



# THE FLASH

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

# City of Talent

June 29 ,2006 /Volume 9, Issue 6

## OPENINGS ON CITY COUNCIL

Now may be a good time for you to get involved in City Government. There are a number of positions on the Talent City Council that will be open for election in November 2006. The Mayor's position and 5 of the 6 council seats are open. This is an opportunity for registered voters in Talent to participate in their government and help shape Talent's future. The Council meets twice a month on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and there are also committee responsibilities.

While normally the term of office for a city councilor is 4 (four) years, due to an odd set of circumstances there are 3-4 year terms, 1-3 year term and 1-2 year term openings. The Mayor's position is a 4- year term.

To be a candidate you must be a registered voter in the City of Talent and be willing

to make the meeting commitment. There are several forms that need to be filled out to file for a petition and these can be obtained from the City Recorder at City Hall. A packet of information for a prospective candidate has been prepared to provide all the election information as well as details of the responsibilities of the position.

Petitions can be filed between July 11<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup> so it is not too soon to stop by and get more information.

## AUGUST 12, 2006 CITYWIDE PICNIC

The Parks and Recreation Commission is busy planning for a citywide picnic to be held at Chuck Roberts Park from 4-8 p.m. on Saturday, August 12, 2006. In addition to good food the Commission has arranged for some live musical entertainment. Come out and plan to spend the evening with your neighbors and enjoy the community atmosphere at the Park.

## HARVEST FESTIVAL 2006

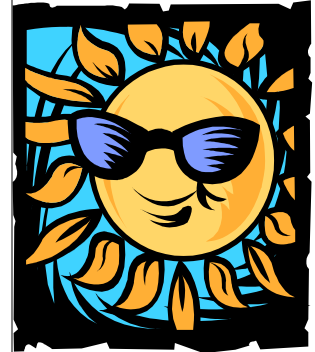
This year's Talent Harvest Festival is Saturday, September 9th, and is shaping up to be a big event.

The festival will be held in a new location this year, it will be in Old Town Park at the corner of Main and John Street, part of the Skate park.

It's not too late to start planning that float for your entry in the parade or to sign up for a booth or the 5k/10k run. This year's live entertainment will include Science Works, Clowning by Jill Fjeldheim, Snow Mountain Dancers and games for the kids in the Kids Zone, and more...

In the afternoon, don't miss this year's music in the park by Jes' Groove, Inger Jorgensen and Bohemian Soul and the Rogue Suspects.

For more information, or to get applications for the 5K/10K run, parade or a booth contact Cheryl Nicolay at 535-1566.



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## City Ordinances Adopted to Improve Air Quality

City Council has recently adopted two Ordinances that are intended to help in improving the air quality in our City. Ordinance #804 requires that when a property is sold that any uncertified woodstoves or fireplace inserts within a structure will have to be replaced as part of the sale either by the seller or buyer. There are provisions in the Ordinance to assure the City that this action has taken place.

Ordinance #805 prohibits any open burning within the City limits. The only exceptions would be road flares, smudge pots, and similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames or recreational fires. Agricultural operations are also exempted. The biggest impact to citizens would be to those who currently burn brush or tree debris. Arrangements can be made with Ashland Sanitary to have green waste curbside pickup or there is the option for an individual to take the debris to the transfer station. The City and Fire District #5 both sponsor one day drop off of such wastes at various times during the year.

These changes have been necessary in anticipation of the adoption of new federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations that will raise the air quality standards nationwide. It is anticipated that once these standards are adopted all of the Rogue Valley would have difficulty in meeting them without taking such actions as the City has done with the adoption of these ordinances.

## RECREATION PROGRAMS

There has been a great response to the recreation offerings that the City has made for the summer months. Due to the generosity of the instructors we have been able to make them available at very affordable prices. Currently the tennis classes have been filled, but we are hoping to add another class. There are still openings in: Babysitting (July 14 & August 11th), First Aid (August 12), Flag Football (July 10-20), Fuego Soccer (July 3-6), Skateboarding (July 27-31), Golf (July 10, 17, 24, 31), Pottery & Yoga (August 14-17) and Swimming (July 17). Registration forms are on the City's website and also at City Hall.



## PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

The consultants working with the Parks and Recreation Commission have presented a first draft of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Once there is a final draft it will be placed on the City's website for your review. It is expected that the Commission will hold another meeting to review the final draft before sending it to the City Council for final review and adoption.

The Plan is very comprehensive and includes detailed information demographic information about the city as well as details on all the parks. Recommendations for future improvements have been made through a developed Capital Improvement Program. It also includes recommendation on plans for the new Suncrest Park (formally known as Whackers Hollow) and the DeYoung parcel.

## ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The paving of Highway 99 should be complete by the first week of July. Once this is complete remaining on the project will be the installation of sidewalks, medians, and traffic signals, and landscaping. These activities should be less disruptive to the traveling public.

Wagner Street Reconstruction is well underway and the objective is to have this complete before school starts in September. Since this will be the City's parade route for the Harvest Festival there is the added incentive to move this project along. While the road is posted as closed during the construction, residents do have access and most of the street can be accessed through the side streets of Madison, First, and Second. Access to the Arbor House will also be available.

