



# THE FLASH

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

# City of Talent

March 27, 2008 /Volume 11, Issue 3

## Green-Up Clean-Up Day Saturday, May 3rd

Green-Up and Clean-Up of Talent neighborhoods and businesses is happening on Saturday, May 3rd from 8:00 to 2:00 pm. There are 3 different times for you to get involved (8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 pm). All groups will meet in the far corner of Tark's parking lot. Anne and Clark Zimmerman, Chairs of this Together for Talent committee project will be leading the first group of citizens at 8 a.m. Other committee members will lead the following two shifts. Trash bags and gloves as well as hot coffee and doughnuts will be provided. For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Cheryl at City Hall 535-1566. Hope to see everyone there!

## SPRING DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE

Combined with the City's citywide Green-Up/Clean-Up Program set for May 3, 2008, Ashland Sanitary Services has arranged a program to allow

residential customers to come to their Valley View Transfer Station, to dispose of lumber (nails and screws allowed), brush, leaves and grass for a discounted rate of \$3.50 per load. This program is only available to residential customers and the reduced fee charged is only for May 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the past the City has arranged for a roll off container at Chuck Roberts Park for these waste materials. This was a difficult program to manage and not the appropriate way to handle these types of wastes. Last year an Ashland Sanitary employee was injured at the event. Therefore this program at Chuck Roberts Park will not be available this year. This year you will need to drive a little further and drop this type of waste off for a reduced fee of \$3.50/load at the Transfer Station. This offer does not include regular garbage and always the waste must be separated. For a limited number of residents there

will be a few volunteers available with trucks able to pick up brush for those who are in need of this curbside service. Cost is \$3.50 per load, larger donations will be accepted. Only tree limbs & woody brush (no grass or leaves) wood scraps & lumber (nails and screws are ok, no other hardware) No trash! This will be on a first call and most in need basis. Call Susan to request this service or if you have a truck and want to volunteer to help at 535-1865.

## CITY WIDE YARD SALE

On Saturday May 10th join in the citywide yard sale. For \$5.00 you can have your yard sale address added to a list and map. A sign up sheet will be located at Talent City Hall from now until 5:00 pm, April 28th. These maps of yard sales in Talent will be available starting May 3rd through May 10th at the following locations —*Tark's Market, Talent Post Office, Talent Laundromat, City Hall and the Community Bulletin Board.*



Official  
Newsletter of the  
City of  
Talent

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## PENNIES FOR PARKS

Some customers prefer to have rounded numbers when they write a check as opposed to a dollar amount and some change. If you would like to round up when writing your check for your city utility bill you can make a donation to City Parks of the excess. For a number of years the City has had the “Pennies for Parks” program to allow for donations to the Parks while paying your utility bill. If you choose to do this please make sure you note your intention so that the staff knows that you wish to pay the water bill and have the remainder go to parks. This money will be used for City Parks. These extra pennies accumulate and do help to ensure that the City Parks are well maintained.

## WELCOME AND FAREWELL

With the resignation of Brian Roberts who has served at various times on the City Council over the past 8 years, the council has appointed Sherman Lamb to this vacated position. Brian, a native resident of Talent, brought a historical perspective to the council that will be missed. Thank you Brian for your years of service!

Sherman has lived in Jackson County for 18 years and in Talent for 3 years. For much of those 3 years he has served the City on the Planning Commission.

## Doors of Talent Project

The doors of talent project photographs unique front doors and entryways in Talent. They will be featured on a poster created by Claire Barr-Wilson. When the poster is completed it will premier and be for sale at the Harvest Festival, Saturday, September 13, 2008 and at City Hall. If you think you have a door that deserves recognition and a place on these Doors of Talent poster, send your address and phone number to: Doors Project, c/o Bob Wilson, Councilor, P.O. Box 445, Talent, Oregon 97540, or drop your information off at City Hall.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 3—Green-Up Clean-Up  
 May 8 & 15—Budget Committee Hearings  
 May 10—City-Wide Yard Sale  
 June 18—City Council Budget Hearings  
 June 21—City Picnic

## SPRING HOUSEHOLD WATER SAVING TIPS

At this time of year the City starts to see water consumption by City residents increase rather significantly. Irrigation systems are turned on and vegetable and flower gardens get started. The City would like to remind residents to be especially conscious of their water usage since water is a non-renewable resource and it also will increase your water bill charges. In addition to having your sprinkler system checked out by a professional here are some other tips that may help in your water conservation efforts:

- ◆ Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering indoor plants or gardens.
- ◆ Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes over 2,700 gallons of water in a year.
- ◆ Replace showerheads with ultra low-flow versions.
- ◆ Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily.
- ◆ Check your toilet for leaks by placing a drop of dye in the tank of the toilet. Wait ten minutes without flushing. If the dye color comes into the bowl – you have a leak. A leaky toilet can use thousands of gallons of water each month.
- ◆ Avoid letting the water run when brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving.
- ◆ Operate dishwashers only when completely full.
- ◆ Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Do not let the tap run while waiting for water to cool.

## West Street

The West, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> street improvement project is moving along well. The waterline construction on the project is coming to an end. The construction crew needs to complete abandonment of the existing system connections. All residents on West, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> streets have been connected to the newly installed system. The contractor will be beginning the construction of the storm drain system the week of the 24<sup>th</sup> and will spend the next couple of weeks installing the new system. After the installation of the storm drain system there will be a small delay until the weather is stable. When the weather stabilizes the construction crew will begin the reconstruction of the failing sections of roadway. We appreciate the cooperation of the near by residents during the work and the project will be completed soon.

