



# 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

### PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Communities know they are in trouble when new development shapes the character of the community, instead of the character of the community shaping new development. – Edward T. McMahon

#### Planning Commissioners Needed:

As of January 2011, the City of Talent's five-member Planning Commission will have two and possibly three open seats due to the fact that three of the Commissioners are running for seats on the Talent City Council. This will leave a large void in one of Talent's most important volunteer groups. The Planning Commission makes decisions on various land use and development proposals. The Commission also forwards recommendations on land use policies to the City Council. Except during the holidays, the Planning Commission meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Please contact Mark Knox at 535-7401 or Suzanne Heinrich at 535-1566 for any specific questions. We look forward to hearing from you, as civic participation can be very rewarding and educational.

#### Talent Avenue Comprehensive Plan and Rezone Proposal

On September 23rd, 2010 the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval to the City Council an application that proposes to modify the City's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map for the 3.51 acre property located at 232 Talent Avenue from manufactured housing (RS-MH) to high density residential housing (RM-22). No development is proposed at this time. The property was previously known as the Old Pacific Mobile Village that had 40 mobile home units and one single-family residence. Recently, the 40 mobile home units were removed, but the single-family residence remains. The City Council will hear the item at an upcoming City Council meeting.

#### Talent Community Center - National Register of Historic Places

The City of Talent's Community Center located at 206 E. Main Street is going to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In September the City was awarded a \$4,000 grant from the Robertson E. Collins Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation to assist the City in the nomination process. Listing the Community Center on the National Register is the first step in applying for rehabilitation grants to assist in future building repairs and upgrades. In staff's opinion, the building's successful listing is a foregone conclusion, but it does take a

significant amount of research, paperwork and presentation time to achieve approval.

#### Flood Insurance - Prior to the Rains

The City of Talent participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that makes available federally backed flood insurance for all structures, whether or not they are located within the floodplain. More than 25 percent of NFIP claims are filed by properties located outside the 100-year floodplain, also known as the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Following the purchase of flood insurance, NFIP imposes a 30-day waiting period, so residents should purchase insurance before the onset of the rainy season to ensure coverage during the flooding season. Please be aware that standard homeowner or renter insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding. Before a person can receive a loan or other financial assistance, there must be a check to see if the building is in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). The SFHA is the base (100-year) floodplain mapped on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). It is shown as one or more zones that begin with the letter "A" or "V". Copies of the FIRM are available for review in the City's Planning Office. Many lenders and insurance agents also have copies. It is the agency's or the lender's responsibility to check the FIRM to determine if the building is in an SFHA, although the City will provide assistance.

#### Talent PD News

By Chief Mike Moran

One question I am often asked is why Talent Police officers are seen stopping cars or conducting investigations outside the City limits. Citizens ask if the officer has jurisdiction to be involved in those issues.

In Oregon a sworn police officer has police authority anywhere in the State. As a matter of practice we normally handle only cases that occur in the City. However, we often are asked to assist Phoenix PD, Ashland PD, Oregon State Police and Sheriff's deputies when they are busy or need cover. In return they provide assistance to Talent PD as needed.

The task Talent PD officers most often are involved in outside the City is issuing traffic citations. On most traffic citations we set appearances at Talent Municipal Court. However, if the offense is a traffic crime we submit those cases to State Circuit Court in Medford. If the violation is not a crime and it occurs outside the City limits of Talent we use County Justice Court located in Central Point. Use of Justice Court reduces the heavy workload in Circuit Court.

Recently citizens of Lithia Way in Kamerin Springs and citizens of N. 1st St came to the Talent Traffic Safety Committee meeting. In response to their concerns of speeding vehicles we will be increasing our traffic enforcement in those areas for a time. What I have found on similar complaints is that the people who most often violate the speed limits in any given area are the residents who live there. Please SLOW DOWN in your neighborhoods. Thus far in 2010 we have issued 126 speed related citations

Safe driving is a serious matter. So in addition to slowing down, please don't use cell phones while driving and don't let anyone drink and drive. Talent PD has arrested an average of nearly 10 drunk drivers each month so far in 2010.

#### City Committee and Commission Openings

##### Budget Committee

As of January 2011, there will be 4 openings. State law requires that the City have a balance of elected and appointed representatives to this committee. The Budget Committee is an advisory group. The Committee's work is done primarily in April and May each year. Talent's fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30. Members serve a 3-year term.

Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, Traffic Safety & Transportation Commission, and Together for Talent Committee are also seeking new members.

