



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

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The Talent Urban Renewal Agency received bids for the North Talent Avenue improvements in May and the low bidder was Pilot Rock Excavation. The work is scheduled to begin in late June to early July and will include construction of storm drainage, landscaping, curb and gutter along with sidewalk improvements. The project is being funded through Talent Urban Renewal and an ODOT bicycle pedestrian grant and will be completed by early September. The construction of these improvements will be a nice finish to Talent Ave through downtown.

THANK YOU NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEERS

On behalf of the City of Talent and the Together for Talent Committee, Sharon Anderson, Chair and Coordinator of this worthwhile project wanted to tell you all how much your work was appreciated. We have received so much positive feedback from the neighbors that were helped. It turned out to be one of those positive efforts that we had hoped for where everyone benefited, volunteer and homeowner. We plan to organize this event again next year (earlier in the year and hopefully larger in scope) so if you have any suggestions and/or are interested in helping out again or know anyone else that is interested, please let us know by contacting Sharon at 535-9055 or Cheryl at City Hall 535-1566.



COP TALK

BY CHIEF MIKE MORAN

If you have driven down Talent Avenue south of the Police Department to Creel you have noticed a great new roadway has been paved and marked. I had an inquiry about the double yellow lines separating the lanes. Some citizens were concerned that the lines prohibited turning into their driveways if they had to cross the lines. That is not the case. Oregon Law allows you to turn left into your driveway even if you must cross the yellow lines.

What the lines do mean is DO NOT PASS. With the heavy use of Talent Ave by bikes and pedestrians, passing is not a good plan for motorists anyway. The solid yellow lines clearly tell drivers not to do so.

With all the news about the tricks

and treachery of fraud criminals using technology to rip you off on the Internet or by phone, we sometimes forget one of the most prevalent forms of white-collar thievery, Fraudulent Checks.

There are actually several forms of bad checks. The occasional improperly balanced checkbook that causes a check to come back to a merchant is on the lighter end of the spectrum of check issues. These are usually remedied with a phone call to the person who wrote the check who immediately pays the bad check at the store and a fee.

At the more serious end of the spectrum is a check that is completely forged using legitimate routing numbers or a check with a forged signature on a real check. There are several levels of check crimes in between too.

Investigating bad check cases takes time and some cooperation between the victim of the check and the police. Therefore, here are some Guidelines for the police to take your bad check for prosecution. This is for Talent only but other jurisdictions have guidelines too.

Type of check is the first key and the value of the bad check is also a factor. If the check is a Forgery there is no minimum amount. If the check is a Closed Account there is no minimum amount on the check for us to accept for an investigation.

If the check is NSF, or Non Sufficient Funds, there are several criterions to meet and these are for businesses and individuals.

a. The check should be for \$50 or more. Or if there are more than one NSF checks written by the suspect totaling \$50 or more that counts too.

b. No out of state checks.

c. No counter checks (blank checks issued when an account is newly opened)

d. Identification must have been checked and recorded by the person taking the check or the person accepting the check must know the person.

e. A merchant should allow ten days after sending notice for a person to make the check good before turning over to police on NSF cases only.

f. Bad checks must be turned over to police for prosecution within 60 days of receipt.

Talent has another interesting source of information besides this publication. It is an on-line site about the travels and perspectives of a woman and her dog in Talent. It has a refreshing outlook and there are reminders about the rules and responsibilities of dog owners in Talent. You've read here about dog laws in the City but the on line blog of Doggy Dundee at www.doggydundee.com is informative and entertaining in presenting those reminders. It also has some really great stories about Talent's Canine Citizens.

CITYWIDE GREEN-UP / CLEAN-UP

The City wide Green Up/Clean Up held on May 16th was another success thanks to the citizens who came out to help and also to the efforts of Cheri Brown, Sharon Anderson, Susan Harrington, Cynthia Care, and Ken Muller all volunteers of the event. It is only through this effort that the City takes on a clean, fresh look each spring. Each year the amount of trash picked up seems to decrease and we hope

that is because of previous successful efforts and a more aware community. Special thanks goes to the Ashland Sanitary and Disposal for providing discounted disposal of brush and yard waste. This year Russ Chapman of Ashland Sanitary reported that they had 225 customers at the Transfer Station on May 16th compared to the two previous Saturdays where there were 105 customers. We also want to thank Ron Ridgeway of TARKS market that provided the space for our booth and coffee and donuts for volunteers. A very special thanks to Lara Knackstedt from the Master Recyclers at OSU who came out to assist in educating about recycling. Also a special thanks to all the Volunteers who came out to assist in various ways throughout the day! A worthwhile day all the way around!

