

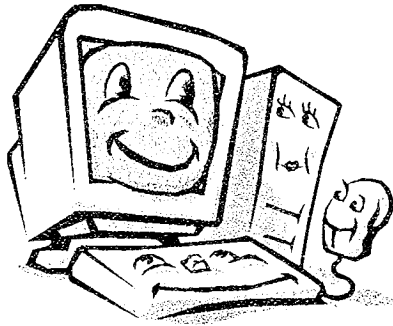


THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

December 8, 1999

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments. Vol. 2 No. 19

City of Talent - ready for Y2K



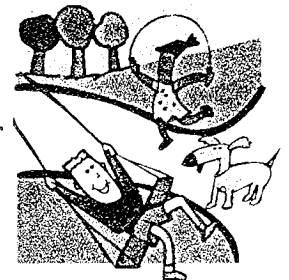
The City of Talent is prepared for Y2K...and Mother Nature! Tim Dedrick, Public Works Director, said the City is ready for a flood, earthquake, or possible Y2K-related issues. "As much as we can realistically be expected to be," he commented. The City's water treatment plants and all its public buildings are backed-up by generators. This includes the City shop, City Hall, the Police Station and Community Hall - each building has its own dedicated power generation.

In November, our Public Works Department ran tests on Talent's Community Hall, City Hall and Fire Hall. The Fire Hall will now serve as our Emergency Operation Center. They were pleased to report that each system worked perfectly with reserve power to spare. Even after a loss of power, phone and computer operations were running normally. The City has fuel storage for its generators and City vehicles, and we also have three potable water trailers. Currently, our Public Works Department is working with Talent Elementary and Middle schools to provide them with emergency power to their gymnasiums and cafeterias, in the event their facilities are needed for public emergency shelters.

Tim Dedrick breathed a sigh of relief and said, "It's been a busy time for us, but I feel better knowing that we're ready for *any* emergency that comes our way."

Good news for Chuck Roberts playground

The grading and excavation of the playground is nearing completion! The next step will be to construct drainage and build a foundation. This part of the project is expected to be complete by February, 2000, and residents can hope to see the new playground equipment by Spring. Stay tuned to the *FLASH* for a project update.



The progress of Chuck Roberts playground and other projects within the City are discussed monthly at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission (the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.). For more information, contact City Hall.

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

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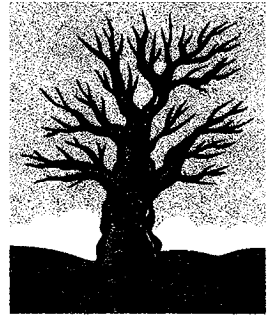
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Burn smart - use dry, seasoned wood

Wood with high moisture content produces more smoke. Freshly cut wood should be split, stacked, covered and allowed to dry at least six months before it is burned. Some species and their heating values are listed below. All require a minimum drying time of six months.



Alder: Medium heating value; easy to split; produces moderate amount of sparks.

Cedar: Medium to low heating value; easy to split; produces many sparks.

Douglas Fir: Medium heating value; easy to split; produces moderate amount of sparks.

Madrone: High heating value; difficult to split; produces few sparks.

Maple: High to medium heating value; somewhat difficult to split; produces few sparks.

Oak: High heating value; somewhat difficult to split; produces few sparks.

Pine: Medium to low heating value; easy to split; produces moderate amount of sparks.

White Fir: Medium to low heating value; easy to split; produces moderate amount of sparks.



Holiday Safety Tips

The folks at Jackson County's Fire District No. 5 would like this season to be safe for everyone. Here are a few tips they'd like to pass along:

Christmas Trees

Purchase fresh trees that have not begun dropping needles.

Water the tree often.

Dispose of the tree as soon as possible after the holidays.

Keep all heating sources away from the tree.

Lights

Make sure all lights are UL approved.

Make sure you have good connections at all outlets.

Make sure cords are in good shape.

Candles

Never leave candles unattended.

Never place on or near combustibles.

Keep matches/lighters/candles away from children.

