



THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

October 27, 1999

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments. Vol. 2 No. 16

Volunteer Tree Planting Event

Oregon Trout, a statewide non-profit organization devoted to protecting and restoring native fish and their habitat, will be coordinating a tree planting day along riparian areas of Wagner Creek. This volunteer event is tentatively scheduled for November 17, 1999.

This event is a follow-up to the educational canvass that took place last March. The canvass was a collaborative effort between Oregon Trout, the City of Talent, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Bear Creek Watershed Council, among others. One of the results of the canvass was to demonstrate community interest and environmental need for streamside tree planting. Planting trees and riparian vegetation promotes the health of the creek by providing a buffer against sedimentation and non-point source pollution, and enhances fish habitat by increasing shade.

In order to determine the locations that are best suited for this tree planting event, Oregon Trout will be scheduling visits to view streamside property of interested landowners during the week of November 1st. If you are interested in having trees planted on your property or are interested in participating in the planting, please call Ashley Henry at 772-7988 or contact Matt Mattia at the City of Talent, 535-1566, for more information.



Talent is having a birthday and you're invited to the party!



Come celebrate Talent's 89th birthday with family and friends from the community. Enjoy a free evening of music, refreshments, and a slide show presentation by Susan Dearborn Jackson. All Saints' Day occurs on Talent's birthday and Manuela Marney, President/CEO of the Rogue Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, will attend to share her personal views on the tradition of El Dia De Los Muertos, the hispanic celebration of All Saints' Day. There will also be a discussion following the program. This event is sponsored by Talent's historical Society and the City of Talent. Come celebrate our town's birthday and help us blow out the candles.

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

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Let's make Halloween safe for kids



Halloween may be a fun time of year for kids, but for parents, trick-or-treat time can be a little tricky. To make Halloween a treat for all, follow these safety tips advised by the National Crime Prevention Council:

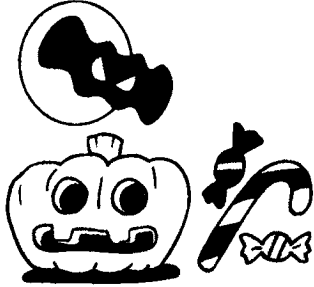
Make sure your kids dress up safely

- ◆ Check that the costumes are flame-retardant so the little ones aren't in danger near burning jack-o-lanterns and other fire hazards.
- ◆ Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.
- ◆ Try make-up instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable and, more importantly, they can obstruct a child's vision – a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down steps.
- ◆ Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.
- ◆ Trick-or-treaters should always be in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.

Make trick-or-treating trouble free

- ◆ Make sure older kids trick-or-treat with friends. Together, map out a safe route so parents know where they'll be. Tell them to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.
- ◆ Try to get your kids to trick-or-treat while it's still light out. If it's dark, make sure someone has a flashlight and pick well-lighted streets.
- ◆ Make sure kids know **not** to enter strange houses or strangers' cars.

Tips on treats



- ◆ Tell kids to wait until they get home before they eat their treats. One way to keep trick-or-treaters from digging in while they're still out is to feed them a meal or snack beforehand.
- ◆ Check out all treats at home in a well-lighted place.
- ◆ Only eat unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers. Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade goodies for anything suspicious.

Halloween can be a lot of fun for parents and kids alike – if everybody remembers the tricks and the treats of playing it safe. Have a happy Halloween!



Halloween Humor

What kind of pants do ghosts wear? **Boo-jeans.**

What kind of music do mummies like? **Wrap music.**

What do you get when you divide the diameter of a jack-o-lantern by its circumference? **Pumpkin Pi.**

What do birds give out on Halloween? **Tweets.**



Thank you to all our coloring contest participants!



There were so many great entries – so much talent here in Talent! We would like to congratulate Sandra Perez, our first place winner and recipient of a \$20 Wal-Mart gift certificate, Moriah Perry, our second place winner and recipient of a multi-use helmet, and Stacey Gunter, our third place winner and recipient of a pumpkin! Thank you all for participating in our contest. We would also like to send out huge thanks to Talent Wal-Mart, Tark's Market and Talent Parks and Recreation Commission for their prize donations.



