



THE FLASH

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

City of Talent

December 27, 2007 / Volume 10, Issue 12

DISCARDED CHRISTMAS TREES

Now that it is time to take down the Christmas tree, recycling is a great way to dispose of it and save room at the landfill. Those who have large backyards may want to place it out there for the birds to nest. Others have the opportunity to make sure that it is recycled by placing it on the curb in front of your house on January 5, 2008 no later than 10:00 a.m. The trees will be taken to an area and chipped into mulch for reuse in gardens. The Talent Boy Scout Troop 535 will be by to pick it up sometime after 10 a.m. If you wish to do so they will accept donations for their other scouting programs at P.O. Box 898, Talent, Oregon 97540.

PAYMENT OF WATER BILLS

The US Postal Services has asked us to remind City residents that when you are making your water payments to the City by mail, you must use the City's Post Office Box Number – P.O. 445 or they will not deliver it to us. There are three ways to make your utility bill payments: 1) Mail it to us at P.O. Box 445, Talent, Oregon 97540; 2) Place it in the white drop off box located on the edge of the park area directly in front of City Hall; or, 3) Drop it off in person at City Hall between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

CITY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

As we begin 2008 we are looking into the future and know that Talent's 100th birthday celebration will take place in just 2 years. November 10, 2010 to be exact! The City Council is looking for individuals to serve on a "Celebration Committee" to begin the planning. It is possible to have events throughout

the year and therefore it is not too soon to begin the planning. If you are interested in being involved please contact the City Manager and let her know. The Mayor will appoint the Committee possibly as soon as early February. For those who have already done so, your names are on the list. Thank you for volunteering.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The City continues to look for volunteers to serve on the various Committees established by City Council. If you have time to serve please contact City Hall for a volunteer application or an application is available on the City website –

www.cityoftalent.org.

Planning Commission -

There is one vacancy. The Planning Commission meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays.

Parks Commission -

There is one vacancy. The Parks Commission meets once a month on the 2nd Wednesday.



Official
Newsletter of the
City of
Talent

110 East Main Street,
P.O. Box 445, Talent,
Oregon 97540

Edited by
Cheryl Nicolay

City Website:
www.cityoftalent.org
Telephone:
(541) 535-1566

E-mail:
cheryl@cityoftalent.org

Inside this issue:

Public Works Projects 2

Community Center Use 2

Successful Holiday Programs 2

Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety 2

COP Talk 2

Planning Dept News 3

More Planning News..... *Back Page*
Traffic Flow at the Post Office

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

The installation of the water line on Talent Avenue is nearly complete and Public Works employees are now connecting the individual water services to this new main line. Thank you for your patience during construction.

West/3rd & 4th Street Improvements –This project has been planned for several years and work will finally begin in late January as weather permits. Included in this project is the replacement of a water line on West, 3rd and 4th Street as well as road reconstruction and storm drain improvements. Due to the age and poor condition of the water line and the resulting leaks over the years it will be necessary to do some road reconstruction. The City has received eleven proposals from construction companies to do this work. With such a large number of bidders the bid prices have become very competitive and will allow the City to use some of the money set aside for this project on other City projects. The City Council has awarded the construction contract to KOGAP for \$316,342.75.

COMMUNITY CENTER USE

The City Council this past year has allowed for the expanded use by the public of the Community Center. While it continues to be used for all government meetings and Food & Friends it has been made available to the public at open times for private parties.

There are some regulations governing the use but a number of private parties have been held this past year. The City has recently acquired a tuned, useable piano through a generous contribution coordinated by Andrew Brock, the choir instructor at Talent Elementary. Arrangements can be made at City Hall if you are interested in making use of the Center for a group or private party.

SUCCESSFUL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Thank you all for your support of the City sponsored holiday programs. On December 6th the Community Center was filled with residents who came to share in the tree lighting, musical entertainment, food, and fellowship. Thanks to the newly formed Talent Elementary Choral group the building was filled with holiday song. This will definitely become an annual celebration according to former Mayor Marian Telerski who helped organize the event with help of Sharon Anderson and the Talent Garden Club.

With the help of staff from all City Departments, firemen from Fire District #5, and the generous contributions from many City residents, the City was able to help 7 Talent families totaling 40 people to have a memorable Christmas this year. Each year this program has grown but with your help this is the largest it has even been. Not only did each family member receive several individual gifts but food for holiday meals was contributed as well. The deliveries were made by the firemen in one of their District Fire trucks with Santa along for the ride.

Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety

Talent Police have received complaints from motorists about pedestrians walking about our streets wearing dark, non-reflective clothing, which makes it very hard to see them during hours of darkness. Bicyclists have been observed without required lighting and reflective equipment/clothing as well. As we are currently in the darkest months of the year, this is a big safety problem. Please make sure that you and your family members are visible by wearing light-colored and/or reflective clothing when walking about, and that bicyclists have required lighting front and rear, and also wear reflective clothing when biking. These simple steps can prevent tragedy from occurring.

For more information on pedestrian safety, check out this website:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/pedestrian.shtml>

For more information on bicyclist safety, check out this website: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/bicyclistsafety.shtml>

This month I'd like to discuss noise problems. Every month Talent PD officers respond to numerous noise complaints. These complaints often occur in the middle of the night when people are trying to sleep and unnecessary noise is obviously inappropriate and probably illegal. Below is language from our City ordinance that addresses these problems. Should you have a neighborhood noise problem and need police services to help fix it, contact Talent Police Department. An officer will respond as soon as possible. Should the problem persist, be sure to call back. Sometimes it takes several tries to get the problem fixed. For emergencies, call 911, for non-emergency police services 24 hours a day, call our Dispatch Center at 776-7206.

