

Elk Ridge Bugle

Year 2002 Edition

Stephanie Christensen - Editor

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On Time! On Budget! And on Target!

The new well is bottomed out at 980 feet with a sixteen-inch casing. While we have yet to connect the new well to the distribution line everything looks great. The bid to drill the well was \$274,300. We still have engineering, pump, and other associated costs but we borrowed \$350,000 to get the job done.

Have you noticed that the County modified Country Road 1600 above the new bridge? Someone, Betty Lou Bean, expressed concern to the City office that the way the old stripes were laid down, there would be a head-on collision sooner rather than later. Several other folks mentioned the problem too. We wrote a letter to the County and they immediately jumped on the problem. It goes to show that citizens can make a difference.

Goosenest & North Park Drive. Whoops! We really goofed on that corner. The way it turned out was not what we had in mind. Its been fixed now and I think with the new turn lanes into the Haskell development we have a safer road. We got more than one call on that one. Even with the best of intentions, things can turn out badly. One citizen was seen walking along the road with a five gallon bucket of water to test the pitch and runoff on the first effort. The road didn't pass the test. It does now.

On the corner at North Park Drive and East Park Drive where it joins with Elk Meadows, we have some work to do there in the spring. The turn lane isn't what we want and it will be modified. Our greatest concern however, was to widen the road and provide safe parking for the parents dropping off and picking up children. We also wanted to get rid of the layer of gravel that was constantly being tossed into the road when drivers cut the corner through the gravel edge. Come spring we will re-stripe and do a little more adjusting of the edges.

You may have noticed on the east side of North Park Drive adjacent to the Haskell development that we are modifying the ditch. Up until now runoff water had created deep gullies, which in places tended to undermine the road edges. Also mud had filled in the previous ditch and rendered the whole thing a mess. The culvert at the end of Goosenest and North Park Drive is full of mud. We are digging the trench a little deeper, laying in large rock to slow the water down and cleaning out the culvert. We hope it temporarily solves some of the runoff problems we have in that area. Eventually we will pipe the runoff water to the retention pond when it is finished, read 2-3 years.

We get varying comments on our newsletter. Some like it, others toss it without reading. Our intention is to use it as a means of letting the community know what is going on, how your tax dollar is being spent, and what special things are planned.

You may not know it but a committee headed by Linda Goodwin is actively developing the "Three Step Program" for the City of Elk Ridge.

Have you considered just how well we are prepared for a major disaster? Thanks to a lot of dedicated citizens we are addressing many of the questions that arise when one considers a major earthquake or other major event. Keep your eyes and ears tuned in the next few months to see what is happening. Everything is geared to meeting emergency needs and response in both medical, fire, safety, and health. Did you know we live in a fault zone? Volunteers, anyone?

