



# 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

Economic development is so important for Talent to become a sustainable community. With that, I would like to continue last month's article with an update. The City Manager and I have completed the draft of a "Strategy for Economic Development". This strategy is based on a discussion we had with the Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development (SORED), Business Oregon and the Home Builders' Association. This strategy will be available on the "News from the Mayor" section of the City web site in the near future. (I think I said this last month but it has taken longer to put together than anticipated.) If you would like a copy sooner than later, let me know and I will e-mail you a copy. The City has already begun to implement this strategy. If you haven't already done so, take a look at the City of Talent web site. On the front page of this site you will find a new banner for doing business in Talent. When fully operational, you will be able to click on this web site to find much of the information needed to start doing business in Talent. We have also begun creating a list of available employment lands, and with the help of SORED, will begin developing an informational packet for companies interested in doing business in Talent. I have been reviewing our economic development strategy with all the City committees and commissions and asking for their input, --particularly in the area of special events that will draw visitors to Talent helping to stimulating our retail market.



There is only so much City Government can do to attract new business. We will continue to work with new businesses to get them established and operational in the most efficient and effective way possible. In the end, however, It will take a great deal of effort, commitment, creativity and dedication by all of us to move Talent from a bedroom community to a sustainable community that supports retail shopping, recreation, service clubs and a quality life style. It will not be easy, it will not be fast, but with all of us working together, it can be done. I would appreciate your comments and ideas on attracting new business to Talent and ideas on special events that will attract visitors, thereby stimulating our retail market. I hope you will join me in the vision that Talent can become a sustainable community with a quality life style.

**Bill Cecil, Mayor**  
541-535-1566  
mayor@cityoftalent.org  
**SAVE THE DATE FOR**

### THE ANNUAL TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL OCTOBER 5<sup>th</sup>!!!

Don't forget the Harvest Festival is right around the corner! Join us **Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** for a fun filled event for all ages. Remember this year the festivity hours will be **extended to 6 pm**. There will be many activities for all to enjoy including: delicious food vendors, local beer and wine garden from **Oberon's Tavern**, arts and craft booths, pony rides, rock climbing wall, a dunk tank and much more. Our live music features: **Dan & Friends of Patchy Sanders, Salsa Brava, Scannalach and Rogue Suspects**. This year we will have a second stage over by the skate park with more entertainment there will be **Jill Fjeldheim performing her clown show, Ballet Folkloria performing live dancing. There will also be more live music by: Ha'ena, Marty Vee, Stellar By Starlight and Thor Polson Trio**. You don't want to miss out on this wonderful community event so be sure to mark your calendars. There is still time if you would like to participate in the **Parade** or be a **vendor**. You can find applications on the City website: [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org) or at City Hall. For more information please contact Melissa Huhtala at 541-535-1566 or [melissa@cityoftalent.org](mailto:melissa@cityoftalent.org).

### Reduce Waste at the Harvest Festival Bring Your Own Bottle and Fill Up on Free Water

The Harvest Festival is pleased to provide a variety of recycling services. From Water on Wheels with **free**, cool water and standard silverware (not plastic) to a recycling station near the food court and handy recycling bins throughout, the Harvest Festival is all set to make reducing waste practical and convenient.

The Waste Recycling Station (near the library by the food court) will be staffed by Master Recyclers and other volunteers to answer questions about reducing your rubbish and leaving the least possible mess behind for the landfill!

You no longer have to use plastic silverware at the Harvest Festival. We are providing regular silverware for everyone. But please be sure and return the silverware to the designated bin at the Waste Recycling Station next to the food court. There are also special containers for your bottles and cans located throughout the festival area.

#### Free Water

Also, you can quench your thirst or fill your water bottle with cool filtered water for **FREE** at one of the WOWs, Water on Wheels. One will be on the cart located to the right of the music stage. The other one is planned to be at the end of the food court by the library. There are also water fountains near the public restrooms.

These recycling efforts are sponsored by the City's Together for Talent Committee and made possible with the help of our staff from Public Works, Master Recyclers and other volunteers.

