



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 Clean Energy Action Plan was adopted at a recent City Council meeting. The Council committed to a short-term plan which includes achievable action items serving households



and City alike. There are immediate plans to replace lighting, programs to achieve better household efficiencies and collaborative work with volunteers to drive our city-wide energy use down by 5% in 2017. The long-term plan sets incremental targets to reach clean energy goals by year 2030. It calls on our City to ratchet up our commitment each year to rely more on clean energies resources, not stopping until we reach 0% fossil fuel use. I am profoundly grateful to the citizens who dedicated 100's of hours to the research and development of this guideline to our future. Please find the CLEAP on the City website where there is a list of all those who contributed their most valuable commodity to bring this plan to adoption; their personal time. Join me please in thanking every single one!

On May 31st at 6PM, the Talent Urban Renewal Agency will hold a second open house to present the first concepts of the Gateway Project. TURA took the feedback from the previous Open House event of January, to inform the concepts being presented in May. We know that this is your project and that it must serve this community. We need you on board with us all the way, to ensure that the Gateway of Talent is truly a unique and exciting expression of our community.

These few exciting changes for Talent are in many ways driven by community volunteers. Government accessibility to co-create our future has always been the hallmark of Talents best practices. Please join us in these truly exciting times. Visit www.cityoftalent.org or call 541-535-1566 to learn more about how you can volunteer for Talent and participate in this great movement within our community.

**Grateful to serve,
Mayor Stricker**



Perfect Small Office Space to Lease in Talent

Talent Urban Renewal Agency will be leasing out its previous office at 102 Home Street in Talent. (Located behind City Hall and the Library). The building is zoned for commercial use only. Quaint and picturesque, this historic, commercial building was remodeled in 2007. It features 500-600 sq ft. including ADA ramp, office space, conference room, storage, kitchenette, bathroom, and outdoor courtyard. The rental includes office furniture and equipment also.

Please contact Talent City Hall or 541-535-1566 for more details.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Free CERT Basic Training

CERT Basic Training will show you how to effectively respond during a disaster. You will get tips on preparing a kit and a plan so that you are better prepared for the next disaster. During the FREE course, you will receive 24 hours of hands-on training in how to safely:

- Suppress fires with a fire extinguisher
 - Help someone who is hurt
 - Search and remove trapped people
- For more basic training information go to:

<http://www.ashland.or.us/basic>

Watts Up By Norah Owings

Although we've had a wet winter here in the Rogue Valley it is still important to reduce water consumption, leading to reduced energy usage, and major savings on utility bills. Water and energy work hand in hand; if you're lowering your energy usage you're also indirectly decreasing the amount of water needed at power plants. You can take simple steps such as: turning off the tap when you're brushing your teeth and washing your hands, shorten your showers, and don't run the dishwasher or washing machine until it's full. There are also larger projects such as: installing a rain barrel, changing out appliances that are water efficient, and use a car wash that recycles water.

Although these seem like small steps they can have big savings. Many old shower heads use five gallons of water per minute. All it takes is a simple life style change to save energy and money for your family.

Fun Fact: Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons annually nationwide. That's equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes.

Helpful Resources: EPA – Water Sense, USDA,

RECYCLE DROP OFF

Remember, the Talent Recycling Drop Off is part of Accent on Talent Saturday, May 13th, 2017 10am to 5pm at the Talent City Hall.

The **Zero Waste Team** meets every 3rd Thursday of the month from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the Talent Public Library in the small meeting room.

We are a group of dedicated people who are passionate about lightening our impact on the planet by understanding where our waste comes from, where it goes and by Rethinking the three R's of Recycling. We encourage everyone to take steps to Refuse to buy single use disposable items, Reduce the amount of plastics and trash in the waste stream by Reusing, Repairing, Repurposing, or Renting because it is getting more and more difficult to actually Recycle.

Please join us as we develop educational material, sponsor reuse and recycling events, and promote zero waste at City Sponsored events.

For more information contact Sharon Anderson at scanderson1@charter.net.

And remember **There Is No Away!**

News from Talent PD By Chief Whipple

On May 14th through May 20th we will celebrate National Police Officer Memorial week, with May 15th being designated Peace Officer Memorial Day. Peace Officer Memorial Day pays tribute to those officers who have given their lives in the line of duty.

For those who have given the ultimate sacrifice, as well as for the officers who serve the citizens of Talent every day; I ask that you consider replacing the light bulb in your porch light with a blue light bulb. This simple act has occurred in cities throughout the country and is a reminder to our officers that our community cares about and supports them. For those who wish to display your support, I have purchased several light bulbs which can be picked up at the Talent Police Department. You can also call us at the Talent Police Department and we will bring one to your door while on patrol. We always enjoy meeting the citizens we serve.