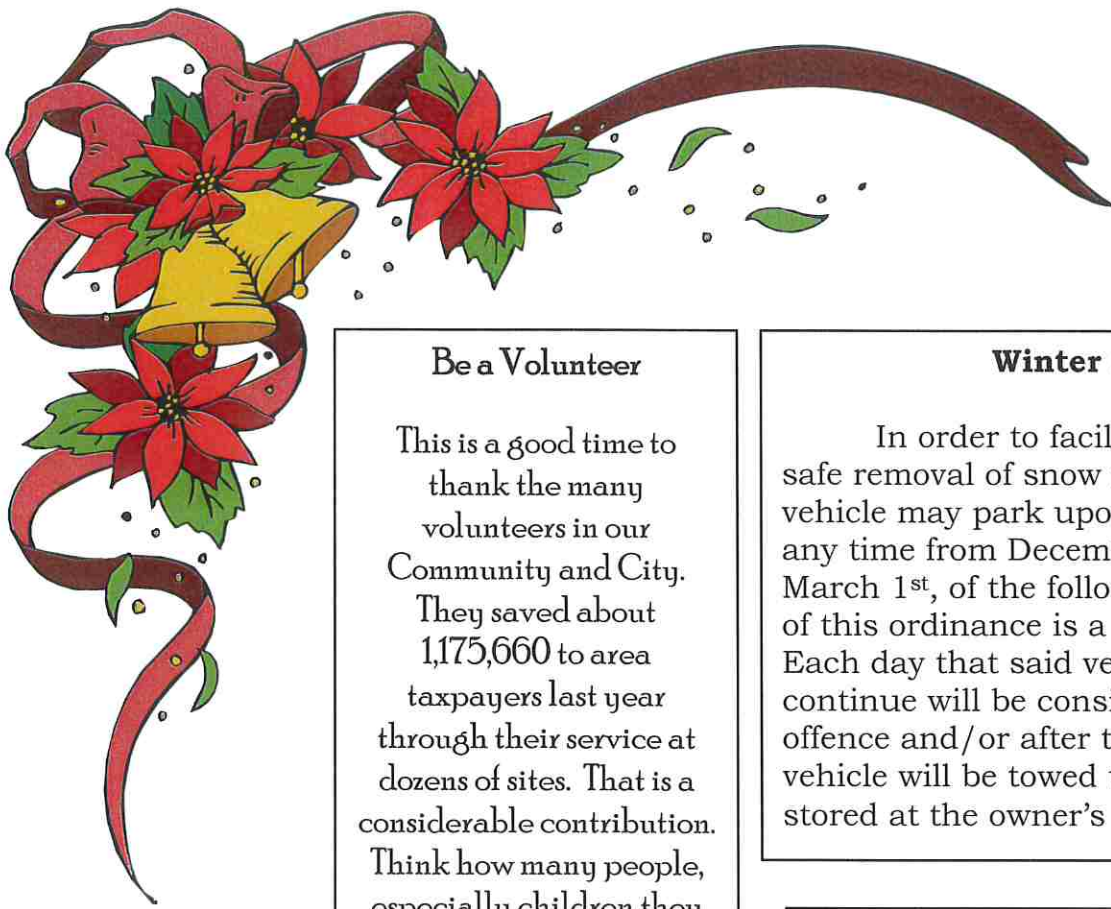
I know it's not popular but please understand that the City has ordinances designed to make life better and to provide for the common good. We are currently involved in addressing construction vehicles illegally parked in residential areas and property owners with more than the permitted two dogs per household. I really don't like to have a citizen cited but when the complaints come in and the ordinance says something illegal is happening, I'm left with limited choices. I could ignore the issue but I have difficulty with that.

Under "Things Happen" category, you might want to check the water pressure inside your house. Mine jumped to over 140 psi. After replacing a failed pressure regulating valve, a hot water heater, and some other parts including clean up I had nearly \$900 into the project. I paid for it myself, insurance didn't cover it. It was not the cities fault either. Things break and plumbing leaks occur. Earlier in the year we had several homes suffer much the same problem. For just a few bucks you can buy a pressure gage at the hardware store. I wish I had.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable Holiday season with good health and spiritual prosperity. You might also consider those who are struggling this year. Many in our community have suffered problems in the form of layoffs, accidents, and other problems that afflict the human condition. Be thoughtful to your neighbors needs and perhaps lend a helping hand where possible.

Thanks again for permitting me to serve.
Sincerely
Vernon I. Fritz





Be a Volunteer

This is a good time to thank the many volunteers in our Community and City. They saved about 1,175,660 to area taxpayers last year through their service at dozens of sites. That is a considerable contribution. Think how many people, especially children they helped without spending a dime! There are many opportunities available for you who are grateful to return to our Community your skill and experience. It only takes a little of your time. Call Norman Smith at 798-1609 for something that fits your schedule.

Winter is Here!

In order to facilitate the speedy and safe removal of snow from city streets, no vehicle may park upon any city street, at any time from December 1st, through March 1st, of the following year. Violation of this ordinance is a parking infraction. Each day that said vehicle is permitted to continue will be considered a separate offence and/or after twenty-four hours, the vehicle will be towed to a public garage and stored at the owner's expense.

DUMP YOUR TREES!



JANUARY 14TH — 21ST THERE WILL BE A DUMPSTER LOCATED JUST TO THE EAST OF THE FIRE STATION, FOR YOU TO COME AND GET RID OF THAT OLD CHRISTMAS TREE.

TREES ONLY PLEASE!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

WATER BOARD MEMBERS

THE CITY IS LOOKING FOR WATER BOARD MEMBERS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT SEAN NIELSON AT 423-8008.

Water, Sewer, or Road Emergencies

If you have any kind of an emergency regarding water, sewer or Roads, you may call 283-3270. This is a pager number.



