



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

From the Mayor's Office

Talent city parks are the jewels of our community. Our city parks provide essential recreational opportunities for our citizens and visibly define the pride we take in our community. One of the first impressions a



visitor to Talent may make will be based on how they view our city parks. To provide a parks system that meets the changing needs of our community requires planning, leadership and direction. The Talent Parks Commission takes on this role for the City of Talent. The City Public Works crew provides maintenance and construction support for our city parks. Two of the most recent successes of our parks program have been to establish a summer recreation program and construct a new dog park.

As successful as our parks program is, I need your help keeping our parks program moving forward. We are having a difficult time filling all seven of our volunteer Parks Commission Positions. Presently we have a need for 2 Commissioner Positions and two alternate Commissioner Positions. I know everyone is busy, but it is so important to the health of our City to have a fully functional Parks Commission. The Parks Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. If you have an interest in our City Parks Program, I urge you to apply for one of these positions. You will be doing your community a great service. To apply for a Parks Commissioner position, contact Melissa at City Hall, (541) 535-1566.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for helping to make Talent the best place to live in the Rogue Valley.

Bill Cecil, Mayor
(541-535-1566)

mayer@cityoftalent.org

County Commissioner Don Skundrick Visits With Talent Community in June 19 Town Hall Meeting

Residents of Talent and the surrounding area are invited to a town hall meeting with Jackson County Commissioner Don Skundrick at **7 p.m., Tuesday, June 19**. The meeting is open to everyone and will be held at the Talent Branch Library, 101 Home Street.

Skundrick is holding a series of town

hall-style meetings with residents throughout the County, including rural areas, about once a month. The intent of the public meetings is for residents to discuss issues important to them with Commissioner Skundrick, who hopes to listen, answer as many questions as he can, and nurture better communications. He has held meetings in Shady Cove, Gold Hill, Eagle Point, Applegate Valley, and Jacksonville.

"I've been pleased thus far with the meetings, and I appreciate each and every person who has shown up, even those with thoughts and opinions different than mine. The process has been fun, enlightening, and a great chance for me, as County Commissioner, to get to know folks in an arena of dialogue and civil discourse. These have been an opportunity to see that, in the end, all of us are just plain folks interested in doing what we think is best for our local community," said Commissioner Skundrick.

Skundrick says the sessions have been lively but still civil. Items discussed have ranged from public safety, land use issues, Commissioner salaries, libraries, historic preservation, local road conditions, coordination with federal agencies, property values, and taxation.

"I have also had the opportunity to inform citizens on some of the County's capitol projects, such as the new Sheriff's Office on Highway 62 and Medford's old post office," Skundrick said.

Skundrick, who is the 2012 Board Chair, has served on the Jackson County Board of Commissioners since January of 2011. He says he encourages people to come out and discuss all topics, including their hot issues.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Butte Falls Community Center.

For more information, please contact: Don Skundrick, Jackson County Commissioner, at (541) 774-6116 or skundrdw@jacksoncounty.org.

Talent PD News By Chief Mike Moran

Fraud involving telephone and email scams continues to rise and it occurs in Talent. The Talent Police Department is asking that you use extreme caution before sending any money via bank transfer, money order or Western Union. Consider these actual and LOCAL scams that have occurred.

Have you been told you have won a prize, drawing, or lottery? Did you sign up for this? No? Then you did not win.

Have you been told you need to send money in order to receive your prize? Does that even sound logical that you have to pay for prize? The callers are smooth and sometimes say they are the IRS needing the money up front. Not true.

Have you been told that a friend or loved one has either been arrested? Maybe you received an email or call saying your friend they lost their

money, credit cards and ID and are stranded and money wired now! People often get calls saying their relative was involved in an accident in another country. These are the newest rage of scams. They may even try to impersonate your friend or relative. Always call the friend or relative first and often they are at home. If you can't call the person call another relative or friend. This scam has occurred in Talent more than once.

Have you been contacted by a collections agency who said if you did not immediately pay a bill or another debt that a warrant would be entered for your arrest? The laws don't provide for prison for late or unpaid bills. That will not happen.

Has someone claiming they are with a government agency or financial institute contacted you and asked for your personal information such as Social Security or bank account numbers? They don't do that because they already have your information. They never ask for it over the phone or in email. NEVER!