New at Ashland Sanitary: Ask them about the Yellow Bag & Prepaid Sticker Programs for those with less than average trash needs. For more details visit the website at www.ashlandsanitary.com.

NEW RESTROOMS AT LYNN NEWBRY PARK

The construction of the restrooms should be completed by the end of June. The City of Talent Public Works Crew is completing the work.



FIREWORKS IN THE CITY

As we know every year the 4th 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.

JUNE, 2009
Volume 11/Issue 6
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

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 4th of July.

For More Information go to:

http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing_permits/fireworks/2006Toolkit/Public_Display/ORS_for_Public_Display_Fireworks.doc

Refer to the following sections of the Oregon Fireworks Law as they are adopted by reference and made a part of the Cities ordinance #543:

ORS 480.110, 480.120, 480.130, 480.140(1), 480.150 and 480.170

ALTERNATE PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

There is currently a vacancy as an "Alternate Member" on the Talent Planning Commission that needs to be filled as soon as possible. There are 5 members on the Planning Commission and they meet once a month on the 4th Thursday in the evening. Their responsibilities include long term planning for the community as well as reviewing land use applications. The review process to be applied is defined in the City Comprehensive Plan, Zoning and Land Division Codes and State law. Alternate Member: Not more than three (3) Alternate members shall be appointed by the Mayor with consent of the City Council. One (1) Alternate member may be a non-resident of Talent but must reside within the acknowledged urban growth boundary. Members shall serve with no compensation for terms of two (2) years, which shall expire on December 31st of the second calendar year. Alternate members are ex-officio members and may sit with the Commission. The Alternate member's primary function shall be to assist the Planning Commission, as requested, and members shall be encouraged to attend all Planning Commission meetings. In the case of an absenteeism or vacancy on the Commission, the Chair, with consent of the Commission, shall appoint an Alternate member to occupy the vacant position on a meeting-by-meeting basis. That Alternate member shall

have the same rights and voting privileges as the absent Commissioner. In instances where a legislative matter, general discussion or study session is scheduled, the Chair shall request Alternate members' attendance and participation in the discussion. Application forms can be found on the City's website or obtained at City Hall. If you have more questions on the role of a Commissioner you can contact the City Planner, Mark Knox at 535-7041.

"GOT TALENT" FUNDRAISER, A REAL TALENT STORY BY DARBY STRICKER, TALENT PARKS COMMISSION

On Saturday, May 16th the shade of the evening was perfect, the vineyards were stunning and the air was filled with sounds of friends laughing on the lower patio of the beautiful Paschal Winery. Thanks Paschal, you really supported your community! Wine was flowing as we sampled tasty bites from local restaurants, Avalon Grill, the Arbor House, Inti Tacos and Rising Sun Farms. What a night!

The auction was successful as my husband Jason Stricker helped me work the crowd to get us funded through another year of activity, art and recreation now branded as "Got Talent." I had a chance to thank Staff, Council and Commission at the event, but an extra special thanks goes to Gordon Mobley and Felicia Hazel. Both have served on the City of Talent Parks Commission for years, both are in their second term.

Gordon has led us as chair, steering us through important growth. Felicia, vice chair, gets neck deep in the auctions and then chairs her own fundraiser, the 5K and 10K race at the Harvest Festival, richly benefiting "Got Talent". Talent owes both Gordon and Felicia, a special debt of gratitude. We want to also thank South Valley Bank for their sponsorship of the Scholarship Fund; Manager Candace Selden really made it happen.

Some great stuff was sold and great people bought. A firehouse dinner for 6 at Fire District #5, pottery by our former Mayor Marian Telerski and who could forget the sing along with Mayor Don Steyskal, a highlight for us all. We must thank all of the great citizens, who that night donated money, buying.... stuff. It is our people that make this a great City.