Ordinance #749 – Nuisances, Section 16. Noises – Unnecessary:

No person shall create, assist in creating, permit, continue or permit the continuance of any loud, disturbing or unnecessary noise. The following acts are declared to be violations of this section, but such enumerations shall not be deemed to be exclusive:

- (1) The keeping of any animal or fowl that, by frequent or loud continued noise, shall disturb the comfort and repose of any person in the vicinity.
- (2) The use of any automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle, any engine, stationary or moving instrument, device or things so out of repair, so loaded or operated in such manner as to create loud or unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling or other noises.
- (3) The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle on any street or public place, except as a necessary warning of danger to property or persons.
- (4) The use of any mechanical device operated by compressed air, steam or otherwise, unless the noise created thereby is effectively muffled.
- (5) The erection, including excavation, demolition, alteration or repair of any building, other than **between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.**, except upon special permit granted by the city council.
- (6) The use of any gong or siren upon any vehicle other than police, fire or other emergency vehicle.
- (7) The operation of any gasoline engine without having the same equipped with and using thereupon a muffler.
- (8) The use of a "muffler cutout" on any motor vehicle upon any street.
- (9) The use or operation of any automatic or electric piano, phonograph, radio, loudspeaker or any sound-amplifying device so loudly as to disturb the persons in the vicinity thereof, or in such manner as renders the same a public nuisance; provided, however, that upon application to the city council permits may be granted to responsible persons or organizations to broadcast programs of music, news, speeches or general entertainment or advertisement.
- (10) The conducting, operating or maintaining of any garage within 100 feet of any building used as a private residence, apartment house, rooming house or hotel in such manner as to cause loud or offensive noises to be emitted there from **between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Flooding: Improving Storm Drainage

The City has developed and adopted standards for better storm drainage and other measures to limit flood risks. As a result of a small utility fee, the Public Works Department has made a commitment to regular maintenance of city storm drains. Citizens can help by preventing sediment and debris from being

carried off of their property into city ditches or catch basins, and by reporting any accumulation of debris or other obstructions at catch basins to the Public Works Department at 535-3828. Remember: all storm drains connect to natural streams. Never dispose of any litter or chemicals onto soil or into a storm drain. If you see anyone causing anything other than normal runoff to flow into

storm drains, or discarding debris in a stream, please talk to them about finding a better disposal method. If the practice continues, please notify 535-7401.

Flood Insurance is a Smart Investment

Flood insurance is *not* included in
(continued on back page)

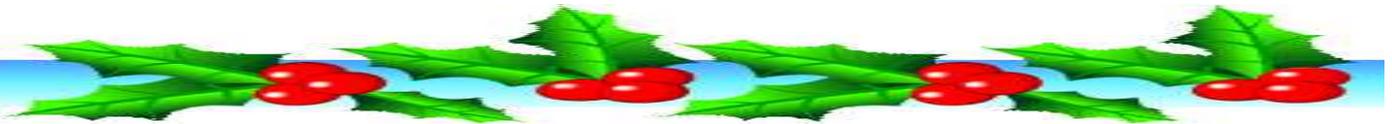
PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS (continued from page 3)

The State of Oregon does *not* have an emergency relief fund to help homeowners recover from natural disasters. Federal disaster relief is only available in a federally declared disaster and only about 10% of floods are declared as federal disasters. Federal disaster relief is in the form of a loan and it must be paid back. The disaster repair loan *monthly* payment for \$100,000 in damage would be more than the *annual* flood insurance premium for a \$100,000 home. The City of Talent has over 200 homes located in the floodplains of Wagner and Bear Creeks, but very few of them are covered by flood insurance. About twenty homes were damaged or threatened by the 1997 flood, but only two of them had flood insurance coverage to repair the damage. National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) coverage is available through your homeowner’s insurance carrier. Anyone in Talent or Jackson County can purchase flood insurance, including renters and commercial properties. Rates are based upon the relative risk of damage, so rates outside of the 100-year floodplain are lowest. See more information on the Planning Department’s section of the City website. Click on City Departments link on the homepage, then Planning, then Flood Information.

Traffic Flow at the Post Office

The City’s Traffic Safety and Transportation Commission has recommended a way to improve traffic safety for vehicles and pedestrians at the Post Office. Frequent vehicle conflicts at the Wagner Street entrance have resulted in a recommendation to allow only exits from the current two-way entry/exit. The other two entrances (the drop box entrance off Wagner and the entry/exit off John Street) will remain essentially as they are now.

The City Council has endorsed this concept. The City will be working with the Post Office this spring to accomplish the changes at the entrances and the changes to the parking lot traffic flow.



**J
A
N
U
A
R
Y

2
0
2
0**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Holiday</i> City Offices Closed	2 City Council 6:30pm Comm. Center	3	4	5
6	7 Court 3:00pm Comm. Center	8 Traffic 3:00pm <u>Public Works</u> Architectural Review 6:00pm	9 Parks Commission 6:00pm Comm. Center	10 Planning Sub-Committee 6:00pm City Hall	11	12
13	14 Together for Tal- ent 4:00pm City Hall	15 Urban Renewal 6:00pm 102 Home St.	16 Safety Comm. 1:30pm City Council 6:30pm Comm. Center	17	18	19 Architectural Review Walk- Around 9:00am
20	21 <i>Holiday</i> City Offices Closed	22 Court 3:00pm Comm. Center	23	24 Planning Commission 6:30pm Comm. Center	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 The "Flash" Dis- tributed		