

# THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

August 27, 2003

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.  
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## Planning for a New City Hall

The Talent City Council will again discuss Civic Center Planning at their first meeting in September (September 3, 2003). They will review a report based on information from the charrette that includes a concept of where various City facilities, including a new City Hall, will be located. The Civic Center Planning Committee has reviewed the report and will be making recommendations to the City Council to authorize funding to develop more detailed plans that can be used in determining the costs involved, whether the project should be phased, and what it would look like. Once this work is done the Committee can determine the best way for the City to fund a project or projects.

## Front Street Design Concept

Front Street property owners and other interested citizens met with the Urban Renewal Agency on August 19th to hear about a proposed design concept for Front Street. Those in attendance gave their approval to the design concept, and identified three key issues to incorporate into the design: improved drainage, parking bays for visitors, and fewer speeding cars.

For detailed information, contact URA Executive Director Marla Cates at 535-6170 or e-mail [urbanrenewal@cityoftalent.org](mailto:urbanrenewal@cityoftalent.org).

## Status of the Highway 99 Project

The engineers hired by the Oregon Department of Transportation to develop plans for the reconstruction of Highway 99 from Colver to Rapp Road are working to better define the project since their initial estimates are higher than what had originally been budgeted by the state to pay for this work. Due to these funding problems ODOT is looking for other sources of funding as well as evaluating what aspects of the project can be reduced or done in a different way to achieve some of the original goals of the Council. The importance of this project has become more apparent by the number of proposed housing developments now before the Planning Commission for approval. To safely manage the increased traffic, these developments are dependent on the improvements, particularly at the Rapp Road intersection with Highway 99. Traffic engineers rate highway intersections just as teachers grade their students (A is excellent, F is failure). Rapp Road without the improvements proposed in the Highway 99 project would be at "F" by the year 2006.

## 30th Annual Talent Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, September 13th in the downtown area of Talent. The Lions will be hosting a pancake breakfast starting at 7 a.m. in the Community Center. There will be a parade at 10 a.m. followed by live entertainment in Library Park. Due to construction on Main Street, the parade will be taking a slightly different route this year. It will still begin at the Elementary School, but instead of heading down Main Street, it will proceed down Wagner Street between Talent Elementary and the Boys & Girls Club. It will then make its way left onto Talent Avenue and disband in the church parking lot

## How to Check for a Water Leak

To check for a water leak you'll first need to locate your water meter. If you do not know where to find your water meter and need assistance, please call our Public Works Department at 535-3828. Once you've found your meter, take a reading from the numbers on the dial and then do not use any water for an hour. At the end of the hour, take another reading to see if the numbers have changed. If they have changed, even slightly, this would indicate there is water going through your meter and you have a leak...somewhere. You may not see the leak. It might not be a visible leak (i.e.: a leak in

across from New Street.

We'll have craft and vendor booths lined up along "I" Street and **LIVE** entertainment in Library Park. The line-up will be as follows:

**10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.—Kaikamahine O'lesu Hula Dancers**

**11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.—Science Works demonstration of Combustion and Bubbles**

**12 p.m. to 1 p.m.—Zion Train, Pop, Rock, Reggae band**

**1 p.m. to 1:30 pm.—Latin Reflections, South Medford High School dance group**

**1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.—“Just in Time,” Women's barbershop quartette**

**2 p.m. to 4 p.m.—Old Smokeys, country western music for all ages**

For more Harvest Festival information, please contact Allison at City Hall at 535-1566.

the sprinkler system or a slow leak being evaporated by the afternoon sun), but nonetheless the water is going through your meter.

The toilet is the first place to check for a leak. There are toilet-testing kits available at City Hall or you can do it yourself. Simply put a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank and, without flushing, wait to see if color appears in the bowl. If color **does** appear in the bowl, you have found your leak. Another common source of leaks is sprinkler systems and even these are sometimes only apparent when the system is operating.

Water leaks can be costly. Any plumber with leak detecting equipment can assist you in the locating and repairing leaks.

## Neighborhood Challenge

The neighborhood of First Street would like to challenge other Talent neighborhoods to have an entry in the parade at the Talent Harvest Festival. Apparently, the First Street neighborhood has been talking about participating in the Harvest Festival for quite some time. This year they wish to show their neighborhood spirit by having an entry in the parade, and they are asking other neighborhoods to get creative and join in. They're looking for some competition and we know in the town of **Talent** that it's out there!

This is truly the start of something fun for years to come. If your neighborhood would like to have an entry in the parade, please contact Allison at City Hall at 535-1566.

## Cop Talk By Officer Shane Wilson

With school starting soon, I thought we could talk about common traffic violations for this time of year. First, I'd like to remind drivers to **SLOW** down and obey the posted speed in and around school zones. When children are present, you must obey the *lower* posted speed limit at all times. And remember, traffic fines double in school zones. The second reminder I'd like to pass along is **not** to pass a school bus with its red lights on. Even on Highway 99, traffic in **BOTH** directions must come to a stop when a bus flashes its red lights. Not stopping when a bus flashes its red lights is in violation of ORS 811.155 and carries a \$295 fine.

Please slow down, be cautious, and let our children get to and from school safely. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## Is Your House Number Properly Displayed?

It is important to have your house number properly displayed and visible from the street, especially in the event of an emergency when seconds count. City Ordinance No. 389 section 2 (5) addresses how to properly display assigned house numbers. It states, "house numbers must be placed on either side of the main entrance, upon the porch or piazza, or on the gateway,

## Yard Sale Signs

Talent's Code Enforcement Officer Frank Falsarella would like to remind citizens about the regulations for posting yard sale or garage sale signs in Talent. City Ordinance No. 523 Section 84 prohibits the affixing of posters or advertisements to City property including nailing them to trees, taping them to light posts, or using a sandwich board for the purpose of directing traffic. Additionally,

or in such manner that the same may be plainly seen from the street in front of the property and will not be hidden from view from the street in front of the property by any trees, bushes, shrubs, or other obstructions. The numbers shall be of such size and color that they will be easily read from the street by a person with reasonable vision."

To determine whether the number on your home is clearly visible, step onto the road (when there are no cars) and see if you can read your address from afar. If so, you're in good shape. If not, it is in your own interest to make changes.

if signs are posted lawfully to private property (with the permission of the property owner), then all signs must be removed within 24 hours after the event for which the notice was posted.

Violators of this ordinance could be cited into Talent's municipal court.

### **Place Your Bid on Surplus Items**

Talent's Public Works Department is having a bid sale on some of their surplus equipment. Items for sale are posted at City Hall, 204 East Main Street, and can be viewed at 200 Suncrest Road. All sealed bids must be in by 3 p.m. on September 8, 2003.