## TPD Facility Renovation Complete!

The “new” Talent Police Department facility is open for business. Staff at TPD welcome everyone to join us for an Open House on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Please join us at 604 Talent Avenue for refreshments and a tour of the new facility. We’re very pleased with the additional space and capacity that the remodeled facility has provided us. We’re also very pleased that the facility construction was on time and on budget. So please come out and help us celebrate the great new work space you’ve provided. As a reminder, phone numbers to contact Talent Police have not changed: 911 for emergencies, 535-1253 for administration, and 776-7206 for 24-hour non-emergency police services. And while I have your attention, please consider these other informational offerings.

**Neighborhood Street Safety.** We continue to discuss street safety concerns with residents who live in Talent neighborhoods. Some parents have expressed concern that

the streets are not safe for children to play in. The City’s Traffic Safety & Transportation Commission (TS&TC) is looking at ways to improve traffic safety, however, the City’s response has also been to state clearly that streets are not playgrounds and that children should not be allowed to play in the street, regardless of how quiet or safe one’s neighborhood may feel. One contributing factor to this problem that we in the police department have observed is basketball hoops in the street. B-ball hoops in the street or near the street encourage street play and are not permitted by City Ordinance 543, Sections 16 & 17. Below is language in Section 17, Obstructing Streets:

*“No person shall park or leave on a street, including an alley, parking strip, sidewalk or curb, a vehicle part, trailer, box, ware, merchandise of any description, or any other thing that impedes traffic or obstructs the view, except as allowed by this or other ordinances of the City”.*

## **Blocking Sidewalks.**

There are numerous occurrences where sidewalks are blocked, typically by vehicles that are partially pulled into driveways, either sticking out into the street and/or blocking passage on the sidewalk that intersects with the driveway. Residents must make sure that when parking in their driveway they do not block the sidewalk. There may be confusion about which takes precedent at the point at which a driveway intersects with a sidewalk. Hopefully this will clear up that confusion. That portion of a sidewalk that “crosses” a driveway cannot be obstructed unless there is some emergency reason to do so. One need only think about a disabled person wanting to make their way down a sidewalk and being forced to enter the street to go around a car parked in a driveway blocking the sidewalk to see why this law is in place. Please be courteous and park lawfully so that pedestrians can use our sidewalks.

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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### **Economic Development**

In addition to hiring a consultant to conduct a land need analysis for employment growth, the Planning Dept. will begin a comprehensive inventory of businesses in Talent in order to get a better handle on the variety and types available in Talent, including the many home-based businesses. There may be a partnership opportunity with the Chamber of Commerce to develop a business directory to let Talent residents and the rest of the world know .

### **Other**

Appeal: As of this writing, the hearings officer, Paul Nolte, has not rendered a decision on the appeal of the Planning Commission denial of the ‘Pacific Stage Heights’ application. It is possible his decision will be made by the time this is distributed.

Arbor Day: The City will again be celebrating Arbor Day/Arbor Week with the planting of one or more trees. Our target date is Wednesday, April 9th at 11:00 am in Chuck Roberts Park.

# Urban Renewal News

For more information, contact Exec. Dir. Marla Cates, 535-6170

**Budget Committee Openings:** There are a few seats available on the Agency's Budget Committee, which meets once a year in April or May. Applications can be obtained from the Agency at 102 Home Street.

**Inti Restaurant Facade Work:** Many people have noticed the old painted sign recently revealed on the front of Inti Restaurant in downtown. Through the Agency's Rehab/Facade Improvement Grant, this building is undergoing some exterior work to remove the mansard roof, reveal certain historic building details, and bring about a more attractive look in keeping with the building's character. Under the direction of the Agency's historic consultant, the "Holsum Bread" sign has been measured and documented, and will be encapsulated (covered) to protect it from the elements, with the potential for re-creating or restoring the sign at some point in the future. Part of the building is pre-1900 and documents show use as a grocery store in both 1930 and 1956. About 60% of the original storefront still remains; anyone with information as to when the other 40% was removed, please contact the Agency. Special thanks to the Talent Historical Society for locating maps, photos and documents about this building, as well as the "Talent Auto Court" cluster next door (flower shop, camera shop, etc.)

## Disruption of Water Service

Many residents towards the North West side of town had a disruption of water service on March 20<sup>th</sup> from approximately 9:30 am until 2:30 pm. The disruption was caused by work that was being completed on Main Street. During scheduled work it was discovered that several waterline valves in the vicinity of the work were not functioning properly. Due to the circumstances the City had to shut off several other waterline valves to slow down the water that was inundating the construction site. The City follows a strict policy of 48 hr notification of planned service disruptions. Valves in the system that did not shut off adequate flow caused an unplanned shut down for many residents. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 City Council 6:30pm Comm. Center Harvest Festival 3:30pm City Hall	3 Public Arts Committee 6:00pm Comm. Center	4	5
6	7 Court 3:00pm Comm. Center	8 Architectural Review 6:00pm City Hall	9 Parks 6:00pm Comm. Center	10 Planning Sub-Committee 6:00pm City Hall	11	12
13	14 Together for Talent 3:30pm City Hall	15 Urban Renewal 6:00pm 102 Home St. Staff Training 2:30 pm C.C	16 Safety Committee 1:30pm CH City Council 6:30pm Comm. Center	17	18	19 Architectural Review Walk-Around 9:00am Historic Dist.
20	21 Court 6:00pm Comm. Center	22 Staff Training 2:00 pm	23	24 Planning Commission 6:30pm Comm. Center The "Flash" Distributed	25	26
27	28	29	30			