrs. old. This majestic tree has been home to a variety of birds and animals over the

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 110 East Main Street,  
 P.O. Box 445, Talent,  
 Oregon 97540

Edited by  
 Melissa Huhtala  
 City Website:  
 www.cityoftalent.org  
 Telephone:  
 (541) 535-1566  
 E-mail:  
 melissa@cityoftalent.org

years while providing welcome shade for the surrounding area. I learned more about this tree from employees of Ray's Garden Center and Valley View Nursery .The Mulberry tree is known to grow 10' a year, has a lifespan of 100 years and develops a robust root system.

Unfortunately, there is the possibility that this tree may be cut down because it is interfering with the foundation of the original house. Hopefully, another solution will be found as it is a very special tree to me.

Nominate your special tree or join our efforts to promote trees in Talent by emailing talentfriendsoftrees@gmail.com. The Talent Friends of Trees is a branch of the Together for Talent Committee.

## From the Art Committee

We'd like to invite everyone to view our latest show at the Talent City Hall Gallery "What Makes Talent YOUR Talent", featuring works by Robert Bufalari, Pravina McClure, Pamela Queen, Ron Hodgdon, and Courtney Naguib. On view from August 6<sup>th</sup> thru October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The show will have a special opening where you can meet some of the artists during the September 14<sup>th</sup> Art and Music Festival from 5-8pm. Get out and meet/make some art!

## 'FIRELINES'

By Dan Marshall, Fire Chief  
 Jackson County Fire District No.5  
**Fire District No. 5 Improves Insurance Public Protection Classification for City of Talent Residents from 5 To 4**

Insurance Services Office (ISO) recently completed its analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system provided throughout the fire district. The resulting classification for the Cities of Talent and Phoenix is a Public Protection Classification (PPC): 4, effective October 1, 2012.

The fire district also successfully retained its Public Protection Classification 5/10 in the rural

community.

ISO's Public Protection Classification plays an important role in the underwriting process at insurance companies. In fact, most U.S. insurers, including the largest ones, use PPC information as part of their decision-making when deciding what business to write, coverage's to offer or prices to charge for personal or commercial property insurance.

#### **ISO's Evaluation Process**

ISO's PPC program evaluates communities according to a uniform set of criteria once every ten years, incorporating nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and the American Water Works Association.

#### **A community's PPC depends on:**

**Needed Fire Flows**-which are representative building locations used to determine the theoretical amount of water necessary for fire suppression purposes.

**Receiving and Handling Alarms**-including telephone systems, telephone lines, staffing, and dispatching systems.

**Fire Department**-including equipment, staffing, training, and geographic distribution of fire companies.

**Water Supply**-including condition and maintenance of hydrants, alternative water supply operations, and a careful evaluation of the amount of available water compared with the amount needed to suppress fires up to 3,500 gallons per minute.

#### **What Does This Mean For You?**

PPC is important to communities and fire departments as well. Communities whose PPC improves may get lower insurance prices. PPC also provides fire departments with a valuable benchmark, and is used by many departments as a tool when planning, budgeting, and evaluating the structural fire suppression delivery system.

#### **Will I Receive a Savings On My Fire Insurance Annual Premium Due To Improved Public Protection Classification?**

Based on experience and data as well as conversations with representatives of the fire service, ISO and insurance industry, customers should realize a reduction of their fire insurance annual premium due to the improved Public Protection Classification **4**. It is important to provide this information to your insurers and if you have questions or your agent needs additional information please contact me directly at 541-535-4222 or [chiefdan@jcf5.com](mailto:chiefdan@jcf5.com)

### **Remember at Jackson County Fire District No. 5 "We Still Make House Calls"**

#### **Thank You**

The Talent-Phoenix Cohort of the Ford Leadership Training Group would like to thank Marsha McCormack, the City of Talent, the residents of the greater community, and all of our supporters near and far for all of their help in the creation of our first public mural in Talent and our first bandstand in Phoenix. After almost 18 months of work, the mural is up and almost complete in its installation. Over 50 people from ages 4-96, with little to no mural experience, helped create this masterpiece for our community. We had a fabulous unveiling and were able to enjoy lots of photo ops accompanied by The Maybe Sometimes and with treats from The Cupcake Daily. At the same time many volunteers were

toiling away throughout the week and weekend building a great bandstand in Blue Heron Park. Many thanks to Jeff Ballard and others of our communities for their sweat, blood, and tears(?). We hope to have the project completed by the end of October. Please take a stand to make our communities better and stronger-volunteer! Karen Rycheck, Talent resident

### **Talent PD News**

#### **By Chief Mike Moran**

I always like to remind drivers that the day after Labor Day is the start of a new school year. Please practice very safe driving practices throughout town, not just near schools. Lots of kids walk or bike from some distance to their schools.

One of the streets where extra caution needs to be used is Rapp Rd. This road is narrow, especially on the bridge over Wagner Creek. There are no sidewalks. The curve near the railroad tracks also requires slowing down to be safe. A solution to reduce the risk, slow down when children and cyclists are on the road.

For those of you bringing your children to the elementary school, there is no parking on the street in front of the school. Not even for a few minutes. In addition to it being unsafe to drop children off from the road it obstructs the bicycle lane. If you are planning to walk your child from the car to the building, park in the parking lot on the south side of the school in the parking lot.

Please review the laws on stopping for school buses. Even on 4 lane highways like Highway 99, you need to stop for flashing red lights.

The Harvest Festival is coming up on a new date in October, the 6<sup>th</sup>. Please be aware that there will be many street closures on Main St and on Wagner during the parade and earlier for the run. The most congested and critical times are 7:00am to about 11:00 am. Last year several people had yard sales going on to take advantage of the crowd in town. That creates some issues for the run and parade route and vehicles may not be able to get to you. Please plan your trips especially if you live off of Main and Wagner.

This next item may be a bit upsetting to some, but I think it is important to bring up. The Oregon Medical Marijuana Law allows smoking of marijuana by those who have OMM cards in their home. However, card holders should consider these two items:

1. Do not drive after using your Medical Marijuana. You would be surprised at the number of people who do so and think it is OK because they have an OMM card. It is not. Users are at risk of being arrested for DUI-Marijuana. Everyone else is at risk by having an impaired driver on the road.

2. We have heard several stories of children coming to school who smell heavily of marijuana on their clothing. Other kids often notice this and taunt the child with the smell on them. Users really should take some serious steps to insure that the smell of burnt marijuana is not on their children's clothing. I hope this note will encourage medical marijuana users to use discretion in using marijuana if there are children in the house. The issue of second hand marijuana smoke has other potential concerns that may yet need resolution as the OMM Law evolves. But this one is very important for now.