



THE FLASH City of Talent

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

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From the Mayor's Office

To recognize the huge part Hispanics played in shaping our country, President Obama has proclaimed September 15th to October 15th as National Hispanic Heritage Month. Five Latin American Countries celebrate their independence



on September 15th and Mexico celebrates on September 16th. The Hispanic culture continues to enrich our lives today. The City of Talent has a large Hispanic community that is woven into the fabric of our City. At the City Council meeting on September 7th, I will sign a proclamation that proclaims September 11th through September 17th as Hispanic Heritage Week in the City of Talent. I hope to see you at that meeting. It is important that we all recognize the vital role the Hispanic community plays in the economic and cultural viability of Talent. There are several organizations, businesses and individuals planning events for this week. I hope we can all participate in this community project.

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

Gather Your Plastic for Recycling!

Jackson County Plastic Round-up, October 14-15

Event Locations:

Jackson County Expo, 1 Peninger Road in Central Point
Ashland National Guard Armory, 1420 E. Main Street in Ashland

JCRP will host two drop-off locations for numerous types of plastic, including grocery and dry cleaning bags, cereal and chip bags, to-go containers, lawn furniture, toys, nursery pots, buckets, CD's and cassettes, agricultural plastics, buckets and much more.

Plastic MUST BE PRE-SORTED into 3 categories: soft plastic, hard plastic and nursery plastic.

A list of acceptable items, printable flyers and event details are online at www.jcrecycle.org.

News from the Planning Department

Volunteers Needed

The City is looking to fill some vacancies on both the Planning Commission and Architectural Review Committee. Except during the holidays, the Planning Commission meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center and the Architectural Review Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Civic participation can be very rewarding and educational. Please contact Mark Knox at 535-7401 or Melissa Huhtala at 535-1566 for any specific questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

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 of 2010 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. The State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation will hold public hearings on October 13th, 2011 in Weston Oregon and make the final recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Interior who will then officially list the Community Center on the Register. Listing the Community Center on the National Register of Historic Places 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.

Current Planning Activities

The Talent Planning Commission recently approved three development applications that will involve new construction. In June the Commission approved an application submitted by Sunday Afternoons, a local clothing manufacturer, to construct a 23,586 square foot warehouse building on the property located at 510 S. Pacific Highway. The building will primarily be used as a shipping and receiving facility for the company which also has building sites along the highway. In July, the Commission approved a 2,100 square foot building to be used as a religious facility (Islamic Peace House) to be located on the vacant parcel immediately to the north of the above Sunday Afternoon site. Also in July, the Commission approved of a 1,112 square foot addition to the already existing Downtown Coffee House located on the corner of Wagner Street and Talent Avenue.

News from the Parks Commission

On Saturday, Aug. 13th, the TALENT BARK PARK had its Grand Opening!

Dozens of happy dog owners and equally happy canines joined the ceremony. Before the dogs were let loose to hit their new playground president of the Talent City Council, E.J. McManus delivered the opening speech.

This park has been in planning for many years and would have never been possible without the help of many visionaries and their hard work.

First thanks go to the citizens of Talent for being persistent in their pursuit of a dog park. Parks Commissioner Gordon Mobley stated "It was the people of Talent who first started the idea of having a dog park, about ten years ago." Commissioners at the time, including Mobley, Felicia Hazel and Darby Stricker helped put the vision in the Master Plan and the Commission continued to work for the future of the park. Let's not forget to thank Former Mayor Don Steyskal, City Planner Mark Knox, Lester Naught, the Public Works Department, Together For Talent, and all the



unnamed helpers and volunteers who brought the idea of a Dog Park into reality!

Thanks also goes to Lisa from FUNKY FASHIONS, who put up a "Dog-Park-Donation-Rack" in front of her awesome consignment store, from which half of the proceeds are going to the Bark Park.

A big thanks to all the friendly people who signed up on the donation sheet! We will contact you soon.

If you want to contribute to Bark Park improvements and would like to donate towards the purchases of benches or other items, please sign up on our donation sheet, which you can find at the front desk of the Talent City Hall.

If you are a regular Bark Park user or if you plan to visit the park with your car, please make sure to use the designated parking lot at Chuck Roberts Park and not the one in front of the Police Station!