All of these scenarios have occurred and if they happen to you, you can be certain the caller is trying to scam you. Please, **DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY!** These callers are very smooth and convincing and sometimes try to also intimidate you! Call a trusted friend or family member or contact your bank or credit union and tell them about it. Western Union is the preferred method of scam artists to separate you from your money. Once you send it, it is impossible to get your money back and the criminals vanish without a trace.

Corporal Dave Plummer is available to speak to your group on these topic and protecting yourself. Call us at the Department to arrange a talk.

Another frequently reported concern is door to door sales people. The most often used sales pitch is someone claiming they are a "student" raising money or points to go to college. The sales person usually is very friendly at first but they turn belligerent when told to leave. We had a wave of them last month in town. Two had talked their way into a house which greatly heightened the chance of the home owner being a victim of a crime. Never let anyone in your house that has just come to your door to sell you something or ask to use a phone or needs a glass of water. All door to door sales people need a "Peddlers License" to sell door to door. I have never seen one issue. If someone comes to your house selling something ask them where their business license is. If they become verbally abusive shut your door and call the Police at 541-776-7206 or in an emergency, call 911.

Just a reminder that if you need a police officer for non-emergency matter the best number to call is 541-776-7206. If you are reporting an emergency continue to call 911.

WEED ABATEMENT INFORMATION

This time of year fields and lawns grow quite well-perhaps too well in some cases. The Talent City Ordinance Weed Abatement Ordinance requires

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110 East Main Street,
P.O. Box 445, Talent,
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Edited by
Melissa Huhtala
City Website:
www.cityoftalent.org
Telephone:
(541) 535-1566
E-mail:
melissa@cityoftalent.org

you to please mow your grass and weeds to less than ten inches to be in compliance. This will be the official notice of that requirement.

Once Fire Season is declared by the Oregon Department of Forestry we begin enforcement of the weed abatement ordinance. Fire Season is not a fixed date and usually occurs in June or early July. Once it is declared we will begin tracking the non-compliant yards and fields. We will only send one warning letter prior to abatement and/or enforcement of the code.

If we have to abate the field a fee may be attached to the property in addition to a citation being issued to the owner of the filed.

Thankfully, most property owners have great pride in ownership and keep weeds mowed for aesthetic reasons. However, high weeds are a fire dager.

Water Conservation Tips

We are coming into the season where water usage tends to go up due to nicer weather allowing for more outdoor activities. Citizens are reminded to be especially conscious of water usage during this time of year. Water is a non-renewable resource. You can't make it or grow it so we need to protect what we have by saving. Here are a few tips that take little to no effort but will help with our conservation efforts in a big way.

HOUSEHOLD WATER SAVING TIPS

- Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering indoor plants or gardens. Place a bucket in the shower to catch excess water for watering plants.

- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes over 2,700 gallons of water in a year.

- Replace showerheads with ultra low-flow versions.

- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of insects or tissue in the trash rather than the toilet.

- Check your toilet to see if it has a leak. Place a drop of dye in the tank of the toilet. Wait ten minutes without flushing; if the dye color comes into the bowl then you have a leak. A leaky toilet can use thousands of gallons of water each month, which converts in to a large water bill.

- Place a plastic bottle filled with water in your toilet tank to reduce the amount of water used per flush.

- Avoid letting the water run when brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving.

- Operate dishwashers only when they are completely full.

- Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Do not let the tap run while you are waiting for water to cool.

WAYS TO SAVE WATER WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR LANDSCAPING

- Use mulch to retain soil moisture. Mulch also helps to control weeds that compete with landscape plants for water.

- Avoid sprinklers that spray a fine mist. Mist can evaporate before it reaches the lawn.

- Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches or to its highest level. A higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system, and holds soil moisture.

- When it is necessary to water, do so in the early morning hours as there is less of a chance for evaporation or loss of water due to wind.

- Only water your lawns and gardens as necessary. IT IS **NOT** NECESSARY TO WATER YOUR LAWN EVERY DAY. Every other day can sometimes be too often. Consider converting your sprinkler system to an **“Evapotranspiration Manager Weather Based Landscape Irrigation System”** or **“ET Manager System”** that regulates the frequency and length of watering time based on the actual needs of your lawn. Talk to your local landscaping company about some great systems that are available at little cost to convert. The savings you will see in your water bill will more than pay for the cost of converting your system.