### 'Firelines'-Fire Prevention Week / Open House 2013 "Preventing Kitchen Fires"

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 is designed to educate people about the importance of "Preventing Kitchen Fires."

In cooperation with National Fire Prevention Week, Jackson County Fire District # 5 will hold our annual Open House/Barbeque on October 8, 2013, from 5-7pm. The Open House activities will focus on home fire hazards and emphasize "Preventing Kitchen Fires" and the use, maintenance and care of working smoke alarms.

There will be 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.

Hope to see you all there, October 8, 2013, 5-7pm!

**Dan Marshall, Fire Chief**  
**Jackson County Fire District # 5**

### Adopt a Tree

By: **Diana Reynolds Roome**

Talent's Friends of Trees will soon present their first offerings of **free trees** to the community. For more than a year, FoT -- a subcommittee of Together for Talent -- has been building up a nursery of young saplings, deciduous and evergreen trees ranging from maple to cypress, crab apple to madrone. The first of these are now well established enough to be planted, and you will be able to see samples of those available at the **Harvest Festival on October 5**.

If you have a space in your yard that begs for a tree, to create shade, cool your house, produce fruit, or just look beautiful, visit the Together for Talent booth where you can sign up to adopt a tree.

It is important to have a suitable location available before picking up a tree, and to be sure that planting is permissible if your home is rented or leased. For owners, trees are a valuable resource which can even increase the value of your property.

Friends of Trees is dedicated to increasing the pool of beautiful and useful trees in our community. Your role is simply to take, plant, and care for a tree so it can grow to its full potential. You can also **donate a tree** to the FoT Nursery. If you have a young tree growing the wrong place in your yard and do not have a plan for it, please plant it in a pot and contact Friends of Trees.

More questions? Visit the TFT booth at the Harvest Festival. Or contact Sharon Anderson: 541-535-9055.

### Teams Pulling Weeds for Talent!

Talent volunteers are organizing to pull weeds on lawns and landscaping in front of the library and City Hall in support of the city's recent decision to make these areas pesticide and herbicide free. To join a weed team or adopt a garden patch call Liz Zwick at (541) 499-2264 or email [lizzwick@yahoo.com](mailto:lizzwick@yahoo.com). Let's pull together to keep these well used areas safe and inviting.

October, 2013

Volume 14/Issue 10

Official

Newsletter of the City of

Talent

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### News from the Planning Department

#### Volunteers Needed

The City is looking to fill a vacancy on the Talent Planning Commission. Except during the holidays the Planning Commission meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Civic participation can be very rewarding and educational. Please contact Zac Moody at 535-7401 or Melissa Huhtala at 535-1566 for any specific questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

#### 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. Please contact Community Development Director Zac Moody at 541-535-7401 for any specific questions.

### Rules for Yard and Garage Sale Signage

As we near the end of summer and the yard sale season comes to a close we would like to remind our residents

of some of the rules for the placement of signs and provide some alternatives to yard sale signs to make your sale a success.

There are two ordinances that residents need to follow when having a yard or garage sale:

**Ordinance #523 Section 84  
Notices and Advertisements:**

*No person shall attach a placard, bill, advertisement or poster upon any city property, to include light poles, trees, telephone poles or similar structures, at other than designated places, at any time.*

**Ordinance #543 Section 17  
Obstructing Streets:**

*No person shall park or leave on a street, including alley, parking strip, sidewalk or curb, a vehicle part, trailer, box, ware, merchandise of any description, or any other thing that impedes traffic or obstructs the view, except as allowed by this or other ordinances of the City.*

So where do I advertise my sale if I can't post signs on poles or sidewalks?

Here are a few great alternatives to posting signs.

Advertise your garage sale on Craigslist

Pass out flyers

Advertise on social media sites and

Post on community bulletin boards.

## Current Planning Activities

### Planning Commission to Discuss Current Chicken Ordinance

Over the course of the past year, the Community Development Department has been fielding questions from local residents about which areas of the city can have chickens and whether or not roosters are allowed. On September 26<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Commission will hold a work session to discuss the ordinance and any changes that may be necessary. The Planning Commission will be addressing which zones chickens should be allowed, how many chickens a single property can have and siting requirements for chicken coops. The Community Development Department Staff would like to invite residents with questions or concerns about the current chicken ordinance to this meeting. These types of meetings provide Planning Staff with the input necessary to make or amend these types of ordinances. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact Zac Moody, Community Development Director at 541-535-7401.

