



# 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

I am honored to represent the City at a number of public and private functions each month. Invariably someone approaches me to say "I recently visited your City for the first time in a few years and was amazed by the change I saw and the energy of the City." My stock answer is "Yes, there has been quite a change in Talent over the last few years and we Talentonians believe we live in the best and most livable City in the Rogue Valley."



There are a lot of positive things going on in Talent at this time. I believe that we are creating our own bright future in less than favorable economic times. Here are a few of the exciting things happening:

Just a few days ago I attended the groundbreaking for the first phase of the West Valley View Project, the construction of the new Sieber Street. This was an historic day and this well-planned, well-designed and innovative project will eventually change the face of Talent forever.

Recently, the Talent Chamber of Commerce sponsored one of the most successful Art and Music Festivals yet. More than 22 Talent businesses hosted this great event. Music and attendees filled the streets and numerous top quality local and nationally recognized artists displayed their work. Talent was a-buzz.

In a few short weeks, there will be a grand opening for the new Camelot Theater in downtown Talent. This is a state of the art theater that not only fits the character of Talent, but retains the intimate quality that has made it so successful. The theater design has been selected to be included in the United States exhibition at the Prague Quadrennial 2011. This event, held once every four years, recognizes the best theater design from 70 countries around the world.

In the near future the Ford Family Foundation will sponsor a community art project that will allow each of us the opportunity to participate in painting a mural in downtown Talent. It is my understanding that you do not need to be an artist to participate. A mural designed and painted by the citizens of Talent -- what a sense of community!

I hope that each one of us feels a great sense of pride for the very special community we have created in the Rogue Valley. We know how to work and live together in positive collaboration - let's keep that our primary and permanent goal. It's what sets Talent apart.

Bill Cecil, Mayor  
mayor@cityoftalent.org  
541-535-1566

## News from the Parks and Recreation Commission

Due to the wet spring weather, the construction of the Talent Dog Park has been delayed.

September is more likely the month the park will be open to the public. We are currently waiting for the grass to be planted and grow thick enough for your dogs to enjoy!

Don't forget to sign up for the 'got talent?' summer recreation program! Look for the information insert in your kids' school papers, soon to be sent home with them. You can also find the program guide, registration and scholarship information on the City's website: [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org). The links are right on the front or "Home" page.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be **Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm at the Community Center**. As always, this is a public meeting and we encourage citizens who are interested in the development of their hometown, and particularly its parks, to join us!

## City Manager Jay Henry is Distinguished by International Organization

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Jay Henry, City Manager of Talent, Oregon, recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from the International City/County Management Association. ICMA is the premier local government leadership and management organization. ICMA's mission is to create excellence in local governance by developing and advocating professional management of local government worldwide. Mr. Henry is one of approximately 1,200 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program.

To receive the prestigious ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government, have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field, and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.

"Jay deserves distinction," said Talent Mayor Bill Cecil, "he has done an outstanding job of keeping Talent in the black during these tough economic times, even with decreasing tax revenues from declining property values."

Jay Henry is qualified by over eight years of professional local government executive experience. Prior to his appointment in 2008 as City Manager of Talent, he served as City Manager for Polson, Montana, and prior to that he held management positions in Klamath County, Oregon.

**Congratulations Jay - and many thanks for the great job you are doing for Talent!**

## Urban Renewal News

**Construction Begins on West Valley View Project:** A simple groundbreaking ceremony the morning of Wednesday, May 18, marked the start of construction for "Phase 1-A" for this long-awaited project. After 7 years of planning, the first segment of this project - construction of Seiber Street with over 30 head-in parking spaces, a storm detention pond, New Street improvements, and an alley north of

the new Camelot Theatre - is now under way. While the contractor is allowed until November 30 to finish this phase, it is possible the majority of work could be completed by the end of summer. Many thanks to the 40 or so citizens who attended the groundbreaking -- which was announced at the last minute following an unanticipated change in the contractor's schedule allowing work to begin four weeks ahead of schedule!

**Board of Directors Position:** The Agency has one opening for a citizen/business representative on its 7 member Board of Directors. The term is for three years, and runs from July 2011 through June 2014. Responsibilities include going through an initial 2-hour board training, and attending monthly board meetings (third Tuesdays). Applicants will interview with the Board of Directors, and the Board in turn sends its recommendation to the City Council for final appointment. An application process is required; contact Executive Director Marla Cates 541 535 6170 for details.

## The Chief's Report: Firelines

Dan Marshall, Fire Chief  
Jackson County Fire District # 5

### Budget Planning FY 2011-2012

During the last several months, the Jackson County Fire District # 5 Budget Committee has been meeting to review and approve the proposed budget for FY 2011-2012. The Budget Committee is comprised of the 5 Board of Directors (elected officials) and 5 community members appointed by the Board.

