



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

News from the Mayor's Office

Our great city continues to benefit from the vision of Talent citizens and city officials, as we celebrate the opening of the new Community Center. A well-



attended ribbon cutting ceremony during the Harvest Festival kicked off public tours of the facility, including looks at the nicely equipped kitchen, meeting rooms and some pretty great technology. If your community group would like to use the facility, contact city hall.

We continue to press for the completion of our vision for the downtown core and the roundabout. The Talent Irrigation District owns the property where the last phase of the roundabout would be built to connect Valley View Road to Wagner Street. The District has been appraising the value of the districts property, to begin a discussion about possible solutions to complete the roundabout project. The Talent Urban Renewal Agency will soon sit across the table with TID, to conduct discussions with transparency and best intentions.

I am so proud to be associated with Talent's hard working City Council. Councilors Abshire, Collins and Wise have attended conferences to gather useful information and bring their findings to Talent's upcoming goal setting sessions. Councilor Pederson and McManus are working with the Talent Economic Development team in partnership with the Talent Chamber of Commerce, intent on improving Talent's business climate. While Councilor Cooke continues to lead the review of the Talent City Charter, ensuring that we are current in our governmental practices. Council, along with city staff, is determined stay be ahead of the curve!

The second City Summit Meeting was a great success. Representatives of 23 Commissions, Committees and other Talent organizations gathered to brief each other on current efforts. We are efficient when we are well informed.

Are you curious about how you might get involved in your community? Commission and Committee openings and applications are available at City Hall or online at www.cityoftalent.org.

Lastly, I wish to thank Council President Pederson, for so capably chairing meetings while I traveled. You were fabulous!

Grateful to serve

Mayor Darby Stricker

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

Improvements at Wagner Creek Park:

Friends of Wagner Creek will be conducting a planting party—the second since last spring—at this park on November 7, from 10 AM to 12 PM. This lovely .76-acre site has undergone quite a facelift in the last year with the removal of blackberry bushes from along the creek and the planting of native species. A table and bench have been added to encourage picnicking and resting. November 7th would be a great time to visit the park, located along Rapp Road, whether or not you wish to join the planting party. Volunteers are asked to bring shovel, rake, bucket, pruners and old newspapers.

Contact Parks and Recreation at Parkscomm@cityoftalent.org.

News from Talent PD

By Chief Mike Moran

We have entered into Standard time and the hours of darkness in the evening are now more than before. I'd like to just offer a couple of reminders on safety for you and yours. When someone knocks at your door after dark, ask who is there before you open it. If you don't know the person or if you can't look out to verify the identity of legitimate visitors such as delivery people, don't open the door. I am very suspicious of people knocking on my door after dark.

Speaking of doors, please keep garage doors closed at night and even during the day if you are not nearby. We have seen brazen thieves walk right into open garages even during the day.

Recently, many provisions of Oregon's new marijuana laws went into effect. We have had a couple of unusual marijuana related cases. Talent PD was called to investigate a suspect who went into a neighbor's yard during the day and cut down a very large marijuana plant. The suspect dragged it home and left a nice trail of leaves from the plant for us to follow. That case is pending adjudication so I won't provide full details at this point.

However, I received a nice note from the victim of the theft commending our officer who investigated the case. The owner expressed being pleasantly surprised that we investigated the case so thoroughly given the item taken was marijuana. In this matter, the marijuana was being grown legally and the suspect stole it. We will investigate this crime just like any other.

We had another marijuana related call that I wanted to share to remind everyone about legal use of marijuana. A subject was observed in a city park smoking marijuana. He was cited and released for that violation. My point in mentioning this incident is that while marijuana use has mostly been legalized, there are still serious prohibitions about when and where it can be used. It is the responsibility of each citizen to know the law. To give a brief re-cap on some of those prohibitions, here is a partial list of them:

1. Marijuana cannot be used in a public place.
2. Marijuana cannot be used while driving.
3. Driving under the influence of marijuana is a Class A misdemeanor and can be a Class C felony.
4. Persons under 21 cannot con-

sume or possess marijuana.

5. Marijuana cannot be given as a prize.

During this month please watch for impaired drivers as the holiday party season is starting in November. If you see someone preparing to drive while under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or other drugs, call 911.

TREE SEEDLINGS ANYONE?

Do you have any small trees you could pot up to donate to our Community Tree Nursery? Our Friends of Trees volunteers raise seedlings from transplants and donations to plant when needed in our public areas and distribute semiannually to members of the community for their yards. Deciduous trees especially desired.

Contact Sharon Anderson at 541-535-9055 for more information.

