

# THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

April 28, 2004

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.

Vol. 7 No. 4

## Talent's a Tree City USA

At a recent Arbor Day celebration in Chuck Roberts Park, the City of Talent was recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for the *fourth* year in a row! Theresa Vonn with the Oregon Department of Forestry presented Mayor Telerski with a flag and a 2004 Tree City USA designation to be displayed on the City's plaque.

A tree planting ceremony followed the celebration as Public Works crews gave home to **seven** new trees in Chuck Roberts Park—2 Red Leaf Maples and 5 Redwoods. They are in the beginning stages of growth but will look nice as they continue to develop over the years.

## Civic Center Discussion on RVTV

On the evening of April 26, 2004, City officials hosted a television show on RVTV to discuss Talent's new Civic Center complex. The primary focus of the forum was to present the public with the refined plans for the new Civic Center. For the past two years, the City has been in the planning stages of this new complex. At their meeting on April 21st, City Councilors were presented with good cost estimates of what the City could expect to pay for this project.

If you did not have an opportunity to see this program, don't worry. You can watch reruns of the show throughout the month of May.

Check out times and dates at

[www.roguetv.org](http://www.roguetv.org).

## We're Doing Our Best

In an effort to keep our citizens informed, we have begun mailing our newsletter to every resident in the City of Talent. Please understand that although our newsletter may be ready to print, we are at the mercy of a printing company to do the mailing. While our goal is that you receive your newsletter by the first of each month, there are some circumstances over which we have no control. Please accept our apologies in advance should you not receive your newsletter around the first of the month.

## Thank You Talent Club and Chuck Roberts

The City would like to send **huge** thanks to Willie Brickner of the Talent Club and Chuck Roberts for making generous contributions to the parks in our community.

After a successful fundraiser, we can honestly say that people in this town care about the future of our parks and are making contributions to help preserve their beauty. Thank you again Willie and Chuck—your donations are greatly appreciated.

## Cop Talk By Guest Contributor Chief Rector

Officer Shane Wilson is still recuperating from surgery. He is doing well and already chomping at the bit to return to work! In his absence, it is my turn again to share some information with the good people of Talent. This month I'd like to address a continuing problem of disturbing behavior occurring in the area of the post office. Since February there have been a series of incidents of vandalism, criminal mischief, and reckless burning/arson on post office property. There has been a fire inside a dumpster, tampering with mail vehicles parked in the post office parking lot and the "decorating" of the post

## Planning Department News

### Applications Pending:

The planning department has begun the process for rezoning several properties along Highway 99 and Valley View Road from Retail-Wholesale Commercial (C3) to Central Business District Commercial (C2). The goal is to foster a pedestrian-friendly commercial environment that also provides greater opportunities for mixed-use development. The Planning Commission also feels the area would be better served by

office building with toilet paper. In April, a bush was lit on fire and a vehicle window was smashed in the parking lot. All of this behavior is criminal in nature and disturbing.

The reckless setting of fires and damaging/tampering with vehicles endangers public safety, creates alarm and fear, and requires resources, time and money to address. Every community has its share of vandalism and criminal mischief behavior and Talent has had its share, with much of it occurring on public property. The City of Talent was the victim of over 20 incidents of vandalism in the past year resulting in over \$5000 in damage. While many of these cases were investigated and responsible persons were identified, we are still looking for leads in the case of the recent post office incidents.

If you have any information that could help us in our investigation, we'd appreciate a call at 535-1253, or stop by the Police Department at 604 Talent Avenue. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you can still call us at the above number or mail us at Talent Police Department, Attn: Chief Rector, PO Box 445, Talent, OR 97540. We look forward to working with you to solve these crimes and to minimize the recurrence of this kind of behavior in our community.

## **Enhancement Activities in May**

The month of May is full of opportunities for you to become involved with the enhancement of Talent, starting on Saturday, May 8th with the city-wide yard sale.

It's a perfect time to do some Spring cleaning of your own while meeting new people. Maps of yard sales in Talent and Phoenix will be available in front of the Talent library the morning of May 8th. If you would like to have your sale listed on the map of Talent, the cost is \$3 and we would need your information by 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 5th.

