



THE FLASH City of Talent

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

The Flash, which occupies the following two pages, is a publication of the City of Talent and is editorially separate from the rest of the Talent News and Review. All content and editorial choices contained in the rest of the paper are the sole responsibility of the TNR and are not in any way associated with the City of Talent. -JG

New City Manager



Talent's new city manager, Jay Henry

An Introduction...

Hello, my name is Jay Henry and I'm your new city manager. I've worked for local government in various positions for nine years and have a civil engineering degree from OIT and an MBA from Marylhurst University. I live in Talent with my wife, Evelyn, who works as a physician for Providence Medical Group in Central Point.

Talent is a real gem of a place- A wonderful, kind city with a real sense of community and togetherness. I am very impressed with the intelligence and ability of our City Council, Mayor and city staff and it is an incredibly exciting time to be a part of this community. My wife and I are proud to call Talent "home" and we are both very committed and passionate about serving Talent and the Rogue Valley.

I look forward to hearing from you; my office phone number is 535-1566, but probably the best way to reach me is through my e-mail: jay@cityoftalent.org

PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Development Code Update: Master-Planned Development

After nearly a year and a half of meetings and deliberation before the City Council, the Plan-ning Commission, and Planning Commission Master-Planned Development Revision Sub-committee, the Council has adopted new Master-Planned Development regulations (Zoning Code, Article 8-8).

From the August 2008 Planning Department Flash Article:

Essentially, the MPD chapter can be expressed as "flexibility anchored to a solid point." That point of solid-ity is the allowed residential density, which is expressed as dwellings per net acre. The flexibility comes from the wide range of house styles and lot sizes permitted.

For example, on a given acre let us assume the density is 6 dwelling units. The subdivider may divide the acre evenly into six 6,000-square-foot lots or into six 1,800-square-foot townhouse lots and about a half acre of leftover open space. The one number that does not change—no matter what the scenario—is the density: it will always be 6 dwelling units.

Copies of the newly adopted Master-Planned Development Code are available at City Hall and on the City's website <cityoftalent.org>.

Community Development Hours

Beginning November 19th the Community Development office (planning and building) will be limiting the hours we accept planning applications. Currently we accept building plans only between the hours of 8:30am and 12:30pm Monday through Friday. We are going to add Zoning Permits to those hours. If you can't make it in to the office during those hours we will be happy to make an appointment for a time that is more convenient for you. Plan-ning office phone number is 535-7401.

We are limiting the time we accept applications so that staff has uninterrupted time to process new applications and perform other processing duties. Community Development staff will still be available to answer questions via phone or e-mail during City Hall's regular business hours.

CITY OF TALENT RECEIVES TOP SAFETY AWARD FROM LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES

Cheryl Nicolay, Chairperson of the Safety Committee accepted the League of Oregon Cities and City County Insurance Services Gold Safety Award on behalf of the entire City Staff at the October 15th City Council meeting. The award was presented by City Manager, Jay Henry and recognized by the Mayor and City Council as a proud achievement that not only demonstrates the city's concern for the well-being of staff, but also helps keep the city's insurance rates lower. The Council congratulated all city employees for their high level of professionalism.

City Recorder Responsibilities Shift

The duties of City Recorder have now been assigned to Cheryl Nicolay. She will also serve as Executive Assistant to the City Manager. This new position comes on the recommendation of Jay Henry, City Manager and was endorsed by the Mayor and City Council. Cheryl's new assignment will be combined with the other hats she will continue to wear as the Editor to the Flash and Coordinator of the Harvest Festival.

Opportunity at City Hall

The City is looking for an Accounting Specialist - full time position. The Ac-

counting Specialist is a highly skilled position with the Finance Department that supports the Finance Director with the city's accounting operations, analytical and reporting functions, treasury audit, budget management and computer implementation. Performs basic and complex accounting tasks in the areas of fund accounting, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, general ledger, fixed assets, cash management, and budget preparation and forecasting. Person hired will be included in the Teamsters bargaining unit.