Interested citizens should stop by City Hall for an application or find one online at [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org). You may contact Suzanne Heinrich at City Hall: 541.535.1566 or [Suzanne@cityoftalent.org](mailto:Suzanne@cityoftalent.org) for more information.

#### FIRELINES

##### Fire Prevention Week/ Open House 2010



Submitted by  
Dan Marshall, Fire Chief  
Jackson County Fire District # 5

#### Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!

Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire. The two-day fire occurred on October 8-9, 1871 and killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 more homeless and destroyed more than 17,000 buildings.

That tragedy inspired reform across America, spurring new fire safety codes and public awareness campaigns. Each October, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) sponsors a fire prevention campaign to highlight the importance of fire safety education. This year's campaign was designed to educate people about the importance of smoke alarms and encourages everyone to take steps necessary to update and maintain their home smoke alarm protection.

In cooperation with National Fire Prevention Week, Jackson County Fire District # 5 held an Open House on October 5, 2010 which focused on

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home fire hazards and emphasized the use, maintenance and care of working smoke alarms. Over 600 people attended the event. There were several interactive displays highlighted by the use of the regionally owned fire safety trailer, designed to identify home fire hazards and train families on home fire escape planning, smoke alarms and kitchen fires.

Other displays included wildfire safety tips for homeowners (Oregon Department of Forestry), emergency preparedness (Bear Creek Community Emergency Response Team), 'stop, drop and roll', personal protective gear and equipment demonstrations, simulated firefighting and hoseline development for the kids and reflective address signs for customers.

Our staff provided an excellent barbecue for all and the old adage 'if you feed them they will come' proved to work just fine.

If you need information regarding home fire safety, home inspections or smoke alarms please feel free to call 541-535-4222 or stop by at our Headquarters Fire Station 1 at 5811 South Pacific Highway.

#### Leaf Recycling

Please keep leaves out of the landfill and from clogging the storm drains to our streams. Recology will compost leaves for you.

Go to the Recology Ashland Sanitary Service office at 170 Oak Street in Ashland to purchase (5) Pre-paid bags for \$ 14.50. Talent & Ashland residents have limited discount on bags from 10/25-11/5 thanks to City of Talent, City of Ashland Public Works & the Conservation Commission. (5) bags @ \$10 w/ a two package limit.

These pre-paid bags are for leaves only. There is a 35 pound limit. Bags will be picked up curbside only. Customers must live within the urban growth boundaries of Talent and Ashland. Leaf bags will NOT be accepted at the Transfer Station. No plastic bags with leaves for composting.

Please place your pre-paid leaf bags curbside in November and December only. Put your leaf bags out on trash pick up day during GREEN DEBRIS week. Green Debris weeks are as follows: Nov. 8th- 14th, Nov. 22nd - 28th,  
Dec. 6th - 12th, Dec. 20th - 26th.

Not Christmas Day.

Leftover bags may be used again next year at this time.

The Pre-paid bag program is in addition to the Free Leaf Drop Off- Sundays Nov 7, 21 & Dec 5th at the Recycling Center.

In addition, Jackson County has a Leaf Exchange Program where it connects people with leaves with those wanting leaves. Call 774-8207.

**All Are Invited!  
Talent Centennial  
Celebration  
Tuesday, November 2,  
2010 at City Hall**

**10 am - 1 pm & back at 3 pm**  
SPECIAL MAIL CANCELLATION by the Post Office with Talent 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.

**DEDICATION CEREMONIES**

**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!

**Community Holiday  
Party**

Mark your Calendars now for December 14, 2010 - Community Holiday Party - begins at 6:00 pm at the Community Center. Details to follow.

**Seeking Holiday  
Carolers**

The Holiday Party Committee is seeking strolling carolers to sing around town and at the Community Party. Interested? Please call Carolyn Cecil soon at 541.535.5863, or email Suzanne@cityoftalent.org, with your name and contact information (phone number and email address if you have one).

**Honoring TALENT'S 2010 Centennial**  
Your business can participate in our Centennial by planting a street tree in Talent. These trees will help create a welcoming entrance to our small town.



Design & Photo: Ron Hodgdon - Creative Arts, Inc. - Talent

**Plant Oregon** of Talent will provide an appropriate tree and plant it for a special price of **\$100\***. Please respond directly to: Dan@plantoregon.com or for more information, contact Cynthia at 541-292-2677.

**Trees  
for Business**

**Be part of your community's future.**

This special offer is a collaboration between the City of Talent's *Together for Talent Committee* and *Plant Oregon, The Nursery on Wagner Creek.*

\* Discounted price is for the Centennial year only.

**TALENT**