



# Elk Ridge Bugle

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December 2008

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## Message from the Mayor

What a great season we are moving into. The excitement of Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New years all on the heels of each other is wonderful and fun. I love it and I try not to let it overwhelm me when it comes to celebrating these events. Sayings like, 'Keep it simple' and 'Live within your means' and 'Do you want it or need it' always come to my mind when I am standing there looking at what is on the store shelves or on the pages of the catalog. Even now the screen of my computer presents to me additional options for that hard earned money and where it can be diverted.

Traditions that families have during this season really do make it special. I know of a family that donates food to the food bank in Provo instead of giving gifts to their neighbors. I know of other families that donate goods to the second hand stores and homeless shelters so that those less fortunate have resources to rely on. Some families not only participate in these activities, but have other events that they do. Events like having a dinner or gathering that can rival any Rotary or Lions club activity. Other, more simple things, like going to a local theater to see a Christmas play or watching the movie 'It's a wonderful life' again. You know how much influence that movie has had when you catch yourself saying, out loud, the words to the movie before the characters have said them. The value of events rests in what we choose to get from them. I'm sure that most of us have been changed by events that we have not expected but when they happened, we took the time to find their value.

Four years ago I decided to ask all of my children and their spouses if they would like to build a nativity set, out of the clay that you can bake in your oven, and each year we could do that and each year one of the families would get the set to keep. We put the names of the characters in a bowl and we all took turns drawing out the items that each of us would be responsible for. We keep a list of who makes what and make sure that the responsibilities change each year. You would not believe the emotions and care that go into forming each piece. It is incredible to see the finished product. It is even more incredible to see the joy and unity that results from all of us working together.

As a community I often see people helping clear snow off of the driveways and walks of the elderly or someone who can't do it for themselves. It is wonderful to see people care for each other and do things that make a positive difference. This season I would encourage all of you to say 'thank you' to more people, do something for someone else, give some time for another's benefit, and smile when being challenged. May you all have a wonderful holiday season and a new year that contains great promise and prosperity.

## Increase in Garbage Rates

There will be an increase in your garbage charges from the city due to the fact that the city's provider, Allied Waste Service, has increased their rates as of July 1, 2008. Because of a billing error in November, your December bill will be \$10.00. Starting January 2009 your bill will reflect the increase from \$10.00 to \$11.00. There will be no increase in the \$5 charge for an extra garbage can.

An added note relating to garbage cans, if your **garbage can is broken or damaged** please call Allied Waste Service at 785-5935.

## WINTER PARKING

*Remember, we are going into winter, snow-removal mode. There will be no street parking allowed from **November 1<sup>st</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>.***

## **Sheriff's Corner**



I received a call from **Rudolf (Mr. Red Nose)** the other day and he said he was concerned when he heard about dogs in the area chasing his friends and family. Rudolf said it is very common this time of year for more of his friends to come off the mountain to greener pastures because of the impending winter. Rudolf said most of the other deer enjoy the relationship they have with their neighbors, and would like that relationship continue. As I continued to listen to Rudolf, he said the two main problems were loose dogs in the area, and cars driving perhaps a little faster than they should.

At one point as I continued to speak with Rudolf I had to interrupt him and explain that I would let everyone know to slow down and to assist him in keeping domesticated animals from chasing deer. I assured Rudolf it was not intentional, but I would remind everyone that it was still against the law and the deer don't need more stress in the winter or any other time of the year. Rudolf expressed his appreciation, but then I had to request one thing of him. Rudolf replied sure he would be willing to help in anyway he could. I explained the concern of deer eating our plants mainly in the winter. For some reason the only thing I heard was he was losing cell service.....Go Figure. On a serious note please keep our wildlife friends in mind when out doors.

### **Just a reminder, Winter Parking:**

Elk Ridge City has an Ordinance about winter parking on the city streets. The purpose of this ordinance is to allow the city snow plows to get their job done, and to assist you in your travels making it as safe as possible. Last year was not a big problem even with all of the snow we had. This is just a reminder the time has now come and if we start our good habits now, it will be easier later. Thank you!

On behalf of the Utah County Sheriff's Office, I would like to wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season. And again thank you for allowing me to serve you as your community Sheriff.

Voice your proactive concerns directly to me at: [jt195@yahoo.com](mailto:jt195@yahoo.com). Just include location of the concern. All others please call dispatch at 851-4100, and report the incident there. I will return your email as soon as possible and you will remain anonymous. **Thank You!**

## **DRUG DISPOSAL DROP-OFF**

What do you do with unused or out of date and unneeded prescription drugs?

**Do not** flush them down the toilet or pour them down the drain. The sewer plant cannot remove the drugs from the water through the treatment process. The drugs simply continue to go downstream.

Salem City has a locked, mounted steel Pharmaceutical Disposal bin in the entry of the new city center at 30 West 100 South in Salem. To use this disposal bin, simply **clean out your cabinet** of any medications that have expired or are no longer needed, and drop them in the bin. This service is free and private. You have **no forms to fill out** or questions to answer. The drugs are incinerated to properly destroy the chemicals.

