



# Elk Ridge Bugle

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January 2009

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## HOLD ON TO GOOD

Mayor Dennis Dunn

Well, this month the change of command in the United States will be an historical event. What a wonderful country we live in to be able to participate in the choosing of a President and sustaining the process of governing this blessed land. Regardless of whom you voted for, this president needs every citizen to pay attention to the issues and to be as industrious and active as you are capable. In this recession, we presently face challenges that are testing our capacities for survival. Not only will you be financially tested but you will be tested emotionally, spiritually, and ethically.

When I was young, the line that divided right from wrong, good from bad, light from dark, yes from no, the left from the right seemed to be finer than it appears to be now. That fine line for many has grown wider and grayer. Things that were unacceptable 10 or 20 years ago are now common practice. Granted, some things needed to change, but things that confuse honesty and integrity should still have no place in what we do. The measure of integrity is what you do when no one else is looking. Isn't it interesting that the courts get busier and law enforcement is challenged and burdened by the escalation of illegal activities? Isn't it interesting that many (not all) of the financial woes being experienced now can be backtracked to actions and risks with unsound performance features?

Jimmy Durante has been credited with a profound bit of wisdom. He has been quoted as saying, "Be kind to the people you pass on your way up in life. They are the same people you will pass on your way down". Holding grudges and harboring contention generate ailing environments and divert energy and time that should be better spent on more positive actions. I had two good neighbors who were very close friends and had walked up in life together until a dispute divided them. They became bitter enemies and spent nearly a decade tormenting each other with suits and counter suits. Both of them have passed away now and without ever coming to a resolution of the battle they held onto so firmly. Nothing was ever fixed or repaired. Not a single act of goodness towards each other came from their relationship in their final days. It saddens me to think of the time they wasted in holding on to such hatred and bitterness. The irony is that both men were good men.

Being in the political arena is really a tempering experience. Not only does a heavy mantle of responsibility rest upon your shoulders but for some reason you become the bull's-eye for many people's targets. It is unfortunate that pointing fingers and blaming others is so socially accepted. Most people in this country are good people trying to do their best. Some do it better than others.

So, what can be done to raise our social environments to a higher level this New Year? Honesty still works, so does kindness, thankfulness, obedience to law, helping others, being teachable and sharing. These virtues as well as many others should never go out of style. Holding on to good and ethical values and putting them into practice will help to define and put a sharper focus on that gray line. Let us all try to do all that we can to make this a good New Year.

## SNOW REMOVAL

With all of the snow that we have had dumped on us, it is time to remind you of the removal process that is put into action here. The city trucks begin by plowing the main roads in and out of town, then the school bus routes are plowed and finally the remaining through streets, cul-d-sacs and dead-ends. When the trucks get ahead of the storm, they return to all of the areas to widen and clean-up the roads in preparation for the next storm. Sometimes that clean-up does not happen until the next day or several days later.

One of the things that the drivers of our snow plows have noticed when doing the clean-up is that some home owners are pushing and blowing a considerable amount of snow back into the cleaned roads. In some places it has actually reduced the width of the road to one-way travel and in every instance has reversed the safety of the road by producing a slippery area that now becomes a challenge for drivers. If an accident happens as a consequence of your efforts to put snow back in the roads, you will be liable for the damage that results. If you want to put snow in the roads, move it before the snow plows clean-up the roads, not after. State code 72-7-303 prohibits "willful or careless obstructions" on public roads. The penalty for this violation is a class B misdemeanor.

Our drivers work very hard to make the roads as safe as possible. This means working when the storms are here at any time of the day or night. Some storms eat up many man hours and thousands of dollars of salt and sand. Please help us by keeping the roads clean and safe.

### **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 hope everyone had the opportunity to spend time this holiday season with your friends and family. Most of the time this time of year also allows me to slow down. I appreciate your assistance in that.

There have been a few concerns since winter has arrived. With the inviting activities with the recent snow fall, I would like to ask you as the parents to speak with your child about the throwing of snowballs at vehicles and property that does not belong to them. No doubt there nothing is like a good snowball fight when the snow is fresh, but the unintentional damage to other property and or possible physical injury to others brings the activity to a halt. Please mention this to your children.

Since the new water tank has been installed there are certain concerns which arise. The city has a responsibility under federal guidelines to keep your water safe. This also includes keeping the water tank free from damage, and or the possibility. Since the tank has been install I have received a few complaints about person(s) on and or around the area of the tank. No doubt it would also be great for sledding, but due to the cities responsibility we are asking you to assist your children in understanding the seriousness of this issue at hand. In Elk Ridge there are several areas which are appropriate for this activity. We are only asking not to use the water tank for your outdoor activities. Thanks!!!

Remember also the new ATV Law, Helmets are to be used at all times under 18 years of age and the speed limit is no more than 20 mph.

For the past year, I have been your Deputy assigned to your community. I have enjoyed working with you and your city government. I have received several emails from you, and I hope you feel I have addressed them in a timely manner. No doubt I cannot perhaps do everything as we may want, but I would like you to keep in mind, my primary concern is for the safety of all in and around the city of Elk Ridge. As always if you have a proactive concern please notify me via email below.

Happy New Year to you and your family!

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!

