



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 council has been busy with the introduction of the Traffic System Plan and installing the budget. Both the TSP and the budget are available at www.cityoftalent.org for your



review. Council will consider the TSP for adoption at the July 15th council meeting, at 6:30PM in Town Hall.

I am joining the Parks Commission as the liaison. We will work together to identify capital improvement projects within Talent parks, in order to recommend to the Council for 2016-2017. We will also soon plan the recreation program 2016. We would love your ideas, please send in your suggestions. Many have been enjoying the new splash pad at Chuck Roberts Park. Phase 2 will be to enclose the surround to drain to the center. The splash pad was the number one choice by the people in our community. Our children now have a safe place to cool down in the critically hot months! Learn more about your City Parks on the City website.

The Council has officially transferred the authority of Talent Urban Renewal Agency to itself. This allows us to continue to operate with a seamless transition, as the Executive Director Marla Cates prepares for her well deserved resignation. Number one objective; Talent leaders are seeking best solutions to complete the roundabout. The board members of Talent Irrigation District are ready to discuss the property where the road may go, with a positive approach stating "we all serve the same patrons!" Great teams, serving our community with excellence! The motion is forward.

Marijuana is legal for recreational use. This transition is not without challenges. Council continues to discuss the flexibilities in the law for our City. Time will bring changes, as communities work out the bugs in this legacy law.

On July 1, Council appointed a new council member to fill the vacancy. Introductions are forthcoming.

This is a great time to be involved. Please check out Commission and Committee openings at www.cityoftalent.org.

Grateful to serve,
Mayor Darby Stricker

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

New Summer Program: The summer recreation program will have a new look this year, with family-oriented events in our parks replacing the old model of classes for kids. The plan is to have at least one day or night per month, May through August, of family

fun. A sand volleyball exhibition/clinic was held Thursday evening on May 14. A family bike ride will be on Saturday morning, July 25th tentatively. The Splash Pad opening was on June 20th along with sports, games, crafts and dog awards this was a huge success. August will feature a movie after dark. The full schedule will be posted on the city website once it is available.

Parks and Rec contact: parkscomm@cityoftalent.org.



News from Talent PD By Chief Moran

One of the things I most like to do in this column is talk about the employees of Talent PD. They do incredible work and because they are dedicated to serving you, they often make sacrifices and take on extra work.

First of all I want to tell you about the extraordinary efforts of our part time police clerk, Amanda Rogers. Over the past three months Amanda has done her work and a great deal more. Her commitment to serving the people of Talent has allowed us to keep on top of the numerous behind the scenes things that occur in police work in record keeping, evidence and more. Thank you Amanda!

Recently, Talent PD received a report of a theft of some items from the patio of a residence. The cost of the items was not high in comparison to some thefts that occur. But the items were important to the victim and it was devastating to lose them to a common thief. Officer Gail Schweizer and Sergeant Jennifer Snook went far beyond their job duty and helped the victim in this case using their own resources to lessen the impact of the theft. Their compassionate gesture was truly a great thing.

This month Talent PD will lose two of our patrol team members. Corporal Dave Plummer and Officer Gail Schweizer are both "retiring" again. Both officers joined TPD after long careers at Medford PD. Dave served here since November 2006 and Gail since July of 2009. Both of them brought skills and experience to this department that will be difficult to replace. I want to thank both of them for their service to the citizens of Talent.

Summer has arrived and the potential for fire disasters is quite real as we saw in Weed last year. There is a new preparedness program sponsored by Rogue Valley Emergency management called Ready, Set, Go. It explains in brief and simple terms the levels of being prepared to be safe during an emergency.

Go to www.rvem.org and look at the info on this program as well as info on how to sign up for Citizen Alerts. The Citizen Alert program is a way to get you emergency information in a timely manner about major disasters and other safety warnings. The direct Jackson County webpage is: jackson-countyor.org or call 541-608-1210 to learn more about citizen alert.

News from Recology Urban Composting Classes

3 Classes left - (1) basic, (1) advanced, (1) vermi-compost & Bokashi method

Saturdays from **10 am- noon** at the Recycle Center on Water Street. Learn to compost food scraps & organic yard debris

- Basic Class ~July 18th.
- Advanced Class - August 15th

General knowledge of composting is required.

NEW *Bokashi method & Vermi(Worm)Composting Class - September 12th These are great ways to make nutrient-rich fertilizer indoors.

Classes are complimentary & sponsored by the City of Ashland Conservation Commission & Recology Ashland

Prescription Drug Deposit boxes - Keep prescription medications away from children & out of landfill, water supply & waste water treatment plant. Ashland & Talent Police departments collect these items.

July - Fertilizers & Agricultural Runoff

This is the season of lawn-care, and people have never spent more time and money to keep their lawns looking green and lush. According to the US EPA, Americans spend \$5.25 billion dollars on fossil-fuel based lawn fertilizers each year.

Although these fertilizers help green up our plants, they can have a detrimental effect on our waterways. Fertilizer doesn't entirely remain where it is applied, much is carried away from lawns in runoff from irrigation and rainwater. Once in the water, it can make its way into our storm drains and streams. These excess nutrients in waterways influence the growth of aquatic vegetation, which removes dissolved oxygen from the water and can have devastating effects on fish and other aquatic wildlife.

The best way to mitigate this risk is also the simplest. Generally speaking, when applying concentrated chemical fertilizers, *less is more* - too much can in fact, be very harmful to plant growth. Also, instead of bagging and disposing of grass clippings, consider leaving them atop the lawn. Clippings will supply nutrients as they decompose and provide the added benefit of cutting down on fertilizer costs. To learn more about responsible agricultural practices and how to protect our waterways, visit www.stream-smart.com.

