



THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

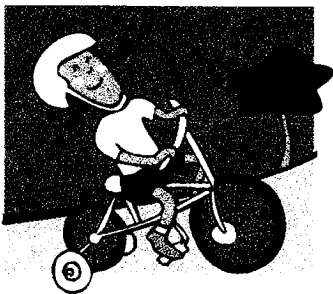
October 13, 1999

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments. Vol. 2 No. 15

Matt Mattia

Welcome to the City of Talent

Matt Mattia succeeds Kevin Cronin as the new RARE participant and assistant planner for the City of Talent. Matt is from West Chester, Pennsylvania, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Pittsburgh with majors in anthropology and religious studies. He has worked on Cultural Resource Management contract archaeology projects throughout Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio. Matt has spent the last year in Maine, serving as an AmeriCorps volunteer at a Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) office. He provided grant writing and other assistance for Atlantic salmon conservation and forestry projects, and raised funds for a Native American museum and resource center. Matt is enjoying living in Oregon and is looking forward to working with the City of Talent this next year.



Don't miss **Bicycle Safety Day!**

Join the Talent Police Department and the City's many volunteers as we sponsor Bicycle Safety Day here in Talent. Persons of all ages are invited to "come on down!" This is your chance to register your bicycle, brush up on your road skills, and have your bike checked for safety by professionals from Cycle Sport in Ashland and Medford. Helmets will be available for purchase of \$8.95, or *free* after completion of one hour of community service. All the fun starts at 11 a.m. and continues to 2 p.m., Saturday, October 23, 1999, at the Talent Elementary School playground. Mark your calendars and plan to take advantage of this opportunity! For more information, contact Allison at City Hall at 535-1566.

The *FLASH* of Talent is published by the City of Talent

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Helping Children Cope with Disaster

Disasters may strike quickly and without warning. These events can be frightening for adults, but they are traumatic for children if they don't know what to do.

During a disaster, your family may have to leave your home and daily routine. Children may become anxious, confused or frightened. As an adult, you'll need to cope with the disaster in a way that will help children avoid developing a permanent sense of loss. It is important to give children guidance that will help them reduce their fears.

Ultimately, you should decide what's best for your children, but consider using these suggestions as guidelines.



Children and their response to disaster

Children depend on daily routines. They wake up, eat breakfast, go to school, and play with friends. When emergencies or disasters interrupt this routine, children may become anxious.

In a disaster, they'll look to you and other adults for help. How you react to an emergency gives them clues on how to act. If you react with alarm, a child may become more scared. They see our fear as proof the danger is real. If you seem overcome with a sense of loss, a child may feel their losses more strongly.

Feelings of fear are natural and healthy for adults and children. But as an adult, you need to keep control of the situation. When you are sure that danger has passed, concentrate on your child's emotional needs by asking the child what's uppermost in his or her mind. Having the children participate in the family's recover activities will help them feel their life will return to "normal." Your response during this time may have a lasting impact.

Be aware that after a disaster, children are most afraid that the event will happen again, someone will be injured or killed, they will be separated from the family or they will be left alone.

Advice to Parents: Prepare for Disaster

You can create a Family Disaster Plan by taking four simple steps. First, learn what hazards exist in your community and how to prepare for each. Then meet with your family to discuss what you would do, as a group, in each situation. Next, take steps to prepare your family for disaster such as: posting emergency phone numbers, selecting an out-of-state family contact, assembling disaster supplies kits for each member of your household and installing smoke detectors on each level of your home. Finally, practice your disaster plan so that everyone will remember what to do when a disaster occurs.

Teach Children to Call for Help

Teach your children how and when to call for help. Even very young children can be taught how and when to call for emergency assistance. Children should also memorize their family name, address and phone number, and where to meet in case of an emergency.



(Information in this article comes from *Helping Children Cope with Disaster*. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Family Protection Program developed this brochure in cooperation with the American Red Cross' Community Disaster Education Program. Both are national efforts to help people prepare for disasters of all types. Copies of this brochure are available at City Hall, 204 E. Main Street.)

Public Meeting for Bicycle and Pedestrian Project



The second public meeting for design and information for the West Main Street and Wagner Creek Road Bicycle and Pedestrian project will be held at City Hall, 204 East Main Street, on Tuesday, October 19, 1999, at 7 p.m. This is your chance to express your ideas or share your comments or suggestions. After the completion of this meeting, the project will go to final design and be advertised for bid by late October or early November. If you have further questions, please contact Tim Dedrick, Public Works Superintendent, at 535-3828.



City Council Agenda Items

October 20, 1999 – 6:45 p.m.

New Business:

- ♦ The City of Talent will be honoring some previous members of the Talent Volunteer Fire Department for their service to the citizens of Talent.

(Complete agenda packets are available for review at City Hall, 204 East Main Street. You can also check out the City Council agenda online. Our address is www.cityoftalent.org.)



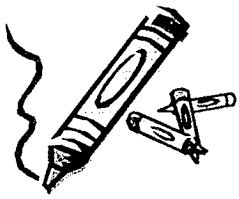
Heat Your Home Safely



The cold nights have residents heating their homes for the first time this season. Before you “turn on the heat,” follow these tips to help warm your home safely.

- ♦ Give space heaters space. Put at least 36 inches of space between the heater and everything else, such as furniture, papers, and people.
- ♦ Check the cord on portable electric heaters. Replace frayed or cracked cords. If the cord gets hot, have the heater serviced.
- ♦ Do not use extension cords with portable electric heaters. This is a common cause of fires.
- ♦ Turn off portable heaters when family members leave the house or are sleeping.
- ♦ Clean the flue of your woodstove or fireplace insert frequently.
- ♦ Have forced air furnaces serviced annually and change filters every six months.
- ♦ Kerosene heaters are not approved for use in homes in Oregon. Kerosene heaters are prone to sudden flare-ups, and they emit noxious fumes.

(Information in this article came from Jackson County Fire District No. 5.)



Enter our coloring contest!

If you're 12 years of age or younger, then it's time to start coloring for great prizes! Simply return this page to Talent City Hall by Monday, October 25, 1999, at 5:00 p.m. Winners will be announced in the next issue of the FLASH. First place will receive a \$20 Wal-Mart gift certificate, second place will receive a helmet, and third place will receive a pumpkin! Thanks to **Talent Wal-Mart** and **Tark's Market** for their donations to our contest. Entries will be displayed at City Hall, 204 East Main Street. Make sure to fill out your name and age, *and* your phone number (we won't display your phone number).

Have fun and good luck!



PHONE #

AGE: _____

NAME: _____