



Elk Ridge Bugle

Year 2003 Edition

Stephanie Christensen - Editor

Message from the Mayor

ATV's: A favorite Subject. Ty Currie is interested in creating a citizen group to address both the problems and use of ATV's. As is well known we have a problem. Abuse by some is tainting the pleasure of others. There has to be some kind of compromise. Call the Mayor if you are interested in becoming involved. Even if you are not part of the problem you can be a part of the solution.

Street Sign Changes-on E. Park Drive: Twenty-five mph signs have been installed at the request of citizen's living above the City Hall. Safety is the objective. Beginning on March 15 2003 there will be an enforcement emphasis by the sheriff's department. Since the sign change will have been installed over a week prior to the enforcement emphasis, most citizens should be aware of the reduction in speed by then. There will be a special one-half hour council session on the 25th of March for input and discussion. If you want to address the Council that night you must sign up not later than 12 noon on the 25th. Please plan on keeping your comments to 2 minutes so we can hear from all who want to make their concerns known. Mr. Scot Sessions will be presenting the results of a follow-up study on traffic patterns.

Water, Storm Drains, Development, and Roads: The City recently spent nearly \$5,000 to clean out the storm drain collector pots. The sumps are a stop-gap attempt to restrain the storm surges until we have instilled a collector system to receive the run-off water from storms. The retention pond project on Gooseneast has yet to accumulate funds sufficient to bring it into operation. I remain committed to avoiding a citywide storm drain collector system where every home would be connected whether need exists or not. Rather, I favor addressing individual street needs as appropriate. Still, for much of the area that currently has curb and gutter systems, there must be a means of handling storm runoff water, thus the need of construction of the retention pond. Funding has four possibilities: 1. General Fund, 2. A tax levy, 3. A separate fee schedule such as we have for sewer, or 4. Increase the sewer fees to cover both sewer and storm water maintenance. The fee schedule is not yet determined but figures of \$2.50 to \$5.00 monthly per household is being considered. On the 11th of March the council will discuss this subject and the public is invited to express their opinions regarding the issue. It is never popular to increase taxes or fees to our citizens but it is also inappropriate that the council neglect to attend to issues that have a deleterious affect upon the city. If we fail to address the issue of run-off water from storms there will be a continuing deterioration of our roads.

Entry Sign to City: To this date I have heard from three citizens regarding a new sign at the head of county road 1600 and Gooseneast. So far no negative comments other than cost. It appears that either people are not interested, don't care, or favor improving the entrance to our community. We have a volunteer offer from one citizen to donate labor for the base foundation fascia work and suggestions as to how we might build the sign ourselves for a lesser cost. This item will be on the agenda in our March 11th council meeting, if you have any comments or suggestions please let us know.

Sewer Expansion: We continue to have conversations with Salem and Payson regarding the collection of effluent. Our current system is nearing its capacity therefore we must explore alternatives before options become out of reach. As negotiations progress we will keep the community apprised of what is happening.

New Well: We are nearly finished with everything associated with the new well. So far it is on-line and appears to be well under budget. Some of the credit for containment of cost goes to Mr. & Mrs. Cloward for their generous donation of additional land needed to drill the replacement well.

Street Light: Wow! If ever something moved at a snails pace that was a prime example. But, the light is in at the junction of county road 1600 and the highway. Many voices went into getting the light installed. Thanks everyone for your patience.

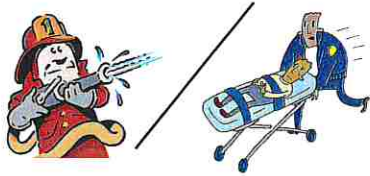
Crosswalk: Summer is coming and our children will be on the streets headed toward the city park. Any volunteers for crossing guard?

Farewell: Many in our community have been activated for a minimum of one year to become part of the Iraq confrontation. Our prayers and thoughts will continue to be with them and their families. My personal thanks to each one for their contribution to the safety of our way of life.

Stake House: Many of you may already know that a new stake house is being considered for a parcel of land north of the Haskell development on Gooseneast. Hopefully it will be under construction within the year. There are many T's to cross and I's to dot but it will be a welcome addition to our community.

Change of Guard: Many thanks to Fire Chief Seth Waite for his years of service. Chief Waite has served the city well and I have accepted his letter of resignation with regret but wish him well in his new assignment.

Elk Ridge Fire/EMS Department.



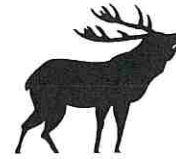
Fire Chief. We as a fire department are saddened in seeing our Fire Chief, Seth Waite, resign. He has been called to active duty with the National Guard, Battalion 1457 Combat Engineers. Seth has been an exceptional Fire Chief; we all have great respect for him and will miss him. He will do this country an outstanding job where ever he serves, as he did for the city of Elk Ridge.

Seth had been on the fire department for 9 years and Fire Chief for 5. While in command many great improvements to our department took place. He established our EMT program that is steadily progressing. He replaced an old undependable truck with a newer better fire truck, as well as other equipment. Seth brought a high level of training and more than doubled our personnel. A warm heartfelt goodbye and good luck to our friend and Chief of Command- Seth Waite.

Spot Light. Brian Thaut has lived here for 12 years. He volunteered on our fire department for 2 years before he served an LDS Mission in Brazil. He came home last November and resumed his firefighter position. Brian is a Web Designer and enjoys outdoor activities as well as computers. He especially likes water skiing and wave running. He would like to see Elk Ridge stay small where everyone knows each other. We extend a huge THANK YOU to Brian and all he does to better our community.

Attention all Elk Ridge Citizens. In honor of National EMS week, we will be having a mock disaster (earthquake). Wednesday May 21st, between 7:00-7:30 p.m. Look for more detailed information in next month's newsletter and from your 3 steps Group Captains.

More City Business



Elk Ridge City Celebration. It's hard to believe that it's already time to start making preparations for the 2003 Elk Ridge City Celebration. The dates for this year's celebration are June 26-28. We need a theme for this year's celebration. If you would like to suggest a theme please submit your ideas to Todd Jackson @ 172 E. Alpine Drive 423-7919, or to the city offices.

Parks, Trails and Beautification Committee. We are proposing the formation of a committee tasked with developing, recommending and assisting with the implementation of parks, trails and city beautification projects. The committee will consist of five members- two with a three-year term and three with a one-year term. We would love to have committee members that live in the various areas of town. The committee will meet monthly as ideas are developed and documented and then at least quarterly. If you would like to volunteer for this committee please contact Todd Jackson @ 423-7919 or the city offices.

Arbor Day. Arbor Day is celebrated in Utah on April 25th this year. We would like to encourage every home to plant a tree or two this year. Trees can be purchased very affordably through the Arbor Day Foundation. Their website is arborday.org. A \$10.00 membership includes 10 6-12" trees that are shipped directly to you. Elk Ridge City will be planting a number of trees this year around the park and city building courtesy of a \$1,000 grant from the state.