Also, get familiar with the rules and regulations at the entrance of the park.

We hope you are all going to enjoy the new space with consideration and respect.

Thank you!

Last, but not least, we would like to thank Ron Ridgeway from TARK'S MARKET for his generous food-donation at the Trail Work Party in July. It was greatly appreciated!!

The next meeting of the Parks Commission takes place Wednesday, September 7th at 6:15 p.m. at the Community Center and is as always open to the public.

Talent Community Weekend!

Come start off your weekend in downtown Talent beginning at 5:00 p.m. with artists, wine, food, great musical venues and plenty of your neighbors!

Talent Arts & Music Festival - September 9th beginning at 5:00

Talent Chamber Breakfast - September 10th at the Community Center / 7am - 11am

Talent Harvest Festival: September 10th! Join the fun

8:00 a.m. 5K/10K Run/Walk.

10:00 a.m. Grand Parade.

10:45 a.m. Live music begins featuring Dave Storie and the Truth Machine, Flat Five String Band, Salsa Brava and Eight Dollar Mountain.

11:30 a.m. Family style stage show featuring Jill and Daryl Fjeldheim.

1:00 p.m. Skateboard demonstration and giveaways by Jacks Board House Skate Team.

All day fun with growers' booths, arts and crafts, and valuable historic information booths. Of course there will also be some of the areas favorite food vendors!

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Talent PD News

By Chief Mike Moran

This is a very busy month in our community. First of all, don't forget that Saturday the 10th is harvest Festival. Please plan for street closures particularly along Main during the run and the parade. If you need to leave your homes that morning, the roads will be closed from the grade school down Main to Market St. from 7:45am to about 11:00am. Wagner Street will be closed during the parade from about 9:45am until it's over.

After the parade just the downtown section of Main from the tracks to Market will be closed.

One of the great traditions in Talent used to be the Talent Lions Club and all the volunteer work they did. Sadly the Lions in Talent are no more. However, there are many great ways to be part of the volunteer groups that serve Talent.

The Talent Chamber of Commerce is always looking for members and they do a great job supporting Talent.

The Talent Historical Society can always use volunteers. History preservation is very important work.

The Talent Food Bank does great work feeding those who need a little help.

Another group is the Bear Creek Valley Rotary Club. This group focuses their community work in the Phoenix and Talent areas. They meet each Monday at the Black Bear in Medford. They are strong supporters of students in the Phoenix-Talent District.

I recently attended a Rotary meeting where the speaker told us about his experience with his father finally having to give up driving. It inspired him to create a service that provides on-call transportation to seniors with no other options. I am not pushing their product but one of the other things he did is publish a very helpful booklet on helping people decide when it is time to quit driving. It is helpful to the person and their family. I encourage reading this booklet. You can contact the author, Donald Todd of Angus Driving Service at 1-800-267-3242 or www.angusdrivingservice.com.

One reason I am concerned again about seniors driving beyond their

abilities is I recently saw an elderly woman, confused and lost drive the wrong way onto the Phoenix freeway off ramp. I caught up to her just before she got onto the wrong way lanes and stopped her. She still nearly hit 4 cars on the off ramp. She was already suspended for failing a DMV re-test. She drove intentionally knowing she was not supposed to.

School is starting up and I'd like to remind you to start thinking of school buses and stopping for them.

Another item is parents or others who drop off students at the Talent elementary school. You cannot park on the bike lanes and walk your student inside. You must park in the school lot. This year we will be citing those who park in the bike lanes for even just a couple of minutes and leave their cars.

It is very unsafe to drop kids along a roadway and have them exit into the street side of the car or cross the road to go to class. Please take extra time to deliver children safely to school.

Thank you.

From the Harvest Festival Committee

There will be a significant Zero Waste Effort ongoing and throughout the festival. Please look for the set of recycling bins to reduce the amount of waste generated at the event. Also, please bring your own water bottles; there will be a water refill station.

From the Talent Garden Club

How does your garden grow? The Talent Garden Club will be awarding prizes for the 3 largest sunflowers entered! You can get entries in at the Talent Garden Club booth by 11:00am the day of the festival.