## News from Talent PD

*By Chief Moran*

This month we experience later sunrises as Standard time doesn't kick back in until November now. The main concern with that is that early morning commuters on bikes and afoot cannot be seen as well. Please watch for them.

Several citizens in town report speeding cars on their streets. Some of these streets are narrow residential streets that I find need to be driven below the speed limit. In school areas and residential areas at times, driving the posted speed can be too fast for the conditions then existing. Again, please slow down.

You know by now that I am a big supporter of citing those who violate the law prohibiting talking or texting on cell phones. The issue of distracted driving is literally killing people. Today, I just saw a call reporting someone driving very slowly on I5 in the slow lane while typing into a laptop computer. It is amazing how many people put driving second to doing other tasks while driving.

I received a letter of thanks and commendation from a Talent couple who reported a missing adult case to us. They were very complimentary of the professional work and compassion showed by the three TPD employees

who helped look for the missing person. Corporal Dave Plummer, Detective Dave Lorenz and Police Clerk Melisa Hansson were each mentioned for their efforts. Thank you.

I just received the FBI report on Offenses Known to Law Enforcement in the state. In 2012 Talent had 7 Violent Crimes including 3 rapes, 1 robbery, and 3 aggravated assaults. In property crime we had 228 crimes with 31 burglaries and 194 thefts. Additionally, there were 3 vehicle thefts and 2 arsons.

Many factors play into crime statistics. Our population is reported to be 6158. Our city is a very safe community. In part that is because we have citizens who are willing to get involved and assist us as well as having citizens who take crime prevention seriously. Thank you for your support.

## From the Parks and Recreation Commission Bark Park News

It sets our tails wagging just thinking about the recent and upcoming improvements to our dog park. A new layer of decomposed granite has been added to the path, and curbing has been installed to prevent soil from spilling into the Police Department parking lot. A large memorial stone, which dogs can climb upon, will soon be in place. The kiosk is now available for folks to post pet-related news, plus pictures of their pets, poems, or anything else that might bring a smile. Contact us at [ParksComm@cityoftalent.org](mailto:ParksComm@cityoftalent.org) if you have something to post, or if you have ideas or questions about our parks.

Finally, while the Commission is happy to welcome new commissioner Carl Shauger, we are still one commissioner and two alternate commissioners short of capacity. Please pick up an application at City Hall if you are interested in serving.

## News from the Talent Public Art Committee

The Talent Public Arts Committee presents: "Abundance".

On show from Sept. 9th - Nov.8th, 2013 at the City Hall Gallery.

110 E. Main St. Talent, OR

Hours are from 8:30 am -5 pm M-F.

Also on show are Glassworks by Terry Cooper Sullivan.

Come see some great new works by local artists for FREE!

**Also:** Join us at the Talent Public Library on Thursday, Oct. 3rd at 5:15pm to begin forming a new Public Arts support team. These "Friends" will help create and implement art projects and other pro-Talent work on their own, with guidance from the TPAC. If you would like to join but are unable to make it, please let me know at [TPAC@cityoftalent.org](mailto:TPAC@cityoftalent.org) and I will pass on your information to this group. No experience required, but enthusiasm and patience are a must! Open to all Talent residents.

## Pay Online with the City of Talent

The City of Talent now offers an Online payment option for many City services.. There is a small processing fee that is paid directly to GovTeller when the transaction is completed. Please visit our website at [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org). The "Pay with GovTeller" button is located on the bottom of the home page.

Want to avoid the processing fee when paying your utility bill? Sign up for Email Utility Bills and Monthly AutoPay for your City of Talent utility bill. It is easy to do, the authorization forms are available on the Utility Billing page of our website and at City Hall. Please take advantage of these great payment options. If you have any questions, give us a call 541-535-1566