



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

Council news isn't always riveting but February was a busy month, with the biggest community engagement I have ever seen in the 15+ years serving Talent.



On Feb 15th, there were 300 people in attendance at the City Council meeting to share in the discussion about Resolution 17-955-R, a Resolution to affirm the inclusive and welcoming nature of the City of Talent. 30 people spoke that night, all expressing their strong support of the Resolution. The Resolution passed and it can be read on the City website if you haven't had a chance to see it yet.

We also adopted a Resolution to put a diesel tax on the ballot this May. Citizens of Talent will have an opportunity to weigh in on a tax that is designed to support the upkeep of our roads; especially in light of the Truck Stop property that could be reopened in the near future. This could attract large trucks into town which will impact our road structures.

Important upcoming topics of discussions include an Integrated Pest Management Ordinance, as well as housing needs, density and affordability. These are top of mind issues for Talent, and I believe we will see significant policy changes to accommodate growth and livability for families who are cost burdened with housing. Talent citizens will need to seriously consider very soon if we go up in some zones or go out into farm land, as we provide housing over the course of the next 20 years with what looks like a sizable shortfall in space. This is always a tough discussion for every Community but, we either disrupt some of our view or we disrupt the beauty that creates the view. We will look to our Community for the answers. I encourage everyone to start to really consider our priorities as we grapple with housing needs that far exceed our current capacity.

As always, we couldn't do as much as we do in Talent without your help. The volunteers that fill the gaps to meet our Community's challenges and dreams are our secret weapon to success. Please consider joining the effort. Commission and Committee openings are found at www.cityoftalent.org or by calling 541-535-1566.

Grateful to serve,
Mayor Darby Stricker



HARVEST FESTIVAL 2017

Mark your calendars!! The 2017 Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, October 7th, from 7 AM- 4 PM! For over 40 years this has been an annual event in the City of Talent. The Harvest Festival brings families, and community together. The Harvest Festival is open to the public with no admission.

The Harvest Festival Committee has already been hard at work to make this a Festival to remember! The Committee is brainstorming ideas for a parade theme. We would love the Community's input! If you have any suggestions or are interested in becoming a member of the Committee please contact Melissa Huhtala at: melissa@cityoftalent.org.

You can also come by Talent City Hall or call (541) 535-1566 or more information.

Civil Rights Ordinance

At the February 15th Talent Council Meeting, Council directed Staff to draft a Civil Rights Ordinance. We would like Public Input. You can email your ideas or comments to the "Let Us Know" section on the City website or email Melissa Huhtala melissa@cityoftalent.org.

News from Talent PD

By Chief Whipple

The pace within the Talent Police Department has not shown signs of easing in 2017. We have seen a 108% increase in our warrant arrests, with 25 arrests occurring thru mid-February. In addition, our DUII arrests have increased as well. We have also seen an increase in vandalism occurring in the City, with several cases of tires being slashed in one night. This is a crime category we want to decrease so if you see something suspicious in your neighborhood, don't think twice about reporting it.

With St. Patrick Day nearly upon us, and this year it will be on a Friday, this is a good time to remind everyone that using a designated driver is the best prevention from getting arrested and having those morning after regrets. However, if you do use a designated driver, they should be just

that. We have made arrests on many "designated drivers" who had a blood alcohol content well over the legal limit. If your designated driver decides to "partake", it is best to make a call to a cab, a friend, a parent, whatever it takes to ensure a safe ride home.

To enhance traffic safety in Talent, the Talent Police Department applied for and was awarded two grants thus far this year. These grants will assist with both additional DUII patrols as well as several pedestrian enforcements efforts. We will be sending an officer to the Pedestrian Enforcement Training in March, and the cross walk safety program will begin shortly thereafter.

Finally, now is the time for Spring vacations to begin. It is always a good idea to ensure your house is secure when you leave, a trusted neighbor knows you are away so they can help keep an eye on your home, and you can always fill out a vacation house check and we will provide extra patrol at your residence.

WANTED- COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MEMBERS

Talent Public Art Committee (TPAC)

Currently TPAC is looking for 3-4 volunteers for specific projects 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**? There are currently 6 openings. Each term is 2 years. This is a great Committee to be involved in if you have a passion for trees, trails, forums and want to help make Talent an even better place to live and work. Meetings are every 1st 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 February and twice a month or more as we get closer to the event.

Bee City USA
Education on Pollination. Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 PM for location and more information contact Dolly Warden at 541-897-0065 or email: dolly.warden17@gmail.com

Budget Committee
Currently there is 2 openings for the Budget Committee. Members serve 3 year terms and meet primarily in April and May each year.

Architectural Review Committee
To reestablish this committee we need 5 members for the Architectural Review Committee. This is a 5-person committee with no

MARCH 2017
Volume 18/Issue 3
Official
Newsletter of the City of
Talent
110 East Main Street,
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Oregon 97540

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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.

Parks

There are currently 1 Alternate vacancy for the Parks Commission. This is a seven person commission each serving a two year term. The commission advises the City Council on planning and improvements to City parks and provides oversight to the City's Summer Recreation Programs. The commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Members are active in raising community awareness of use of City parks and the importance of participation in recreational activities.

Commission

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

Watts Up!
By Norah Owings, Energy Consultant

Have you ever counted all of the electronics you have plugged into your home every day? Your toaster, television, phone charger, the list can go on and on. Did you also know that having those things plugged in, even when they're not in use can use electricity? This standby power can be anywhere from 5 to 10 percent of your total household energy usage. Which means it can add up on your electric bill.

