

Town of Elk Mountain 2014 New Years Update

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

PARK & REC BOARD: Mike Pijanowski, Vice President of DAWG Nation Hockey Foundation held a clinic at the Elk Mountain Elementary School to fit area children with skates and equipment. In 2003 DAWG Nation hockey league was formed by a group of men from all walks of life to come together to play hockey. As the league grew it became the largest adult hockey organization in the region. In 2011 they formed DAWG Nation Hockey Foundation, a foundation that reaches out to help and assist injured hockey player or those battling serious medical issues. This group made a generous offer to bring donated skates and hockey equipment to Elk Mountain for the children in the area. Mike and local volunteers Callie and Brett Taylor, Debbie McCartney, Brad and Jessica Wilson, Kelly Finn and his children and Barb Pijanowski spent December 14th fitting over 20 kids. A big Thanks to DAWG Nation for bringing this to our community and thank you to the Elementary School for letting the Board use the multi-purpose room.



Dan Cobb has offered to donate a log cabin to the park. It has to be moved from its present location to the park. This cabin is built with the "Swedish Cove" construction used by the early settlers to our community. With the historic value this cabin will be a great addition to the park.

SENIOR CENTER BOARD: The Senior's enjoyed a New Years Day carry in at the center.

HIGH COUNTRY JOINT POWERS BOARD: Mayor Irene has reappointed Joe Grillo as the town's representative to the HCJPB.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: A new business to town "The Back Porch Art Gallery" opened shortly before the holiday season at 303 Oak Street. Proprietor Al Santilli has a large inventory of art pieces ranging from framed or unframed art, Ltd. Editions, and unique posters and prints. You can stop by the gallery Wed.-Fri. 12:30-:30pm and Sat. 9:30-1:30pm to browse and welcome the gallery to the community.

COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT: The Town received the final Feasibility Planning Study completed by Buckingham & Associates and DOWL HRM. After seeing the bottom line for the proposed center it was decided that the project needed to go back to the drawing board if it was to be placed on the proposed site or consideration given to a possible new location. The Community Center Planning Committee will be holding meetings to address these questions. Designs and alternatives will be presented in public meetings for community input. Look for meeting notices in the coming months.

MEDICINE BOW RIVER BRIDGE: Jake Lonn, WyDot Resident Engineer updated the Town Office on the BROS Project. They had been waiting on the hydraulics report so they can move forward with the grading plans early this year. They will then try to coordinate a meeting for the memorandum of agreement with all the stake holders. At this point in the project it is not expected to start construction until the fall of 2015.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The Energy Grant retrofit at the fire hall is completed and the grant paperwork has been submitted. We hope to see a reduction in the electric and propane consumption. The Annual Chili Cook-off was held December 14th with a good attendance. Carolers braved the cold to sing through the streets of town. 1st Place Prize Winner of the Red Chili Category was Sally O'Connor and the Green Chili Category was Barb Pijanowski who also took the People's Choice Award. Winner of the quilt donated by Kathy Williams was a member of the Big Laramie Fire Dept.

WATER LINE PROJECT: Progress is moving forward on the redundant line project. Dan Ferrin with PMPC gave the council an update at the December Council Meeting. The invitation to bid for the project is now being published.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Gary Martinez accepted the position as the new Public Works Director. He has been getting familiar with all the aspects of the public works department. When the cold snap set in it affected all of the town's equipment so he spent his first week just getting everything up and running again. Our new garbage truck's hydraulics froze up so garbage pickup was delayed until Gary could get the old truck running to fill in while the new one was being repaired. Regular garbage pickup is planned for Wednesdays barring any unforeseen situations. After a few trials and tribulations he is finally getting settled into his new position. The Town's trash trailer is still available to residents to use for items that can't go in the dumpsters like metal, furniture, mattress, used oil and paint, batteries, and E-waste. We ask that you stop in and pay for any items the Town will be charged for when it is hauled to the landfill i.e. televisions, tires and any appliances with Freon.

DOG LICENSING: August 31st was the deadline for licensing your dogs and records show we are at about half the dogs in town getting their tags. Please stop by the Town Hall to pick up your dog tag. Bring a copy of rabies vaccination, proof of spaying or neutering and a photo of your dog unless we already have one on file. The next licensing period will be July 2014 through June 2015.

CCOG 5th PENNY TAX: Because the 5th Penny Tax will be on the ballot in November our town needs someone from the community to be our representative on the Carbon County Council of Governments 5th penny committee. This committee will prepare and distribute informational materials for the 5th Penny Tax. This information will help voters understand what the 5th Penny Tax is used for and how it will benefit communities in the county.

The Council and Staff hope you had a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

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