On the topic of serving, you will begin seeing several new Talent Police Department volunteers out in the community. These volunteers officially began April 1, 2017 and will

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be assisting with park patrols, vacation house checks, vehicle servicing as well as being ambassadors for the Police Department as well as the City.

The Talent Police Department, has also been working on a partnership with our local Ray's Food Place, and it culminated on April 1st with a program called "Helmet for Ice Cream." This program will have Talent Police Officers watching for opportunities to reward local children and teens when they are observed properly using helmets while bicycling and skateboarding. Those rewarded will receive a complimentary gift card for an ice cream cone at the Talent Rays Food Place. We are thankful for the partnership with Rays as well as for Officer Kelley who organized the project.

News from the Talent Historical Society

It's Talent Tomato Time again!! The Talent Historical Society will once again be offering Heirloom Talent Tomatoes for sale this year. The plants will be available at our Museum, 105 North Market St., Talent on Saturday, May 13th, the same day as Talent's City Wide Yard Sale. Hours will be from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm.

This unique tomato variety was originally grown by Talent farmer, Clarence Holdridge. Clarence had noted that a particular plant in his large tomato field was better than the rest of his Medford variety. He saved the seeds from this special plant, naming it the Talent Tomato and grew it the next year. Not long after, the local cannery closed, commercial growing ended, and a few seeds were left forgotten in a drawer until rediscovered 18 years later. Surprisingly, when planted, about 60% germinated and grew to adult plants.

Our plants are being grown by Greenleaf Industries in Grants Pass, which is a private non-profit corporation; providing training and employment opportunities to men and women with varying developmental

disabilities.

The red, medium size fruit is meaty and flavorful, and you will enjoy an early and long harvest with this indeterminate type of tomato. The strong, sturdy plants will be available in both 4" pots for \$3.00 or gallon containers for \$7.00. Tomato plants may be pre-ordered until Sunday, May 7th at 5:00 pm by dropping by the Museum or you can also place an order by going to the City website's homepage www.cityoftalent.org click on Historical Society and then click on the store icon. All advanced orders must be paid in full at the time of purchase, and must be picked up at the Museum on Saturday May 13th from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm, or Sunday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. 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.

This event is one of our major fund raisers for the year, so we hope you will come out and support the Talent Historical Society and grow a tasty tomato.

Also, please join us on Tuesday May 23rd, when we continue our series of presentations held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Sue Naumes will give a talk entitled "The History and Beauty Found in Box Labels from the Rogue Valley Orchard Industry." The talk will be from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Historical Society's Museum, 105 N. Market Street, Talent. The meetings are free and open to the public.

For more information call 541-512-8838

Utility Bill Due Dates and Times

Utility bills are due on the last business day of the month to avoid incurring a late fee. Payments received after cutoff times are subject to next business day processing and may incur a late fee. See below for cutoff times:

- In-person at City Hall: 5:00pm**
- Over the phone: 5:00pm**
- City website: 11:59pm**
- Utility drop-off box: 4:00pm**

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

TURA Budget Committee

Currently there is 4 openings for the TURA Budget Committee. Members serve 2 year terms and meet primarily in June 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 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 Commission

There is 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 over site 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.

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

OPEN HOUSE FOR DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

Come one come all for an Open House seeking Public Comment regarding the Downtown Development. This will be on May 31st at 6:00 PM in the Talent Community Center.

Fire Season Incoming!

Southern Oregon has been granted a reprieve from recent drought conditions per recent precipitation data from the Western Regional Climate Center. However, as the temperature continues to rise this year and the rainfall tapers off, all that remnant dense and vigorous vegetation will quickly dry out and become a fire hazard. For Cities like ours, located within the Wildland-Urban Interface, preventive maintenance is of great importance.

Preventive maintenance includes creating defensible space around your home and providing adequate access for firefighters in case of emergency. Oregon Department of Forestry recommends clearing fallen leaves and pine needles from roofs and rain gutters, removing fuel sources close to the house, maintaining nearby landscaping and creating an outer buffer where vegetation is thinned and flammable materials are scarce. For more wildfire prevention tips, visit: <http://www.swofire.com>

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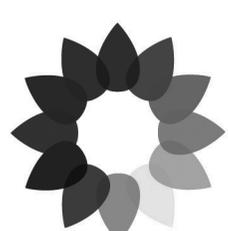
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