### **NEW ATV LAW**

We have a new ATV law that is now part of this community. In a nutshell, this is what to expect. Children, ages 8 thru 15, may operate an ATV when only in the company of a legal adult 18 years of age or older. The youth driver must be within 300 feet of that legal adult and must be

wearing a helmet and cannot exceed the 20 MPH speed limit for ATV's.

All ATV operators 17 years and younger must wear a helmet. No exceptions are allowed. The younger operators, ages 8 thru 15 must have an OHV permit issued by the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation as well as being accompanied by a legal adult 18 years of age or older. Operators 16 and up must have a legal drivers license and cannot exceed the 20 MPH speed limit for ATV's.

All of these laws will be strictly enforced by the Sheriff. It is your responsibility to know the law and abide by it. Ignorance of this law will not be an excuse. Visit the city web site at [www.elkridgecity.org](http://www.elkridgecity.org) to read the entire ATV code.

To aid in educating the public and help in compliance with the law, we will be setting up a course for the OHV permit. This will be as the weather permits and will take place here on the streets of Elk Ridge. We will keep you posted as details for this event come into focus.

### **DUMPSTER SCHEDULED**

There will be a dumpster at the city office from January 13-20<sup>th</sup> for **CHRISTMAS TREES ONLY!!**

### **FROM ALLIED**

If you should need your trash picked up more than the regular weekly pick-up, Allied Waste will empty your trash can two extra times a month for an additional \$15.00. If you are interested you may contact them directly at 785-5935. The extra pick-up will not be reflected on your monthly billing, you will receive a separate bill from Allied.

### **From the Fire Department**

We from the Fire department wish everyone in the city a safe, happy and prosperous new year. With all the new gadgets from Christmas please wear good safety gear. Helmets will keep you in one piece and out of a hospital ER. As we get deeper into winter be safe driving and always be aware of ice.

As I have driven around the city I have seen many fire hydrants cleared and accessible, Thank you for helping us help you. If you know

of a neighbor that is having problems clearing a hydrant, a helping hand is always welcome. I want to take a moment and thank all of our volunteers for the great job they do. They are always there when you call. If you know one, take a moment and pass on a thank you as well. Be Safe this new year and thanks for all the support of the Fire Department and Emergency Services.

Seth Waite  
Fire Chief, ERFD

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

*By Spence Sheets, Elk Ridge City Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Director*

Last month, this page ended by discussing the upcoming pandemic, and a lecture by Dr. Susan Puls was announced. This month the pandemic issue is being discussed in more detail to provide some background in preparation for the lecture, and hopefully to stimulate your interest in attending the lecture on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month.

Perhaps a definition of the difference between a pandemic and an epidemic should be provided. An epidemic is a disease which quickly and severely affects a large number of people and then subsides. A pandemic is an epidemic of infectious disease that spreads through populations across a large region; for instance a continent, or even worldwide.

Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated in an article published in the *La Crosse Tribune* Published Friday, September 05, 2008:

*"Ready or not, a flu pandemic is coming", says Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Gerberding talked about preparing for the pandemic threat at a national conference Thursday at Logistics Health in La Crosse. "No one knows when the pandemic is coming or what strain of flu virus will cause it, but it is overdue", she said.*

*She said she has only two meetings a week at the CDC and one focuses on flu pandemic preparations. "We take it very seriously," Gerberding said, adding that the national*

strategy is to "save lives and sustain a civil society" during a pandemic.

*She said politicians are not talking about a flu pandemic or the bird flu virus, which may or may not be the virus that causes the next pandemic.*

*"No one is talking about it, and it's not on their radar screen," Gerberding said. She said CDC officials are closely monitoring the bird flu virus, which has a death rate of 63 percent among the 385 cases reported worldwide since 2003. "It is a moving target, and we have to stay on top of it," Gerberding said*

The complete article can be read at:  
[www.lacrossetribune.com](http://www.lacrossetribune.com)

The LDS Church has a website which provides information about how a family can protect against the upcoming pandemic and can be accessed at the following link:

<http://providentliving.org/content/display/0,11666,8041-1-4414-1,00.html>

Then click on Pandemic Preparedness Planning which will bring you to the subject material which states in part:

*A severe pandemic (defined as a world-wide epidemic) in a vulnerable population, such as the 1918 flu pandemic, represents a worst-case scenario for pandemic planning and preparedness. Communities, individuals, employers, schools, and other organizations are being asked to plan for the use of interventions that will help limit the spread of disease. At this time, there is concern because of continued spread of a highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) virus among animals in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe which has the potential to significantly threaten human health. If a virus such as H5N1 mutates and spreads easily from one person to another, avian influenza may break out globally. While there are no reports of sustained human-to-human transmission of avian influenza, governments and international health agencies are preparing for a possible pandemic. A pandemic can originate from*

any "unknown" source, such as the H5N1 virus.

This site provides information regarding general precautions, disinfection, isolation with appropriate references.

Last month, it was announced Dr. Susan Puls would be speaking on this subject on January 25, 2009 at the Spanish Fork East Stake Center. Sister Puls is no longer doing public speaking so will not be lecturing as previously announced. However Kenneth Moraveck who is an expert on pandemics and contributed heavily to the *Provident Living* website, will be speaking in her place and he is excellent! This fireside will be held at the same time, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 6:00, at the same place, the Spanish Fork East Stake Center, 870 E. Canyon Road, so **PLAN TO BE THERE!!**

**Remember:**

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

### **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.

**Deadline is January 15th**