Urban Renewal News
For more information, contact Executive Director Marla Cates 541-535-6170 or execdir@talenturbanrenewal.com

Civic Center Alley: Contractors broke ground mid-June on the parking

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lot and alley improvements around the Town Hall on Main Street, also known as the old community center. Asphalt was removed as well as a portion of concrete foundation from the old city hall torn down in 2008, and work on underground storm and utility lines is underway as of this writing. As with most construction projects, there are a few surprises - such as removing 16" thick concrete instead of the standard 4"-6" we expected - and now the project isn't expected to be finished until the end of July. Roxy Ann Rock, Inc. was the successful bidder on this project for approximately \$102,000 for general construction. We are working on pricing for removing the power poles and putting everything underground three buildings, and hope to get started on that soon as well. If you are planning to attend a meeting or activity at the Town Hall, consider arriving a few minutes early in order to find a parking place on the street until the contractors and public works department say it's okay to use the alley and parking spaces.

Plaza Phase of West Valley View: Bids will be opened for Phase "1D" of the West Valley View project, which will make improvements to the old road section between the roundabout and Talent Avenue. The east end of the street - nearest the roundabout-will be turned into a plaza with permeable pavers in soft grays and tans, planter beds for raised meadows, shrubs and large shade trees. The west end will be repaved, landscape beds with shrubs and trees will be installed, and several more on-street parking spaces will be created. The large cedar tree which has presided over the broken sidewalk for so many years will be professionally pruned and left in place as a "nursery tree" to provide visual interest and shade some of the new planter beds. The shade it produces will cool the adjacent area between 20-30 degrees, which will be very helpful for plantings.

Pollinator Garden: A local volunteer and bee expert is working on a design for a potential pollinator demonstration garden near the roundabout on TURA property. An initial rough concept was favorably received by the TURA Board of Directors in early June, and a final plan will be presented for final approval within the next month or two. If you are interested in working on this project, contact the TURA

office.

Fall Retirement: As many people already know, in April I notified the TURA Board of Directors that I plan to retire sometime this Fall after having served as Executive Director for 13.5 years handling all aspects of administration, finance and project management. When I was hired in 2002, little did I know that we would be taking on projects of such magnitude as the new City Hall, the Commons, and the West Valley View project. In fact, these projects hadn't even been dreamed of yet! But thanks to a wonderfully dedicated Board of Directors with excellent business sense, creativity and long range vision of the future -- along with the thoughtful input of many, many citizens and business owners through public-input design concept ideas for our projects -- we've come a long, long way within a relatively short period of time. Now, the baton is passing to the City Council who on June 17 began serving as TURA's Board of Directors and will take on the task of pursuing completion of Phase II (Wagner Street connection) of the West Valley View project before TURA sunsets in 2019. I look forward to assisting them and creating a smooth transition.

Come visit your Talent library in July, books, movies, programs and much more.

July 2

Miss Annie's Interactive Puppet Show 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. . Age 8 + Up.

July 7

Applied (decorative) Arts: Introduction to Jewelry-Making 1:30-3:00 pm . Age 8 + Up.

July 9

Craft: Sculpting with Soap 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Age 6 + Up.

July 14

Applied (decorative) Arts: Introduction to Knitting 1:30-3:00 pm . Age 8 + Up.

July 16

Bats w/ John "Batman" Jackson of Bugs-R-U's 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. All Ages.

July 21

Applied (decorative) Arts: Free Style Class 1:30-3:00 pm Age 8 + Up.

July 23

Craft: Creating Tissue Box Creatures 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Age 6 + Up.

July 29

Rich Glauber's Music in Action! 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. All Ages.

July 30

Craft: Creating Rock Turtles 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Age 6 + Up.

In July our free movies & Refreshments on Wednesdays at 2:00 PM will be a tribute to Sir Christopher Lee. July 1-Horror of Dracula, July 8-The Hound of the Baskervilles, July 15 - The Face of Fu Manchu, July 22-The Private Life of Sherlock Homes, July 29 - House of the Long Shadows.

Help support your local library and it's many programs by joining The Talent Library Club, meeting on July 10th, at 2PM. For Library information call 541-535-4163

News from Fire District 5

By Chief Welburn

Oregon averages 36 outdoor cooking-related fires each year. These fires resulted in both civilian and firefighter injuries.

- Only use propane and charcoal grills outdoors. Using them indoors or in any enclosed space (e.g. garage) poses a fire hazard and exposes people to deadly gases.

- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Don't move the grill. This can cause an explosion.

- Place the grill away from your home's siding, deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

- Place your grill a safe distance from any play areas and foot traffic.

- Never leave your grill unattended. Keep children and pets away from the grilling area; declare a three-foot kid free zone.

- If you cook with charcoal, use only charcoal starter fluid to start the grill. Once lit, never add charcoal fluid or any other type of flammable liquid.

- Keep all flammable liquids, matches and lighters out of children's reach and away from any heat source.

REMEMBER, AT FIRE DISTRICT 5 "WE STILL MAKE HOUSE CALLS!"

WANTED- COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MEMBERS

Talent Public Art Committee (TPAC)

Currently TPAC is looking for 3-4 volunteers for specific projects in this exciting new year 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**? 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. There are no term limits for this Committee. 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 March and twice a month or more as we get closer to the event.

Bee City USA

Education on Pollination. Meeting dates and times to be determined. For more information contact Dolly Warden at 541-897-0065 or email: dolly.warden17@gmail.com

Budget Committee

Currently there is 1 opening for the Budget Committee. Members serve 3 year terms and meet primarily in April and May each year.

Architectural Review Committee

Currently there are 5 vacancies 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 are currently 2 vacancies for Alternate members of 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