Qualifications include: Associate Degree in Business Administration or Accounting and progressively responsible accounting experience or a satisfactory combination of education and experience to meet the duties of the position. Experience in payroll, municipal fund accounting and/or Oregon Budget Law desired. Bi-lingual desirable. Closing date: Open Until Filled. Applications may be obtained at Talent City Hall, 110 E. Main, P.O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540 or by calling (541) 535-1566, or from the City of Talent website at <http://www.cityoftalent.org/>. FAX or electronic transfers not accepted. EOE.

Talent Avenue Enhancement Project Update

The Talent Avenue street improvement project is moving along as scheduled. The surface work to the street has begun and the paving is planned to be finished during early November as long as the weather cooperates. We would like to again thank the residents of Talent for working with the Contractor and the City to make things go as smoothly as they have. If there are any questions or concerns with the project please give us a call so we can help facilitate the completion of a successful project (535-5531).

COP TALK

By Chief Mike Moran

The citizens of Talent have recently lost the services of a great public servant to retirement. Kermit Cooper has retired from his Volunteer position with Talent PD.

Kermit and his wife, Mary, moved to Talent in 1991 from San Diego. He began as a volunteer with Oregon State Police in the Handicapped Parking Enforcement Program. Later the Jackson County Sheriff's Office took over this program and Kermit volunteered for 11 years for JCSO.

About three years ago Kermit spoke with our Code Enforcement Officer, Red Smith, and learned that there was a lot of work he could help us with at Talent PD. The duties that Kermit performed for us allowed our officers to stay focused on their police and code compliance duties.

Kermit gave a lot of each day to us in a split shift that most people would not be willing to donate. Each morning Kermit would take out the speed sign trailer and set it up in areas where we had speeding complaints. Then, later that afternoon, Kermit came back and brought it in for the night.

Meanwhile, Kermit would do what we call the courier run to Medford. Documents need to be transferred dai-

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ly from TPD to the District Attorney, the Courts, and other police agencies—all in Medford. This can be time consuming and whenever an officer does this they are not available for some time.

Kermit also performed other duties such as counting seat-belt violations for a study.

Thanks to Kermit's dedication we were able to keep officers and our code officer available to perform their duties.

The staff of Talent PD will miss Kermit and are very appreciative of the years of dedicated service he gave the City.

Chief Mike Moran

Volunteers Needed for Talent Police Department

The Talent Police Department needs volunteers to assist the Department Monday through Friday with courier duties. You are encouraged to apply for any or all days of the week. The hours would be approximately 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

If you have the time and energy to devote to the Talent Police Department, please request a Volunteer Application packet from the Talent Police Department at 604 Talent Avenue.

CRIME SCAM ALERT

This information came to Talent PD via Medford Police regarding a duo of con-artists operating in our area. It is not known if the suspects are still in the area. But I am sharing this information because it is a good reminder on how you can be victimized when you least expect it.

The suspects approached the victim at the Mall and gave her a sad story about having a bunch of medical bills and needing to sell 2 diamonds. The suspects claimed that the diamonds were worth \$14,000 each. The victim agreed to buy the diamonds for \$6000. The victim gave cash to the suspects. She then went to a jeweler to have the diamonds appraised. She found out that they were fakes and were worth about \$10. Grants Pass Police advised that the suspects did the same thing to another victim at their Wal-Mart store.

TREE LIGHTING PARTY DECEMBER 2nd AT 6:30 P.M.

Please join us on December 2nd at the Community Center to light the Christmas tree and a holiday celebration afterwards. Each year, in conjunction with the Ashland Community Hospital Light for Life program, the City lights the Christmas tree in front of the Community Center. Again this year we will have a holiday party afterwards with refreshments, performances by the Talent Elementary School Choir and fun for the whole family! Please plan on coming out and starting the holiday season together.