City Council Agenda Items

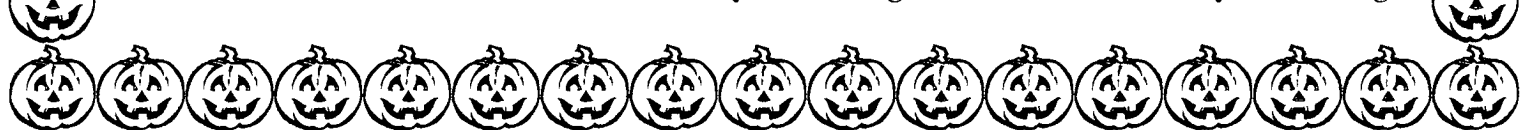
November 3, 1999 – 6:45 p.m.



New Business:

- Discuss topics for November Study Session
- Council will consider approval of agreement with engineering service for the TAP project.
- Council will consider filling vacancies on the Urban Renewal Agency.

Copies of the agenda and complete agenda packets are available for review at City Hall, 204 East Main Street. You can also check out the City Council agenda online at www.cityoftalent.org.



Watch your speed in school zones!

Did you know that traffic fines double in school zones? Is it really worth the few minutes you save to *speed* your child to school? Signs are posted and speeds are lowered to 15 to 20 mph in school zones to protect the safety of children crossing the streets, coming and going to the school yards. Here's something you may not know: the 20 mph speed in school zones is enforceable *all day*. That's right, *all day*. According to ORS 811.124, it states "children are present at any time and on any day when children are in a place where they are or can reasonably be expected to be visible to a person operating a motor vehicle that is passing a school ground or a school crosswalk." On rainy days, or days of low-visibility, it is advisable that you drive with your headlights **on** and use extra caution when driving on wet asphalt. Take your time, watch your speed, and help us make our school zones safe for everybody.



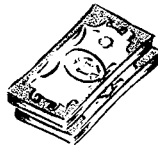
Update from the Emergency Preparedness Committee

The Emergency Preparedness Committee consists of our Police Chief, Public Works Superintendent, Mayor, City Planner, the Fire Chief for Jackson County Fire District No. 5, and interested citizens from the community. Their main concern is Y2K and unpredictable disaster preparedness. They join Jackson County and other public service providers in preparing communities for emergencies including the possible technological challenges of the new year.



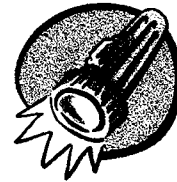
At the most recent Y2K public forum sponsored by Jackson County, representatives from various public services stated they are confident their services will continue normally on January 1, 2000. However, just in case, here are a few important things to remember:

- ◆ Get your prescriptions filled early.
- ◆ Have extra cash on hand.
- ◆ Keep good banking records.
- ◆ Plan for the needs of your animals.



The American Red Cross advises that any emergency will require us to be on our own for at least 72 hours, possibly one week. This means that you should have a disaster supplies kit already assembled with the following items:

- ◆ A supply of water (one gallon per person per day). Store water in sealed, unbreakable containers. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
- ◆ A supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food and a non-electric can opener.
- ◆ A change of clothing, rain gear and sturdy shoes.
- ◆ Blankets or sleeping bags.
- ◆ A first aid kit and prescription medications.
- ◆ An extra pair of glasses.
- ◆ A battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries.
- ◆ Credit cards and cash.
- ◆ An extra set of car keys.



The City of Talent is prepared for Y2K and other emergencies as well. Our computers are updated, our public works department is equipped with generators for power, water delivery and communication, and the City has two water buffaloes (portable water tanks) of its own. The Emergency Preparedness Committee has completed its emergency plan and staff and volunteers have attended trainings in emergency response for the types of disasters that might happen here in the Rogue Valley (ie: earthquake, dam failure, flooding, etc.). In an effort to help our citizens prepare for emergencies as well, the City has distributed Red Cross and County emergency information to every household. We also have pamphlets on emergency preparedness available at City Hall, 204 East Main Street.

Mayor Telerski, a member of this committee, said, "You can do your part by preparing your own household and becoming aware of the needs of your neighbors. Learn in advance how you can best help each other make a plan. This is one of the most important aspects of emergency preparedness that can make the difference between disaster and inconvenience."

In December, the Emergency Preparedness Committee will have a drill to test our organization in the event of an earthquake. We'll let you know how they do!