



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

It's hard to believe the Holiday season is just around the corner. As I wrote in a previous Flash, this is my favorite time of the year. It's a season of giving and joy when everyone seems a little bit happier (especially



the kids) regardless of how they celebrate the holidays. There are several things going on in the City of Talent this Holiday season that you just don't want to miss.

On Wednesday, December 3rd, after a short council meeting, probably around 7:00 PM, I will be hosting a **Volunteer Awards Ceremony**. Our various volunteer Committees will be recognizing individuals who have made an outstanding volunteer contribution to our Community. Immediately following the presentations, I will be announcing the Talent "**Citizen of the Year**". This is a great opportunity for all of us to recognize and thank those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to our Community. A committee comprised of one member of City Council, one member of the Talent Chamber of Commerce and one member of the media will make the final selection. You can nominate an individual for the 2014 Mayor's Citizen of the Year award by sending their name along with a brief description of why they should be the Citizen of the Year to Melissa Huhtala at City Hall 110 East Main St., by mail to P.O. Box 445 Talent, Oregon, or email to Melissa@cityoftalent.org. **Nominations must be turned in no later than 5:00 PM on Monday, November 25th.**

On Thursday December 4, 2014 the Boys and Girls Club with be hosting their Annual Dinner and Christmas Auction. This event raises essential funds for our local club to continue providing services. The Boys & Girls Club provides a wonderful structured after school place for kids to go. This is an essential program for many working parents. Call 541-292-4851 for details on how to reserve your place at the annual dinner or how you can help with this worthy cause.

On Tuesday December 9th at 6: pm the City of Talent and the Ashland Community Hospital Foundation will host the **Annual Tree Lighting at the Community Center**. This is a wonderful small town tree lighting with lots of caroling, refreshments and Santa for the kids. For sure, this is one event you just don't want to miss. **I hope to see you at all three events.**

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

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. To avoid damage to your system, shut off the water to your sprinklers. 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.

If you can't find your waterline shut-off valve call a plumber to help you locate it. If you don't have one, you should have one installed.

Please do not tamper with the water meter yourself as you are liable for damages.

If you need to shut your water off at the meter please call: **Public Works at (541) 535-3828 or After Business Hours: (541) 535-2322**

NEWS FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

A **Brainstorming Group** will be meeting in November to discuss ways to revitalize the City's summer recreation program. About 50 kids enrolled in the program this past summer, and we would like to see the number climb to approximately 150. Parents who have enrolled their children in the program are especially welcome, but we invite anyone who is interested to join the group or to send us your ideas. **Contact:** ParksComm@cityoftalent.org

Harvest Festival Results: Thank you to everyone who filled out a Parks Priorities survey at our Harvest Festival booth. Your input will help us determine our budget requests for the next fiscal year. And congratulations to Susan Schloth for winning our raffle (a free volleyball!) promoting the new beach volleyball court at Chuck Roberts Park.

NEWS FROM TALENT PD

By Chief Mike Moran

November 2nd signals the start of Standard Time again. Daylight Savings had its start during World War I. Then during World War II the U.S. enacted mandatory daylight saving time nationwide, as a way to save wartime resources between February 9, 1942, and September 30, 1945. After World War II, Daylight Saving Time was optional for U.S. states with various time frames. During the 1973-74 Arab oil embargo, the U.S. once again extended Daylight Saving Time through the winter. In 2005, Daylight time was changed to run from the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November. Now Standard time is in effect less than half the year.

With the beginning of Standard Time, hours of darkness will be at their peak from now through February. Darkness provides cover for criminals committing crimes such as burglary and car break-ins. You can help us by calling us when you see something suspicious immediately. Please

don't wait until the next day. Talent PD is on duty 24/7. Call 911 for in progress emergencies. Call 541-776-7206 for all other police matters.

Our police officers are now writing citations into the Jackson County Justice Court in Central Point. This is as a result of the Talent Municipal Court phasing out. For serious traffic crimes, citations will still be routed through the Circuit Court.

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Composting & Leaf Disposal Reminder

As our lawn and garden chores wind down for the year, some of us will still be looking for an excuse to get outdoors and enjoy the season. This is a great time to consider gathering up some fallen leaves to use as a foundation for a compost project. Composting allows us to turn many waste products into highly productive soil amendments through the natural process of decomposition. There are lots of free, quick and easy ways to compost at home. For comprehensive instructions and a list of what should and shouldn't be composted, visit the Jackson County Recycling partnership website at www.jcrecycle.org.

Recology Ashland Sanitary Service will accept and compost your leaves as well. They offer 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). 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.recologyashlandsanitaryservice.com for specifics.

URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

For more information contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 541 535 6170

West Valley View Project Update: On September 2, the long-awaited roundabout opened on West Valley View and a new 4-way stop was created at Main and Talent Avenue as the new entrance into downtown. For many of you, this is the exciting culmination to an idea that started in 2004 and was planned with the help of over 120 citizens and business owners. For others new to the community who may be wondering "why", the following Q&A may be helpful:

Q: Why change West Valley View?

A: The city needed to change the dangerous T-intersection that for years was at Talent Avenue and West Valley View, resulting in an offset 4-way intersection that included Main Street. It was difficult for people to figure out, dangerous for pedestrians who tried to use the old "brick" crosswalks at places where the traffic didn't stop, and assuming the population eventually doubles to 12,000 people was unsustainable as the main intersection in town. This new roadway system creates a traditional downtown grid pattern. It is conducive to walking and alternative forms of transportation, opens up possibilities for private development, and has added a significant number of

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Talent
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

new parking spaces on Seiber Street and Main Street.

Q: Why is there a roundabout, and why is it only 2-way?

A: The eventual idea is for it to someday become a 3-way roundabout, with a new leg connecting with Wagner Street through land TID now owns, but only if TID no longer has use for the property (TID has no current plans along these lines). In the meantime, the 2-way roundabout can handle both current and future traffic, according to a traffic engineer who studied the project.

Q: Why is there a dead end road where West Valley View used to be?

A: Because next year there will be a beautiful plaza and landscaping! The plaza will be between the new alley and the roundabout. The rest of the road will be open to local traffic and provide additional on-street parking.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: Go to cityoftalent.org and click on the Urban Renewal tab. You'll find maps, illustrations of the plaza, the traffic engineer's report, and more. You can also contact the urban renewal office at: execdire@talenturbanrenewal.com

ADOPT A FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Holiday tree will be up at the Talent City Hall on November 26th. We are kindly asking the community to join our City employees along with Fire District #5 in effort to make Holiday special for some of the less fortunate families in our area. Gifts should be returned to City Hall no later than Friday, Dec. 12, 2014.

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 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.

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

Thank you so much for your support!



The 2014 Harvest Festival was a true success! Great weather, entertainment, vendors and delicious food. To create an event like the Harvest Festival it takes a great deal of dedication from the Committee members and support from our Talentians.

Many thanks to those who provided goods, services and support. Thank you Talent Harvest Festival Committee, City Staff, City Council, Police Department, Public Works Department and Fire District 5!! Together we made this one of the greatest turnouts ever!!

Thank you to Ray's Food Place and Subway for contributing to the Friday night vendor/volunteer appreciation night it was enjoyable for all!

Thank you to all of our wonderful vendors, entertainment, parade entrants, volunteers and generous sponsors! Your support is always greatly appreciated!! I would like to thank the Community as a whole for all the support and look forward to continued growth to the Annual Talent Harvest Festival for years to come!



WASTE ZERO



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