You no longer need to take the risk of accidental use of these surplus drugs in your home. Make your environment a safer place for your self, your children and your grandchildren.

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## **Holiday Food Drive**

Community Action Services and Food Bank, the local food bank for Utah, Summit and Wasatch Counties, would like to thank the community for their support. We encourage everyone to continue giving generously to those in need this holiday season by taking food to any drop-off point or by participating in local food drives. The items you donate during the Holiday Food Drive will help us adequately meet the increased need for food assistance in our community. For the month of December, we are making a special request for donations of hams or turkeys so we can provide holiday meals to those we serve. Along with food, CASFB also accepts cash donations.

Donations can be taken to any Jiffy Lube or Smith's location, as well as the Community Action Food Bank located at 815 S. Freedom Blvd. in Provo or its affiliated food pantries. Go online to [www.communityactionuc.org](http://www.communityactionuc.org), or call us at (801)-373-8200, to find a location close to your home. All donations go directly to helping people in this community.

## **CAT PROBLEMS ?**

It is brought to our attention, often, that the cats that wander about town create some nuisance issues. Because the cats will not wait for the animal control officer to pick them up, the city has purchased two (2) live cat traps. These traps can be used by coming into the office and checking them out. When you catch the cat you will need to call the county animal control officer

and he will take the cat out of the trap. If you catch a skunk or raccoon, please **do not** let them go. We have instructions on how to deal with the latter two animals.

### **New Elk Ridge Directory**

**Coming January 2009**

Jace Knuteson's Eagle Project



If you do not want your contact information printed in the directory, or if you are new to Elk Ridge and want to be included,

**please call 423-8043**

**If I receive no call I will include your info.**

List of residence received from City Office, other information from current phone books.

*Advertisement Space* is available for \$20 (business card size), which will pay for printing cost.

### **FROM THE EMERGENCY CORNER HOW I SEE IT**

*By Spence Sheets, Elk Ridge City  
Emergency Management Director*

Another successful emergency drill was held last month. This drill simulated a large earthquake resulting in numerous injuries and with some losing their lives; an EMP event was also simulated. The City Fire Department circled the city with sirens announcing the beginning of the drill. This was also the first time the new telephone alert system was used by the Utah County Sheriffs Department in our city. This computerized system notified all homes in the city of the emergency drill in less than forty-five minutes, which will be an excellent addition to our capability when the real emergency occurs.

The Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) were very effective, finding and triaging *most* of the victims. In the city there are seven teams, one located at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and six other teams evenly distributed throughout the city. The teams were not 100% effective however as there were some injured and a few dead who were not located; the goal for the next drill will be to find and triage all victims.

The six neighborhood chairmen continued to hone their skills working with the block captains, the communication people, the CERTs and the EOC. The chairmen communicated with their block captains via the FRS radios (walky-talky) and reported at the debriefing the radios worked well for those who had them; if the block captains did not have FRS radios, runners were

dispatched to the staging areas with the triage status.

During the drill, a surprise electromagnetic pulse (EMP) was simulated about forty-five minutes into the drill. All electronic communications ceased, electricity was turned off and all automobiles, four-wheelers, motorcycles, and generators "ceased to function". Runners were used to communicate between the staging areas and the EOC. This simulated a scenario which could happen as described over the past two months in this Elk Ridge City newsletter.

We also had a surprise visit from a rogue band of marauders who stopped at the entrance of the city at the "T". The leader drove his motorcycle up on the lawn of the EOC, dressed in leathers with headband, and demanded to know who was the Mayor. Mayor Dunn identified himself; the leader directed him to read the following letter:

*Dear Ex-Mayor,  
I am now mayor. I represent  
the Biker's Brigade -- all 200 of  
us -- who are waiting at the  
junction of Elk Ridge Drive and  
Goosenest Rd. Since the  
earthquake, things have been  
kind of tough in Las Vegas so  
we decided to move north. We  
like how you Mormons do things  
-- lots of wives and lots of food  
and we will have both. We will  
each select a house we want to  
live in. You will round up all  
your women so we can take our  
pick. We want 2 a piece.*

*Pinky*

EOC Security "apprehended" the villain and all was restored to order. Although this may seem humorous, it is a very possible scenario.

All in all the drill went well; there was good cooperation between the city and the ecclesiastical communities; the church was responsible for the relocation of the homeless. There are still many rough edges, but those are being honed. We are doing very well compared to many cities throughout the state and nation. Thanks for your participation as a community; you are becoming better prepared!

Put on your calendar a most important visit by Dr. Susan Puls who will lecture on the upcoming pandemic; this is a "no miss" lecture! She is a representative of the Church who has been sent

by the brethren to prepare us for this upcoming event. She will speak January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at the Spanish Fork East Stake Center, 870 E. Canyon Road. ***PLAN TO BE THERE!!***

The next city drill is scheduled for April 18, 2009.  
Remember:

***IT ISN'T IF, IT'S WHEN!***