



# 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

## PUBLIC WORKS

### State Department of Health Designates Talent an "Outstanding Performer"

By Joe Strahl, Public Works Director

Talent water customers were just given another reason to be happy with their water. The Talent water system was one of thirty-five community water systems in all of Oregon and only one of three systems in Jackson County to receive "Outstanding Performer" status from the Oregon Public Health Division. The designation "outstanding performer" is given at the completion of a thorough water system survey. The survey is an on-site review of a system's sources, treatment, storage facilities, distribution systems, operation and maintenance procedures, monitoring, and management, for the purpose of evaluating the system's capability of providing safe water to the public.

The criteria for receiving this designation are exacting and include the following:

- No maximum contaminant level or treatment technique violations in the last five years;
- No more than one monitoring and reporting violation in the last three years. (The one violation must be resolved.);
- No significant deficiencies identified during the current water system survey;
- No waterborne disease outbreak attributable to the water system in the last five years.

Talent met all of the above criteria between May 2008 and July 1, 2010. The other Jackson County systems that met these criteria during this period were the City of Medford and Anglers Cove in Shady Cove.

The citizens of Talent have made significant investments to their water system since connecting to the TAP waterline nearly ten years ago. These investments are paying off in terms of having a safe and reliable water supply, as evidenced by this recognition from the State Health Department.

As a recipient of this designation, the Talent water system will only be required to have a water system survey completed every five years instead of every three. This will result in lower costs for the survey and the fees involved.

**Kudos to Talent Citizens! & Joe Strahl, Public Works Director; Lester Naught, Public Works Superintendent; and Talent's Public Works crew: Bret Marshall, Steve Olsen, Jason Spiva, and Chance Metcalf.**

## TALENT PD NEWS

by Chief Mike Moran

### Disposal of Dangerous Medicines

On September 25, 2010, the United States Drug Enforcement Agency coordinated a collaborative effort with state and local law enforcement agencies to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from our nation's medicine cabinets.

National Take-Back Day provided an opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications for destruction. These drugs are a potential source of supply for illegal use and when disposed of improperly they create a safety and health hazard in our water system.

Talent PD was a part of this initiative along with Medford PD and other law enforcement agencies in our region. We hope that this valuable program will continue in the future.

### Crime and Protecting Yourself

Recently Talent PD responded to the armed robbery of the Medicap Pharmacy. Thanks to exceptional assistance from Jackson County Sheriff's deputies and detectives, Ashland PD, Oregon State police and Phoenix PD, the suspect was in custody about 70 minutes after the robbery.

If you have a business and would like an officer from Talent PD to talk to your staff about proper protocols in a robbery please contact Talent PD. Likewise if you have a neighborhood group and would like a presentation on crime and protecting yourself from it, please contact us at 541-535-1253 and ask either for Chief of Police Mike Moran, Sergeant Jennifer Snook or any officer you know.

### Facebook Crime

One of the most popular Internet operations is Facebook. It is said that the number of members is larger than all but 4 countries in the world. With a population this big, there has to be a portion of criminals using Facebook (and other social media – for example, Twitter, YouTube, etc.) to victimize others. Don't become a victim of Internet crimes.

Here are some tips on safe use of Facebook and about Internet safety in general.

1. Make it your practice to not provide detailed information about yourself and others. Facebook is intended to be a social network. However, TMI (too much information) is rampant on the Internet. In individual cases that can mean someone can get information that can be used to harm you.

2. Never place your personal information on your Facebook profile. Info such as your personal address, your phone numbers, and especially your date of birth are things crooks use to steal your identity.

3. A Facebook page is NOT a private communication with just your friends and family. Job interviewers, lawyers, investigators, the police, and the entire cyber universe can search for information on your Facebook site. If you Google your name it will pull up your Facebook profile. Check it out, see what is readily available about you.

4. Posting things to your Wall should be done with great care. The Wall is as public as the bulletin board at the community center. Do not write postings regarding your antics unless you want your friends, coworkers, and

family to know of your latest crazy adventure. If you must rant about your boss or your job, do it in private, outside of Facebook. Web sites exist that post embarrassing Wall postings. You don't want to be on that Wall of Fame.

5. Monitor postings by a friend or family member that might embarrass you. Past indiscretions or things that seemed funny at the time can be quite damaging to your professional and personal life. Tell friends or family members immediately when an item is posted, and have it taken down.

6. Do not accept all Friend Requests. Certainly, while the purpose of Facebook is to connect with people you know, not every Friend Request is legitimate. Anyone can create fake accounts to gain access to you online. If you do not know the person, then do not add them to your accepted friends. Once they gain access, they can search everything you have posted.

7. Be careful when placing photographs of you or your children on Facebook. Have all your privacy settings set to maximum.

8. Finally, always have virus software for your computer and keep it updated. Facebook can be the unwitting carrier of infections to your list of friends and family. You must look out for your own safety and security everywhere on the Internet.