Water Department Survey Update

In accordance with State Regulations regarding cross connection/backflow prevention program, the City is required to maintain a list of properties where the potential of health hazard cross connections exist within the City's water system. In order to comply with this law, we began mailing cross connection control surveys to all households receiving city water last May. We appreciate everyone's cooperation that returned the survey within the requested 30 days of receipt. With this data Public Works compiled a cross connection inventory. Households with unprotected connections resulting in potential health hazards have been sent letters notifying them of the need to install a reduced pressure or backflow device. For more information please refer to City Ordinance number 649 and the State Health Department website Oregon.gov/DHS/ph/cross-connection/index.shtml. If you have any questions please call the Public Works Department at 535-3828. Below is a definition of what an installed backflow device will prevent:

Cross Connection is most likely to occur when you receive both City water and TID water. Any unprotected connection or another type of installation, which could possibly introduce any water, or substance other than potable water (treated drinking water) into the City's drinking water system.

CITY CENNTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Has begun meeting and planning for many special events in Talent. It is expected that there will be special events throughout the year 2009 and 2010, with a big celebration closer to the City's 100th birthday on November 2, 2010. We would like to have as many different interest groups as possible involved as well we would like to encourage any citizens who are artists or musicians who would have an interest in contributing to the planning for the best celebration ever come join us. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact City Hall at 535-1566 to find out more and to receive meeting dates and times. Please feel free to email Cheryl@cityoftalent.org.

Ashland Sanitary & Recycling Leaf Round- Up Programs

Ashland Sanitary and Recycling has Free Leaf Drop-Off two days only, Tuesday, November 4th and Tuesday, November 18th between 9am and 5pm, bring your leaves to the Ashland Recycling Center on Water Street in Ashland. If you are unable to drop

off your leaves, Ashland Recycling is offering a Leaf Bag Pickup Program during the months of November and December only and will provide curbside pickup provided you purchase Pre-paid Leaf Bags. Visit the Ashland Sanitary office at 170 Oak Street in Ashland to purchase (5) Pre-paid bags for \$13.50.

Please keep leaves out of the landfill and from clogging the storm drains to our streams. Take advantage of these programs.

Other Upcoming Recycling Events

**Free Plastic Round-up:
Recycle Your Plastic!
Fri & Sat, November 14-15
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Save your plastic for recycling! On November 14 and 15, Jackson County Recycling Partnership will host 3 free drop-off locations for numerous types of plastic, including grocery and dry cleaning bags, cereal and potato chips bags, to-go containers, lawn furniture, toys, nursery pots, buckets and tubs, lids and caps, CDs and CD cases, shrink wrap and much more.

Three event locations include: Rogue Disposal Transfer Station at 8001 Table Rock Road in White City, Valley View Transfer Station at 3000 Valley View Road in Ashland, and OSU Extension Service at 569 Hanley Road in Central Point.

For a list of acceptable items, visit www.jcrecycle.org.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

The City's Christmas tree will be put up beginning the week of Thanksgiving. If you would like to help in providing gifts for someone less fortunate in the Talent Community please stop by City Hall and pick up a gift tag from the City Christmas tree in the lobby once it is put up. Each tag will have the first name of a family member from the City adopted families list and will include the sex, age and a suggested gift from the wish list for that person. If you take a tag we would ask that you bring the unwrapped gift, with the tag attached to it to City Hall no later than December 12th. There will also be a box for non-perishable foods for those who would like to contribute in this way. All City department employees working together with Fire District #5 have adopted families within the community to make sure they have a special Christmas. If you have any questions please ask the receptionist at the front desk, or contact Coordinator of the project, Coleen Bradley, at Public Works 535-3828. Thank you in advance for your help.

REMINDERS

With the increase in the cost of gasoline motorists may want to consider using the RVTB bus. All along Talent Avenue that are a number of bus stops. You can check with RVTB at 779-2877 or on their website at www.rvtd.org for information about this service.

Need a Permit? It is always safer to check with the City if you are planning any type of home improvement project on your property as to whether a City zoning or building permit will be required. Contact the Community Development Department for answers to these questions at 535-7401.