At the April meeting the Budget Committee approved a FY 2011-2012 tax levy totaling \$ 4,222,117 which includes funds for personnel (27 career firefighters, 12 student firefighters, 35 volunteer firefighters), materials and services to support 3 stations and related costs, capital outlay expenditures for fire equipment, mobile data computers and monies for an 80/20 grant for a new station alerting system at each fire station. The budget also includes funding of existing debt service totaling \$ 294,604 and provides for a contingency fund for unforeseen expenditures of \$238,455 or 5.6% of the total levy.

The fire district will hold the Budget Hearing on June 21, 2011, 7:00 pm, at Station 1, 5811 South Pacific Highway to formally adopt the budget and appropriate, impose and categorize taxes.

### Personnel Update

During the last 18 months there have been several retirements, promotions and replacement of long term employees at the fire district. In January 2010, Fire Captain Frank Banfield (32 years) and Fire Captain Richard Scowden (31 years) retired. Also, In February 2011, Fire Captain Alan Barnes (23 years) and Firefighter Eric Campbell (26 years) retired.

Promotions to position of Fire Captain include Brian Bolstad, Tony Halley and Bryan Dorris. Promotions to the position of Fire Engineer include Matt Lichtenstein, Nick Baalman and Dave Meads. Also, newly appointed firefighters during the past year are Firefighter Brian Weidman, Firefighter Brady Graham, Firefighter Clayton Mattson and Firefighter Winston Cote.

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### Apparatus and Equipment

During the past year, the fire district purchased two 2011 Ford F-450 grass and brush vehicles to replace outdated units. Grass and brush vehicles are used for fighting wildland fires. The Ford F-450 is a four wheel-drive utility type vehicle that is highly maneuverable and capable of carrying a water tank (150-200 gallons), pump and hose.

Also this past year the fire district received a grant from The Chaney Foundation and received monies from a fundraising event sponsored by Blackstone Audio, Ashland, Oregon, which allowed for the purchase of two Thermal Imaging Cameras. A Thermal Imaging Camera is a vital piece of equipment for firefighting operations, community protection and life safety. Thermal Imaging Cameras enable firefighters to see areas of heat, through smoke, darkness or heat-permeable barriers. They also allow firefighters to quickly find the fire and see the heat signature of visually obscured victims. The total cost of the two cameras was approximately \$17,500.

Remember, at Fire District # 5 we are very proud of our motto, "We still make house calls."

## Arbor Day Foundation Names Talent a Tree City USA® Community

Talent, OR, was recently recognized by the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry.

Talent has earned this national designation for 11 years.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Talent has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community. Tree City USA communities must have a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"We commend Talent's elected officials, volunteers and its citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest," said John Rosenow, chief

executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees provide numerous environmental, economical and health benefits to millions of people each day, and we applaud communities that make planting and caring for trees a top priority."

Communities that earn Tree City USA recognition not only have taken the time to meet the four standards, they know that trees:

- Promote healthier communities by filtering the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles.
- Moderate climate, conserve water and provide vital habitat for wildlife.
- Reduce the heat island effect in urban areas caused by pavement and buildings.
- Increase property values and reduce energy use and add beauty to our homes and neighborhoods.

**CONGRATUALIONS Talent!** *And a special thank you to the City Commissions and Committees who are strong advocates for trees including Together for Talent and Parks and Recreation.*

## Talent PD News

by Chief Mike Moran

### Cell Phone Use

I have been asked by the members of our Talent Traffic Safety & Transportation Commission to remind drivers not to use cell phones while driving without using a hands free device. It is misinformation that you may use a cell phone if you are "on business." That exemption applies to a very limited number of drivers. The best example is a cab driver and I really can't think of any other. The law is being strengthened but for now we will be enforcing it as is and a citation costs \$142.

### Reserve Program

One of the programs TPD sponsors is a reserve program. Reserves today must go through a 9 month course on their own time and without compensation. It is hosted by Rogue Community College. Of the students who graduated in late May, three were sponsored by Talent PD. As part of the training, students were required to develop a community project. Talent's reserves were recognized for their community project, receiving special recognition certificates.

Out of 19 graduates, Talent PD's Steven Barrett was the top student in the class. Our other two graduates, Aaron Armen and Robert Lebel, also had high scores. The three will now complete the reserve application process prior to joining TPD later this summer. A fourth Talent sponsored student was Jason Curtright who we have been told is in a hiring process with Central Point PD.

### Beware of Scam

One of the latest scams goes like this: a check is mailed to you with instructions to cash it, and then write a check back to the sender. BEWARE - any check received under these circumstances is fraudulent. Here are some tips on spotting fake checks received via mail or in hard copy.