Let us also recognize Talent's two heroes at this year's auction, offering the single biggest donation and single biggest bid of the night. Patrick O'Connor Landscaping partnered with Diane Glendenning, to put us over the top and hit our goal.

The next time I need landscaping it's O'Connor's and when banking, go see Diane at South Valley Bank, because that's how small towns work. As for me, I'm signing my kids up for "Got Talent."

Weed Abatement Program

Fire Season has officially begun and it is time to enforce the City's Weed Abatement Ordinance. The Oregon Department of Forestry traditionally declares fire season effective as of mid-June. Generally this season extends through October, depending on the actual weather conditions. The intent of the program is to abate fire hazards. It is not intended to regulate neighbor disputes.

If you believe there is a fire hazard, please call Cheryl at City Hall 535-1566 or the Police Department at 535-1253 to begin the process. We no longer have a Code Enforcement officer specifically assigned to this but Talent PD will be enforcing this ordinance with the assistance of a police intern.

Complaints will be recorded and first sent to the Police Officer. If it is determined that a hazard does exist then there is a well-defined process in the

City Ordinance that is followed. (See the City Web site, City Ordinances link and refer to Ordinance No. 02-716 or contact City Hall). If compliance is not met within the prescribed period of time, the ordinance does allow the City to intervene and correct the problem at the expense of the property owner.

Urban Renewal News

Work to Begin on North Talent Avenue Project: The Talent Urban Renewal Agency received nine bids for the North Talent Avenue sidewalk, bike lane and roadway improvements planned for this summer. The job was awarded to Pilot Rock Excavation of Central Point for \$360,444. Bidding was quite competitive. Work is likely to begin the week of June 8-12. Although the construction schedule has not yet been finalized as of this writing, the project is to be finished by September 1 and the Agency will keep North Talent Avenue property owners and tenants informed of the project's progress. The southbound RVTB bus will continue its route as usual on this section of road during construction. For more information, contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 535-6170.

Schools out! Now what?

Talent Parks and Rec's "got Talent?" That's what!

And it's not just for kids, any more.

Register now for local fun and affordable classes and activities all summer long.

Scholarships are available!

The Got Talent? activity guide, scholarship application and registration forms are available

online at www.cityoftalent.org and the City of Talent at 110 East Main St.

Come on and join the fun!

Parks and Recreation June Calendar

Baby sitter Training Ages 11 to 15
Sat. June 20th 9:00 am -5:00 pm at TES \$35

When I'm in Charge Ages 8 to 11 Mon.
June 22nd 3:00 - 5:30 at TES \$15

Youth First Aid Ages 8-15 Wed.
June 24th 10:30 - 3:30 At TES \$25

Circus Theater Ages 7 and up at TES.
\$35

Session 1 June 15 - 19 9:00 - 10:30
Session 2 June 22 - 26 9:00 - 10:30

Kid's Tennis Lessons June 15 - 25 M - TH
\$25/wk \$40/both wks

Ages 5 - 8 11:00 - 12:00
Ages 9 and up 12:00 - 1:00

Adult Tennis Lessons June 16, 18, 23, 25 Tues and Thurs eve. 6:00-7:00 \$30

Cooperative Games Ages 5-8 June 15 - 18 4:30 - 5:30 Chuck Roberts Park \$12

Wilderness Survival youth and adult
Wednesday June 24 7:00-8:00pm at TES FREE

Adult Plein-air (on location) Painting & Drawing with Sylvia Trujillo
Classes held at various locations every Saturday in June 9:30 - 12:00 \$75

Kid Games Ages 6 and up June 22 - June 25 4:30 - 5:30 \$15

Swimming Lessons Ages 4 and up
Session 1 June 29 - July 9 Mon.-Thurs \$35

Jump Rope All ages June 30 - July 2 9:30 - 11:30 Tues. Wed. Thurs. \$20

Juggling Ages 10 and up. June 29 - July 8 4:00 - 5:00 Mon. and Wed. eve. at TES \$25

Learn to Play Guitar Ages 11 - 16
June 30 - July 16. 10:00-11:00 Tues.& Thurs at TES \$40

Fiber Arts for Teens with EVA June 30 - July 2 T W Th 2:00 - 5:00 at TES \$35