Enhancement activities continue on Saturday, May 15th with the Green-Up and Clean-Up of Talent neighborhoods and businesses. There are 3 times for you to get involved (8 a.m., 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.) and all groups will be meeting in the far corner of Tark's parking lot. Greg Goebelt, Chair of the Enhancement Committee, will be leading the first group of citizens at 8 a.m. All shifts will be provided with trash bags and gloves as well as hot coffee and doughnuts. There will be class on composting beginning at 10 a.m. in front of Talent's Community Center and a free brush and lumber drop-off box

greater retail and office use opportunities rather than some common C3 uses, such as mini-storage or automobile sales lots. The first Planning Commission public hearing on this process is set for May 27, 2004.

Buntin Construction has submitted an application for a 50-lot subdivision in a 12.13-acre area between Talent Avenue and the highway and between Arnos and Creel. The site is accessible by two ends of Lithia Way—one end comes off of Lani Way, the other comes off of Creel Road. The site contains a wetland in the northernmost corner, which the developer has designed around and will be preserving as neighborhood open space. The property is zoned Low-Density Residential (R1-8), which would allow up to 52 lots.

Sharon Case has submitted a Conditional Use application to establish a preschool for up to 10 children in a R1-8 zone at 404 Creel Road. The public hearing is set for May 13, 2004.

For more information, please call City Planner John Adam at 535-7401 or e-mail [john@cityoftalent.org](mailto:john@cityoftalent.org).

## **Front Street Improvements**

By early May, Talent's Urban Renewal Agency expects to have selected a contractor for the Front Street Improvement Project. Although a starting date has not yet been set, it is anticipated work on the project will begin before mid-June.

The Front Street Improvement Project will be constructed in two phases. Phase I will consist of street reconstruction, storm drains and utility work and Phase II will consist of the landscaping. In response to citizen requests, special attention has been paid to managing drainage and traffic speed.

For more information on this project, please contact Urban Renewal Executive Director Marla Cates, 535-6170 or e-mail at [ura.talent@charter.net](mailto:ura.talent@charter.net).

# *Down by the Riverside*

will be located in the parking lot of Talent's old fire hall.

For more information on how you can get involved, contact Greg Goebelt at 840-5966.

Join the City of Talent for the annual *Down by the Riverside* clean-up in Lynn Newbry Park on Saturday, May 22nd starting at 9 a.m. The City will supply gloves and bags and coffee & doughnuts. Bring the family and help keep Talent beautiful. *Down by the Riverside* is sponsored by SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism).

## *Rapp Road Reconstruction*

Jackson County has completed about 75% of the design plans for the reconstruction of Rapp Road. Reconstruction includes upgrading the waterline from a 6" pipe to a 12" pipe, widening the road to have two 16-foot travel lanes (including bike lanes), installing curb and gutter on both sides, enclosing the roadside ditches with storm drains, and installing a sidewalk on the northwest side of the street. Construction completed this summer will end about 100 feet from the Highway 99 intersection, This section will be completed as part of the Highway 99 reconstruction project in 2005.

Residents with questions regarding Rapp Road reconstruction can call our Public Works/Engineering Department at 535-5531.

## **Urban Renewal to Retrofit Old Street Lights**

You may have noticed that a few old fashioned street lights in Downtown Talent are missing their fixtures, that's because the Urban Renewal Agency is upgrading the old lights to a new "roof optic" light source that will eliminate light pollution and accommodate a lower wattage bulb. The new light source will produce the same type of light recently installed on Main Street, which eliminates glare while maintaining pedestrian safety.

Currently, 24 light fixtures are undergoing retrofitting. Once they are re-installed, the remaining light fixtures will be turned off temporarily as an experiment. This will help the Agency determine if all fixtures need to be retrofitted, or if it would be beneficial to eliminate some poles and keep them for future projects.

For more information, contact Urban Renewal Executive Director Marla Cates, 535-6170 or e-mail at [ura.talent@charter.net](mailto:ura.talent@charter.net)