- Examine the check carefully before depositing: Look for anything out of the ordinary. Most fakes are extremely difficult to detect, even by banks. They may use names of legitimate banks and have an account number, but they are still fake.
- Physical aspects of the check: the paper on fake checks is often lighter and may have a slick texture. Most legitimate checks have at least one perforated or rough edge. If all edges are smooth, the check may have been printed from a personal computer.
- Printed information: A fake

check often has no bank logo or one that's faded-this may indicate it was copied from an online photo. There may be no street address, just a P.O. box or an incorrect ZIP code, or sometimes the name is misspelled-all indicate a fake check. If there's no check number at the upper right-hand corner, or the number doesn't match the check number in the computerized line of numbers along the bottom of the check, you've got a counterfeit.

If your banker tells you a check is fraudulent or that your actions may be unsafe, believe them. Many people have ignored professional advice and lost a great deal of money.

### Disposal for Prescription Drugs

Several months ago the Talent Police Department and City Manger Jay Henry began researching cost-effective and ecologically friendly disposal methods for prescription drugs. Partnering with Recology Ashland Sanitary Service, the City of Talent now offers an easy method of disposal for outdated or surplus medications.

There is a drop box at Talent PD. The box was designed, constructed and installed by staff at Recology. Drop off times are Monday through Friday, 8am to noon and 1pm to 4pm, in the lobby, at the Talent Police Department.

**IMPORTANT:** the program accepts: OTC & prescription medications, pet meds, medicated ointment/lotions, and liquid in leak-proof containers. Not accepted: needles (sharps), thermometers, bloody/infectious waste, hydrogen peroxide, aerosol cans/inhalers, food items/supplements/vitamins, meds from businesses or clinics.

When dropping off pills, please remove them from their original containers and place contents in a zip lock bag for the drop box. We encourage you to recycle the original containers, along with your other home recycling (first remove the caps, they are not recyclable). We also suggest that you block out your name on all original containers.

Proper disposal of these drugs will help keep our streams and rivers cleaner and safer.

## Chief Moran Joins National Effort To Combat Crimes Of Violence Against Women

Talent Police Chief Mike Moran was chosen as one of 24 law enforcement executives from across the country to participate in the 14<sup>th</sup> *National Law Enforcement Leadership Institute on Violence Against Women* hosted by The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

During the four-day Institute held in Kansas City, MO, Chief Moran, along with the other selected participants from agencies around the United States, explored innovative approaches for investigating crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and stalking. Attendees also focused on assessing agency performance and sharing challenges and solutions with law enforcement colleagues.

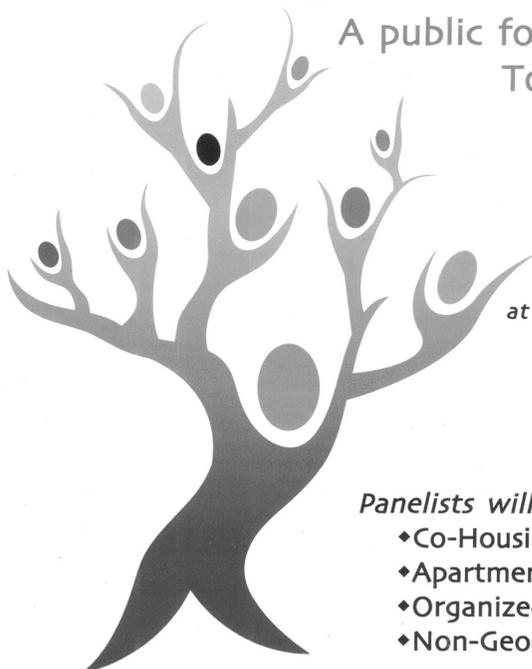
In an effort to help law enforcement agencies enhance their response to crimes of violence against women, the Leadership Institute focuses on planning and methods for effective resource allocation to help crime victims and hold perpetrators accountable.

Expenses for participants to attend the Institute are covered under a cooperative agreement with the IACP from the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

*Congratulations Chief Moran! You make Talent proud!*

# Creating Community

A public forum sponsored by  
Together for Talent



Saturday, June 18  
10:00 am - 11:30 am  
at Talent Public Library  
101 Home St.  
541 482-0370

Panelists will represent:

- ♦Co-Housing
- ♦Apartment Living
- ♦Organized Neighborhood
- ♦Non-Geographic Community

Topics will include:

- ♦Cooperative Living, ♦Supporting Varied Lifestyles,
- ♦Building Personal Connections, ♦Sharing Resources,
- ♦Gathering and Developing Ideas