However, there is a solution, a smart strip also known as an advanced power strip or energy saving surge protector. A smart strip is similar in size and shape to most surge protectors, but have 'smart' sensors that detect when something plugged in, goes to standby mode, and will turn that outlet off. They often will also have a few regular outlets in them that stay on the whole

time for devices, such as an alarm, that needs to be on all the time. There are many types of smart strips from all sensors, to motion detected, or USB enabled. It's important to find the best power strip to fit your needs.

If smart strips aren't the answer for you, but you want to save on your power bill and fight phantom load remember to unplug unused devices after each use!

If you have any questions or want to learn more, you can email me at nowings@cityoftalent.org

Fun Fact: In the United States alone, phantom load costs consumers more than \$3 billion a year

Helpful Resources: Department of Energy, How Stuff Works, Energy Trust of Oregon

Flood Hazard Reduction

Local potential flood hazards include: blockages in the City storm drain system as well as obstructions in the local creeks that receive these waters. Earthworks and unpermitted development near streams can also intensify flood conditions.

With current fluctuations in weather patterns flooding has been in the local headlines. As snow melts and heavy rains become constant, there is risk from rising creek levels and blocked storm drain systems. creek levels are anticipated to swell and possibly flood. For residents near Bear and Wagner Creek, it is especially important to remain vigilant of stream conditions and make preparations before flood issues arise.

City staff addresses these issues on a preventative basis, however all scenarios cannot be anticipated and minor flooding occasionally happens during some storm events. Citizens are encouraged to keep a watchful eye for pooling, and rising creek levels in an effort to minimize potential problems from flooding. If a problem is found or anticipated within the City of Talent, please notify the Talent Public Works Department at 541-535-7696. Staff will be happy to investigate and address these issues. Citizens can also utilize the sand bag station located at the Public Works facility 200 Suncrest Rd. This service is provided at no charge so residents can fill their own sand bags for use as a preventative barrier to possible flooding.

News from the Talent Historical Society

We're currently actively looking for volunteers to help out at the Museum. If you have any free time that you could offer, please come by the Museum on Saturday or Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, and we'll be glad to talk with you about some interesting volunteer opportunities.

It's not too soon to start thinking about this summer's garden!! We will once again be offering our Heritage Talent Tomatoes for sale. Tomato plants as well as our latest Tomato t-shirt will be available on Saturday, May 13th from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm during Talent's City Wide Yard Sale. Tomato plants and t-shirts may be pre-ordered until Sunday, May 7th at 5:00 pm by dropping by the Museum at 105 N. Market Street or you can also place an order by going to our website at: www.talenthistory.org and clicking on the store icon. Last year, we ran out of plants by ten the morning of the sale, so if you want to be assured

of a Talent Tomato, place your orders early.

And stop by on Tuesday, March 28th, when THS Board Member Bob Casebeer will give a reading of original poetry about Southern Oregon history. The talk will be from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Society's Museum at 105 N. Market Street, Talent. The meetings are free and open to the public and you need not be a member to attend. Call 541-512-8838 for more info.

News from Fire District 5

By Interim Chief, Vince Lockett

Jackson County launches a lifesaving App to help citizens become Super Heroes. With fantastic agency support and generous implementation sponsorship throughout Jackson County, the App PulsePoint went live February 1st.

PulsePoint is a mobile app that immediately alerts CPR trained bystander and trained EMS professional when a cardiac arrest is happening in public place. By directly alerting people who are CPR trained and who are in the vicinity. The PulsePoint app put CPR trained people in the right place and right time to start the critical lifesaving CPR.

Cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death in the United States. The American Heart Association estimates that effective bystander-initiated CPR and AED use, provided immediately after cardiac arrest, can double or triple a person chance of survival.

Last year, Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon- the 911 dispatch center serving Jackson County received more than 100,000 911 calls. Of these calls more than 25% was for EMS, with many hundreds for heart related symptoms and cardiac arrest. To improve a person's chance of surviving sudden cardiac arrest, PulsePoint has been integrated into Jackson County's 911 emergency system.

The free PulsePoint Respond and PulsePoint AED apps are available for iPhone and Android. PulsePoint app works with local public safety agencies to improve communications with citizens, empowering them to help increase the survival rate for sudden cardiac arrest. Please join the growing number of CPR trained citizens in Jackson County who are using the PulsePoint app.

News from Utility Billing

The City of Talent Finance Department has completed their transition to a new financial and utility billing software. Water customers can now view their current and past bills and payment amounts online in the new Utility Billing Portal. You can find the new portal at www.cityoftalent.org (click Pay with ETS). The same payment options exist where you can pay online, by mail, in City Hall, or by pre-authorized payment. It is highly recommended that customers sign up for pre-authorized payments where the on-file bank account will be automatically debited around the 15th of each month. This no-fee service ensures timely payments and is the most hands-off approach to paying the utility bill. If you have any questions about the software transition or getting signed up for pre-authorized payments, please contact the Finance Department at (541) 535-1566.



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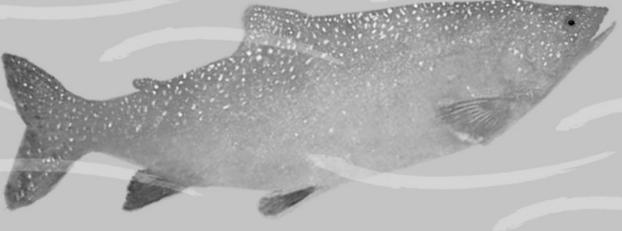
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