Grand Marshal Winners

Congratulations to not one but two Grand Marshals for the Harvest Festival Parade. Votes were tied for Cecil Gore and Marla Cates! It is clear they both mean a lot to the Community. Thank you both for all the hard work you do.

Upcoming Road Construction Projects in Talent

The City of Talent is gearing up for some final road construction and pavement maintenance before wet weather hits the Rogue Valley. Citizens will begin to see construction on the following streets in the next several weeks; Arnos Street between Hwy 99 and Talent Avenue, Gangnes Drive, Lithia Avenue off of Rapp Road, David Way, Lithia Avenue near Faith Circle, Schoolhouse Road and Frost Lane. All of the listed streets will be paving work with exception to Arnos Street. Arnos will have a full street improvement project including curbs, gutters and sidewalks. The City will try to notify all affected residents as soon as possible so everybody will be prepared for the work in their area of town. If you have any questions please call Talent Engineering at 541-535-5531.

Trees, Shrubs and Other Vegetation in the Public Right of Way

By Robert Townsend & Dale Shaddox

We are writing today to discuss an aspect of one of the great assets of our charming rural town, our trees. Not only do we experience the gift of the cooling shade and beauty as homeowners and dwellers, but also as pedestrians and citizens as we enjoy the aesthetic pleasure of great green canopies, springtime blossoms and the variety of fall colors that grace our townscape.

As homeowners we choose to care for our trees in a variety of ways: planting in proper locations, feeding, shaping/pruning, harvesting and removing--

where necessary (wrong tree, wrong location, hazards, etc.). It is a lifetime relationship we develop that provides a multitude of significant benefits for ourselves and our community.

We are among those who enjoy walking, biking and driving around town, experiencing and appreciating the beauty of the trees on the property of neighbors, community members and of the public domain, e.g. city parks and other city and county properties. We have noticed of late a large number of trees and shrubs that have grown to become a hazard to public safety around the public right-of-ways. For example, a number of sidewalks in town have low hanging branches that require pedestrians to enter the roadway in order to pass by. Additionally, a number of branches obscure stop signs and street identification signs that could lead motorists into conflicts with other vehicles or pedestrians as they either see the sign too late, or miss it altogether (Rapp and Talent avenue for example).

We suggest that you take a look at your trees, educate yourself to proper pruning techniques and safety standards and care for your trees in a timely manner. Trees and shrubs need to be at least 7 feet above a public sidewalk and 14 feet above a public street or alley. If you have questions, call your local tree care professionals (local arborists or nursery managers) or Public Utility Company.

Tree branches around electric power lines are another matter entirely. Power companies will come and trim branches at no charge; however, they are often only concerned with safe distances around your power line and not necessarily the health or beauty of your tree. Consider identifying which branches to cut or have your tree care professional shape the tree to grow around the lines, instead of continually having to hack the tree for safety purposes.

By being watchful and responsive to these situations we can all still enjoy the beauty and be safe at the same time. Our City code assigns responsibility to the adjacent property owner for the pruning of trees and other vegetation on residential streets, and assigns the responsibility to the City for pruning plantings on commercial (collector and arterial) streets. We are hoping for voluntary compliance with these standards but will be monitoring more closely in the near future, contacting individual property owners as necessary to achieve compliance. In the meantime please contact City Hall if you have any questions or suggestions.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY WITH THE CITY OF TALENT

The following individuals have unclaimed property held by the City of Talent. Please make arrangements to claim your property by October 1, 2011. Any property unclaimed as of October 1 (and having met the appropriate abandonment period) will be turned over to the Department of State Lands.

Bannon, Trevor	Kingsmore, Ed
Bruntz, Eileen	Kuester, Jeremiah
Bucher, Gerald	Land, Daria
Cipes, Karen	Marikos, Michelle
Coltharp, Jess	McCrary, Sam
De La Torre, Richard	Meredith, Mike Barb
Dial, Betsy	Morgan, Sharon
Engel, Sam	Paris Jr., Robert M
Erdogan, Anna	Ritchey, Rene
Golden-Fields Property	St. Clair, Duncan
Hartwell, Christina	Taylor, Danika
Hinkle, Adam	Weiss, Zephera
Jenkins, Louie	Wilson, Julie