## CANDIDATES' FORUM AND BALLOT MEASURE REVIEW

October 12, 6:30 at the Talent Community Center

To prepare for the upcoming November 4th elections, the League of Women Voters will moderate a Talent Mayoral Candidates' forum on Tuesday evening, October 12th beginning at 6:30 p.m. It will be at the Talent Community Center (206 Main St.). The League will also review state ballot measures for those interested. All Talent residents are encouraged to come. In addition to the Mayoral candidates, the three candidates for City Council will be invited to take part in the "meet and greet" following the Mayoral debate.

## Seeking Holiday Carolers

Plans are currently underway for Talent's Tree Lighting Ceremony and holiday party, which will take place at the Community Center on December 14th, 2010. The Committee is seeking carolers to sing at the event and perhaps do some strolling caroling around town. Interested? Please call Carolyn Cecil at 541.535.5863, or email Suzanne@cityoftalent.org, with your name and contact information (phone number and email address if you have one).

## Remember: Plastic Round-up October 8 & 9

Turn in all that plastic that you normally can't recycle at the annual Plastic Round-up. Drop off your clean plastic at either the Ashland Armory or Jackson County Expo between 9am and 4am Friday, October 8 or Saturday, October 9 for \$5 per vehicle. Find a friend to share the trip and save money and gas. If you need help getting your plastic to the drop off points, call Sharon at 541-535-9055. For more information about the round-up:

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## From the Together for Centennial Tree

And the winner is . . . based on the votes cast at the Harvest Festival, our Centennial Tree will be . . . Red Oak! This majestic tree will be planted on the West side of the library parking lot, as part of the November 2nd Centennial festivities. The American Hornbeam placed second, and the Zelkova tree, third.

## 100 Trees for Talent

To honor Talent's 2010 Centennial, Talent businesses are encouraged to plant street trees this fall, and Plant Oregon has a special Centennial offer for businesses. Did you know that a well-placed shade tree can reduce air-conditioning costs by \$100/year? And these trees will create a welcoming entrance to our town. For more information contact: Don@plantoregon.com or call Cynthia at 541-292-2677

## More Centennial Celebration:

Mark your calendars! Talent's next Centennial Celebration is Tuesday, November 2, 2010 at City Hall. November 2, 1910 was the exact date, 100 years ago, when Talent officially became a city in the great state of Oregon!

Here's the schedule:

**10 am - 1 pm, and again at 3 pm**  
Special Mail Cancellation with Centennial Logo:

Bring your outgoing mail to City Hall lobby, with proper postage already affixed, to have a U.S. Postal employee hand cancel it with a customized Talent Centennial logo. There will also be pre-stamped envelopes available for purchase and hand cancellation.

Note: Following the November 2 celebration and until the end of November, the public may take outgoing mail to the Talent Post Office and request hand cancellation with the special Centennial logo.

**3:30 - 4:15** Opening Remarks by Talent Mayor Don Steyskal

Dedication of the Centennial Clock  
Dedication of two Centennial Time Capsules.

**4:15 - 4:30** Centennial Tree Dedication.

**'til 5 pm.** Sip cider and socialize with fellow Talentians!

## 2010 TALENT CENTENNIAL HARVEST FESTIVAL WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

Big thanks to all who helped with the long-term preparation and implementation of the terrific 2010 Talent Centennial Harvest Festival. Many, many positive comments about this year's festival have surfaced and it wouldn't have been the success it was without all the support and energy from everyone involved. It takes a village... and Talent is a super village!

Congrats to the Harvest Festival Committee, Centennial Committee, Other City Committees and City Personnel, Southern Oregon Runners, Good Community Citizens - all great contributors!

Attendance at the parade and festival was record-breaking. The run was

the best attended ever and the Lions had their biggest turn out for breakfast in 38 years - they ran out of food! Thanks to all - from Talent, from Ashland, Phoenix, Medford, Grants Pass, all around the region and beyond, for your patronage and support.

Much gratitude is due our vendors, performers and parade entrants - the core of the festivities. Our loyal vendors return each year to make the event great and we welcomed several new vendors and parade entrants in 2010. We look forward to all of you returning next year!

Sincere appreciation for our generous event sponsors. Please patronize these businesses that helped make the festival possible:

### Partner Level (\$500 or greater donation):

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**Jimmie Smith** · 541-535-9499  
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Creative Arts, Inc.; Jesse Hodgdon/Body/Mind Aligned; All in 1 Rentals; Ron Ridgway/Tarks Market; Joe Dunbar/The Total Picture; Darin Welburn, Harry & David, Roy and Peg Burris/SOS Plumbing; Friends Church; Jack Latvala/Star Properties; Livia Genise/Camelot Theater; and many others (you know who you are - please also know you are greatly appreciated).

Last but by no means least, heartfelt appreciation for our 10 distinguished Parade Grand Marshalls who made this year's parade very special: Karl Slack, Manuela Marney and Jose Acosta, Bob Wilson and Claire Barr Wilson, Lynn Newbry, Betty Smith, Paul Creel, Charlotte Beeson Toon, and Opal Hill Parisotto.

We look back with fond memories of 2010's festival - and forward with enthusiasm and plans for 2011!  
THANKS TALENT!

In addition, much thanks to our In-kind Sponsors who provided goods and services. They include Greg Goebelt/RE/MAX Realty Group; Ron Hodgdon/