◆
Never dispose of Christmas trees or wrapping paper in your woodstove.

◆
Make sure your home has working smoke detectors outside of each sleeping area and on each level.

◆
Have a home escape plan for your family and practice it.

◆
**"Have a fire safe holiday season from all of us at Jackson County
Fire District No. 5"**



Wagner Creek Flood Study



The Federal Emergency Management Agency has just started preparations for survey work for a detailed study of the flooding characteristics of Wagner Creek. The study area extends from the confluence with Bear Creek, upstream to Ashland Mine Road. The new flood study will be invaluable for future floodplain management.

The first step for conducting the study will be setting markers to show surveyors the preferred locations for cross-section surveys along the creek. Later, a survey crew from Marquess and Associates will do the actual survey work. Crews will have to enter private land to do this important work. All property owners along the creek were mailed a notice on November 30th letting them know about this project. The City has been advised that, at each location, the crews will knock on doors to notify residents of their presence on the property.

One of the reasons we have been granted this valuable study is that Wagner Creek did not perform the way it was predicted to perform in the 1997 flood. That means we do not have a reliable estimation of what a major flood event would do in our watershed. It is important that FEMA have the best possible information to use to calculate floodplains and floodways for Wagner Creek. To the property owners along the creek, thank you for your cooperation in allowing the surveyors easy access.

City Council Agenda Items

December 15, 1999 – 6:45 p.m.



Public Hearing:

To hear comments on the Talent Transportation and Storm Drain Utility Fee.

Unfinished Business:

Review of City's Wellness program – subject to adoption.

Review Ordinance No. 99-675-O regarding firearms in Municipal Court

TAP – Engineering Service Agreement Update

New Business:

Adopt resolution to transfer funds.

(Complete agenda packets available for review at City Hall, 204 East Main Street)




Protect yourself this holiday season!

The holidays are approaching and the Talent Police Department would like to remind citizens to use caution when driving, shopping, or even vacationing away from home. With the increased activity and commitments this time of year, many folks may be thinking of more than just being safe. This is why the Police Department would like to remind you to protect yourself, your home, and your valuables. When shopping, cover items left in your vehicle from prior purchases and hang onto your purse or wallet - never leave valuables in a shopping cart while shopping. When walking to or from your car, be aware of your surroundings. Be alert and look around – do not give anyone an opportunity to follow you. Try to park under or near street lamps and avoid parking in poorly lit areas. Unfortunately, there are a “select few” who take advantage of holiday shoppers.

When leaving your home for any reason, make it look like someone is still inside – leave on a few lights or maybe even a television or radio. If you’re going on vacation or leaving for an extended period of time, tell a trusted neighbor when you will be gone and when you will return. Be suspicious! If someone or some thing doesn’t look right to you, call the police department, 535-1253 or in an emergency call 911. They will check it out – that’s what they’re here for. As the old saying goes, “it’s better to be safe than sorry.” Let’s work together this holiday season to make this a safe time of year for everyone.

From the men and women at the Talent Police Department, “*Have a safe and joyous holiday season!*”



CHRISTMAS TREES FOR PARKS

This year consider buying a live Christmas tree and donating it to the Talent Parks and Recreation Commission after the holidays. Both Chuck Roberts Park and Lynn Newbry Park have some good spots for evergreens. Contact Matt Mattia at 535-1566 if you want to donate a live tree.

Show your support and win cool prizes!

Raffle tickets are now on sale to win an awesome skateboard, a totally cool helmet, and some heavy, duty knee pads. Now this skateboard isn’t just any old skateboard – it’s a Valley, Black Label with grind king trucks, spit fire wheels and china bone bearings! The helmet is a DSG flaming skate helmet and the knee pads have a skid surface to keep you going even when you’re down. All items are “in” with the pros and they’re on display at City Hall. Tickets are \$3 each or 2 for \$5, and all proceeds benefit the Downtown Park project. You can get your tickets at City Hall or at the Talent Boys and Girls Club. Three winners will be drawn on Superbowl Sunday, January 30, 2000. You need not be present to win.

