

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

October 11, 2000

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
Vol. 3 No. 19

Chuck Roberts Playground needs your help!

The playground equipment for Chuck Roberts Park is scheduled for installation on **October 18 and 19, 2000**. Representatives will be in Talent on those two days leading crews through the assembly and installation phases. There will be four shifts of volunteers: two on Wednesday and two on Thursday. The morning shift is from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the afternoon shift is from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Anyone with some construction experience can be an asset as supervisors could get spread thin. If you can work a shift on either day or both, please contact Allison Zigich at City Hall, 535-1566. Food and refreshments will be provided for all shifts. Although it would be nice for kids to help, for safety reasons, it is best for school-aged children to wait until the playground is complete.

School Zone Safety

As we head into cooler and wetter weather, the Talent Police Department would like to remind drivers of a few safety tips. Police Chief Kammel suggests, "On school days, when it is foggy or visibility is low, we ask that you please drive with your lights on. Drive with caution if the roads are slick and watch for small children. Please obey the speed limit, even if it means leaving your home a few minutes early. We also ask that children use only marked crosswalks when crossing the street. Our primary concern is public safety, and by obeying the law and suggested warnings, we are trying to make school zones safe for everyone."

Skateboard with the pros!

The Real Amateurs Skateboard Contest Circuit will be stopping here in Talent on Sunday, October 29, 2000. This is your chance to skate with the pros! Pro boarders from Think, Consolidated, 151, and more will be "tearin' it up" at the Downtown Park.

There will be a contest for locals with registration beginning at 12:30 p.m. The Contest Circuit will be continuing north to include Newburg, Lincoln City and Portland. Mark your calendars for their stop in Talent and don't miss your chance to show off!

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Improving your home's heating and cooling

Before considering an upgrade to a new, more efficient heating or cooling system, there are many things you can do to make sure you're getting the most out of your current system. In fact, insulating and weatherizing to "tighten up" your home is often the best way to reduce energy use – and costs.

Because heating and cooling make up of about 60% of your total energy bill, insulating against energy loss is one of the first, and most practical, things you can do to

Join in ACCESS 's "Harvest of Food"

October 9 – 20, 2000

ACCESS, Inc. has announced that their food pantries in the valley are running low. They help over 1500 families a month with an emergency food box, but supplies are dwindling. In response to the shortage, they have asked communities to gather their non-perishable food items and contribute to local food barrels. For your convenience, we have a food barrel right here in Talent at City Hall, 204 East Main Street. Feel free to bring in your donation between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

maximize your home's heating and cooling efficiency.

In addition to reducing waste, proper insulation increases comfort levels by reducing drafts and keeping temperatures more constant throughout your home.

Best of all, insulation pays for itself through energy savings and lower bills.

In addition to adequate insulation, air leaks are among the largest sources of energy loss in many homes. It pays to find and seal leaks with caulking and weatherstripping.

How and Where to Check for Air Leaks

It's fairly easy to check your home for hidden air leaks by using a damp hand to detect air movement. You can actually increase air infiltration by closing all doors, windows and

fireplace flues and turning off all ventilating fans, making air leaks easier to locate. The most common places where leaks occur are: fireplace dampers; chimney penetrations through

insulated ceilings and exterior walls; wiring penetrations through floors, ceilings and walls;

recessed lighting and ceiling fans; around doors and windows; attic access hatches; plumbing penetrations through insulated floors and ceilings; electric outlets and switches (especially on exterior walls), and along sill plates and band joists at the tops of foundation walls.

How to Seal Air Leaks

The best way to fix an air leak depends on its size and location. Caulk works best for gaps less than 1/4". Look for caulks that will remain flexible over a 20-year period. If the caulking will be visible, choose a colored or paintable variety.

Expanding foam sealants are excellent for sealing larger cracks and holes shielded from sunlight and moisture. Backer rod and crack filler is a flexible foam material sold in long coils, with diameters ranging from 1/4" to 12". It can be used to seal large cracks or provide backing in deep cracks to be sealed with standard caulking.

For larger openings such as plumbing chases and attic-hatch covers, use rubber, plastic, rigid foam insulation or expanded foam to stop air leaks. Your local hardware or home

improvement store should have a variety of insulation materials to choose from.

Remember, do not use plastic in places where high temperatures may occur.

Window and Door Leaks

Non-perishable food items include: canned meats and fish (tuna, chicken, turkey, Spam), pasta (spaghetti, egg noodles, macaroni), cereals (oatmeal, unsweetened dry cereals), soups (all kinds and cream soups for cooking), milk (powdered, evaporated), dinners (chili, macaroni and cheese, stew, ravioli, spaghetti), beans (dry or canned), rice (brown or white, regular or instant), and canned tomato products. Items also being accepted are household products, hygiene products, and disposable diapers.

Are you moving?

If you are a water customer in Talent and are planning to move, please make sure we have your correct forwarding address. If you have a credit balance on your account, we want to make sure you receive your refund check.

The Post Office returns many "undeliverable" checks to the City.

To ensure you receive *your* check, please supply us with your correct forwarding information.

City Council Agenda Items

October 18, 2000 – 6:45 p.m.

New Business:

Resolution designating representatives from the City of Talent to participate in the Bear Creek Regional Problem Solving Process.

Resolution of the City of Talent acting as member of the Policy Committee of the greater Bear Creek Area Regional Problem Solving (RPS) process affirming policies and procedures relating to RPS for the City of Talent.

Resolution providing for the issuance and sale of a City of Talent, Jackson County, Oregon Water Revenue Bond in the partial sum of \$4,141,000, to the United States of America, acting through the Rural Utilities Service, for the purpose of providing a portion of the costs of additions, replacements, expansions, or improvements, to the City of Talent's water system and all equipment and appurtenances necessary, useful, or convenient thereto; providing for the form and term of said bond and authorizing the payment of same.

Intergovernmental agreement between the cities of Talent, Ashland, and Phoenix

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

Replacing older, worn-out windows and doors with newer, tighter, more efficient models can virtually eliminate air leaks. Weatherstripping the windows is another solution, but requires professional installation help to achieve efficiencies.

(Information in this article comes from Improving Your Home's Heating and Cooling, a booklet provided by Pacific Power)