Rapp Road construction began and then stopped due to some utility lines needing to be moved and also the anticipated paving of Highway 99. It is hoped that this project will begin in earnest once the paving has been complete.

Thank you for all your cooperation with the construction taking place.



## COP TALK

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By Officer Shane Wilson

As we know every year the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and festivities bring with it fire danger. At this time of year with the heat and dry weather fire danger is high. Here is a reminder of some safety tips and what is legal and what is not.

Legal and non-legal fireworks. A good rule of thumb is pretty much most items purchased at a retail fireworks stand are probably legal. To give you an example, most cone fountains, sparklers, snakes, base fountains, and ground flowers are legal.

Examples of illegal fireworks are fireworks that explode, eject balls of fire, fly into the air, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches into the air.

Explosive devices would be considered things like firecrackers, M80, M100, Cherry Bombs, and Ash Cans. These are illegal. If you are caught with illegal fireworks, the fireworks will be confiscated and you will be subject to a fine.

Some safety tips to keep in mind: Purchase your fireworks from an Oregon licensed firework stand. Don't point or throw fireworks at people, animals, or cars or buildings. Only use with adult

supervision. Have a bucket or hose ready for discarded and spent fireworks or emergencies. **Never** alter or make your own fireworks. Use only outdoors and only light one at a time.

Every year emergency responders respond to many calls of misuse, illegal fireworks, injuries, and carelessly started fires. We want everyone to have a good time, but please be safe. We will be actively looking for misuse and illegal fireworks. Should an accident occur, call 911 immediately.

Have a good and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Regional Problem Solving

Regional Problem Solving (RPS) is a collective, regional process for identifying *future growth areas* (FGA) that will be eligible for designation as *urban reserve areas* (URA) that will, in turn, be eligible for eventual inclusion in cities' *urban growth boundaries* (UGB). That final step is called a *UGB Amendment*, which typically takes at least two years to complete (although some cities in Oregon have been through six- or seven-year-long UGB Amendments). [for more information on the "Urban Reserve Rule," check out OAR 660-021 at [www.arcweb.sos.state.or.us](http://www.arcweb.sos.state.or.us). Click on the link called "Administrative Rules"]. One reason for having RPS is to ferret out surprises now that may slow down the amendment

process later; another reason is to plan for growth regionally. The RPS process has been going on for several years, but a focused effort is underway to produce an agreement document and a regional plan by the end of the year. That plan will not enable the cities to *automatically* amend their UGBs—each city still has to demonstrate (1) that there is a need for land for residential, commercial, industrial or open space and (2) that the location is suitable and appropriate. [for more information on the RPS process, go to [www.rvcog.org](http://www.rvcog.org)].

### Planning Commission

On June 8 the Commission approved Shadowcreek Estates, an 8-lot subdivision off Talent Avenue and at the current stub of Joy Street. The Commission also considered a 4-lot townhouse

development on Suncrest Road, but tabled their decision pending information on several items.

Through July and into August the Commission will be considering changes to how Planned Unit Developments are done in Talent. The City hired a consultant to assemble the Commission's ideas and directives into a draft document. The goal is to make it easier and more desirable for applicants to come up with creative designs that bring a benefit to the community in exchange for higher densities or other incentives.

If you have a specific request or need more information, please feel free to contact Planning at 535-7401 or via e-mail at [john@cityoftalent.org](mailto:john@cityoftalent.org).

## URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

102 Home Street: After several months of restoring and rehabilitating a small historic house at 102 Home Street, the Talent Urban Renewal Agency has finally moved in. The new location is situated on the edge of the civic center campus, just behind the new County library and adjacent to the new City Hall site. The Agency will use the house as an office for the next several years, and will eventually turn over ownership to the City for residential, commercial, or public uses. In addition, the Agency is purchasing its electricity under Pacific Power's Blue Sky Program, which supports renewable energy resources. An open house will be planned once an accessible ramp is installed later this summer.

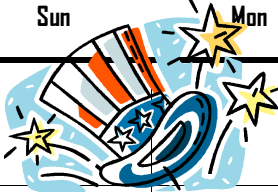
For more information, contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 535-6170.

## PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

The City of Talent has been installing new water lines and looping systems causing an increase in pressure/flow at various places throughout the system. While this is a good thing (creating better services for fire protection, etc.), you may notice a change in the appearance of the water from time to time over the next several weeks. Calcium or rust breaking loose from the water line may lodge in the screen attached to the faucet. The best remedy for this is to remove the screen and flush it under a stream of cold water.



# JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day (City Offices Closed)	5 City Council 6:30pm Comm. Hall	6	7	8
9	10 Municipal Court 3:00pm Comm. Hall	11 Arch. Review 7:00pm Comm. Hall	12 Parks 6:00pm Comm. Hall	13 Traffic 3:00pm Pub Wks Planning 6:30pm Comm. Hall	14	15 Arch Review Walk 9:00am TBD
16	17	18 Urban Renewal 6:00pm Comm. Hall	19 Chamber 8:30am TBD Safety 1:30pm C.H. City Council 6:30pm	20 Harvest Festival 3:30pm F.D. #5 Economic 4:30pm Comm. Hall	21	22
23	24 Municipal Court 6:00pm Comm. Hall	25	26	27 Planning 6:30pm Comm. Hall The "Flash"	28	29
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