Old Bridge Village Riparian Restoration

The City of Talent is excited to announce that it has been awarded a \$3,891 grant from Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District to remove invasive plant species and plant new and replace fallen riparian trees and shrubs at Old Bridge Village Park. The project focuses on five key areas of the park and will plant 6 new trees and nearly 50 new shrubs. In addition, the grant will help pay for the planting of new Willows and native grasses along the banks of Wagner Creek. If you are interested in volunteering with this project, please contact Zac Moody, Community Development Director at 541-535-7401 or by email at zmoody@cityoftalent.org. If you would like more information, please visit www.stream-smart.com or www.cityoftalent.org. Interested volunteers can find out more about this project at a volunteer's meeting scheduled for November 5, 2015 at 5:00PM at Town Hall, 206 E. Main Street in Talent.

Adopt a Family for the Holidays

The Holiday tree will be up at the Talent City Hall on November 23rd. We are kindly asking the community to join our City employees along with Fire District #5 in effort to make the Holidays special for some of the less fortunate families in our area. Gifts should be returned to City Hall no later than Friday, Dec. 11, 2015.

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 Coleen Bradley or Leslea Heiken at City Hall, 541-535-1566 or email coleen@cityoftalent.org or leslea@cityoftalent.org

Thank you so much for your support!

News from Fire District 5

By Chief Darin Welburn

With cooler weather upon us we would like to remind everyone to check all heating appliances to make sure they are fire safe. Wood stove flues should be cleaned. All combustibles should be placed a safe distance away from stoves and heaters. Us

NOVEMBER 2015

Volume 16/Issue 11

Official

Newsletter of the City of

Talent

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only approved extension cords and don't place them under rugs or heavy objects. Heat pump filters should be checked and a tune up service may be in order. Be sure to check all smoke detectors to be sure they are in working condition. Practice a fire safety plan with your family and make sure you have emergency supplies on hand. Be fire safe and remember at fire district 5 "*we still make house calls!*"

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.

☐ Turn off all of your sprinkler system controllers. If you disconnect the common wire during the winter, it will ensure that your system cannot accidentally be turned on.

☐ Shut off the water to your sprinklers. Sometimes there is a valve that isolates the irrigation from the main house water supply. If you do not have one of these valves you may want to consider adding one to your System. Your Backflow Valve System should NOT be used for this purpose. The backflow valve should be left open to allow for drainage.

☐ 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. Installing drains at low points can be very helpful. If you do this, you may want to consider selecting a manual drain instead of an automatic drain.

Taking the time to make sure that your system is clear of water for the winter months, could save you time and money in the spring when starting up your system.

News from Community Development- Composting & Leaf Disposal Reminder

This time of year is perfect for collecting leaves as a base compost material for gardening, adding up to

big savings on costly soil amendments. Fallen leaves can also be used as mulch to cover fallow garden soils in the winter, effectively deterring weed development and reducing stormwater runoff problems such as erosion and soil nutrient loss. Fortunately, for those with no interest in keeping their leaves, other responsible disposal options are available.

This year, Recology is providing Talent residents with a *free* leaf drop-off day at the Talent Public Works Yard, located at 200 Suncrest Rd. Stop by on December 12, 9am - 3pm and they'll collect your leaves and pine needles,

bags used to haul must be emptied and disposed of off-site, no other types of green debris will be accepted. Recology also offers two *free* leaf drop-off days at the Ashland Recycling Center on Water St., November 15 and December 13, 9am - 4pm.

For those who cannot make these dates, pre-paid leaf collection bags are available to Talent residents (proof of residency required). Visit City Hall from 10/26 - 12/31 to purchase bags at cost, Recology will haul the full leaf bags away during Green Debris week. See their website www.recologyashland.com for specifics.

The 2015 Harvest Festival was a huge success! Great weather, entertainment, vendors and delicious food!

This year's festivities included:

- The Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the Talent Chamber of Commerce with the food and labor donated by the Iron Skillet in Phoenix. They had a rousing turnout and are already planning changes and improvements for next year.

- The Runs were well ran by lots of early morning folks and well organized by the Southern Oregon Runners

- The Parade, always a favorite, was interesting and entertaining. Mayor Darby Stricker and City Council people modeled fitness and health by cycling the parade route

- The activities in Old Town Park included the Rock Climbing Wall, Petting Zoo, s Clowning: Jill & Daryl Fjeldheim, ScienceWorks and Ballet Folklorico, face painting, cotton candy and more, kept hundreds of kids and adults busy all day

- The entertainment on the City Hall stage - H'aena, Salsa Brava and Maestro & the Captain's Flat 5 Flim Flam kept our toes tapping and bodies moving

- Our ever popular Harvest Home area, where apples were pressed into cider, weaving demonstrations and scarecrow

building kept folks of all ages restfully engaged while listening to live acoustic music

- Our expanded Wine and Beer Garden, under more shade, provided a family friendly respite to enjoy food and community

- Arts, crafts and farmers market vendors offered their wares

- Local favorite foods and snacks helped sate that lunchtime hunger

AND our new Community Center - was officially opened and tours were conducted by City Manager, Tom Corrigan.

To create an event like the Harvest Festival it takes a great deal of dedication from the Committee members and support from our Community.

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

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.



OTHER SPONSORS:

**Paul Meyer
Debi Rappaport, LMT
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