Stop by the Utility Department for more ideas on water conservation.

URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

Old Camelot Theatre Moves to New Home: Doc's Housemoving moved the final piece of the old theater – the lobby -- up to its new home at the historic Beeson Ranch on Wagner Creek Road courtesy of new owner Chris LaDue. It was approximately one year ago that Mr. LaDue came forward to assist the Agency in finding an alternative to demolition in order to make way for a new road. As it turned out, he was planning on building a similar structure on his property and – as fate would have it – the theater's siding and style was a match for other vintage structures on the site. Our hat is off to Mr. LaDue for saving a piece of Talent's history and providing an outstanding service to the community.

Free Shrubs: The Agency has some mature shrubs and groundcover that need to find new homes. If you are interested in acquiring the plants -- and providing the transplanting labor -- contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 541 535 6170 or execdir@talenturbanrenewal.com for additional details ASAP.

**From Talent Public Works
Chuck Roberts Parking Lot**

As many of you are aware the City of Talent has received a grant for the completion of the parking lot at Chuck Roberts Park located on Talent Avenue. The main elements of the design were reviewed and approved during the application stages of the grant. The consultant has completed the design moving past the conceptual design and onto the detailed elements of the design. We would like to extend an invitation to all interested citizens to an open house that will be held on June 11th, 2012 from 4:00pm-6:00pm at the Talent Community Center. The open house will give citizens the ability to review the planned improvements and share their thoughts while getting a solid understanding of the schedule and scope of the project. If you have any questions please feel free to call City of Talent Engineering at 541-535-5531.

Introducing the Jazz Men

The Jazz Men are an organized Big Band Jazz Ensemble consisting of talented musicians in the Jackson County area providing music from the Big Band era to the modern and contemporary sounds.

People enjoy listening to the Jazz Men because they “Re-live the Swing Era and the Big Band Classics” via live music at Concerts, Fund Raising events, Community affairs, Holiday Celebrations, Business and Club Functions and Ballroom Dances. Our music and turn-key operation is tailor made to fit any type of venue.

The Jazz Men Rehearse every Monday at the Talent City Library Conference Room from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.. Please feel free to swing by to hear a sample of our big sound music. Since this is a 17 piece band, there is standing room only.

Talent City Hall Art Gallery

Now showing “The Wild Life” exhibit, featuring local artists Judy Benson LaNier, Ron Hodgdon, Vincent Leandro, Joshua Weigang, Janice Rosenburg, Eva Thiemann, Elizabeth Zwick and their wildlife related art work. Paintings, drawings, photography and more. All original works! Come view all the beautiful art it will be on display until June 6th! Don't miss the next exhibit with artwork by students from the Community Works Program at Lithia Springs School. The exhibit will open June 11th and run through July 9th.

Please come and view Talent Public Art Committee member and Abstract Artist Megan Headley's work! Her studio is open and located at Studio 5, in downtown Talent. Studio 5 is located on the North side of the building complex (next to the parking lot behind Talent Tattoo Gallery) at 106 Talent Ave. Suite 5.

Studio visits may be arranged by appointment. Please contact Megan via Email: meganheadley31@gmail.com or view her work at www.meganmheadley.com

CITY OF TALENT JUNE CALENDAR

Mon, June 4 • Court

Wed, June 6 • City Council

Tues, June 12 • Together for Talent, Historical Society

Wed, June 13 • Parks

Thur, June 14 • Safety Committee

Mon, June 18 • Court

Tues, June 19 • Urban Renewal Agency, Architectural Review

Wed, June 20 • City Council

Thur, June 21 • Public Arts

Thurs, June 28 • Planning Comm.



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You can't control the market, but you can control your decisions.

Sometimes the market reacts poorly to changes in the world. But just because the market reacts doesn't mean you should. Still, if current events are making you feel uncertain about your finances, you should schedule a complimentary portfolio review. That way, you can help ensure you're in control of where you want to go and how you can potentially get there.

Take control. Schedule your free portfolio review today.



Jimmie L Smith, AAMS®

Financial Advisor

105 W Valley View Rd Suite #5

Talent, OR 97540

541-535-9499

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