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Security Gate Update

By Kevin Hayes, RSCC Board of Trustees

The entrance gate is not broke; it's been turned off to avoid any further damage or access issues. The gate has a problem with one of the weight bearing rollers/bearing assemblies that causes the gates motor to work extra hard. In some environmental conditions the gate seizes momentarily, and with the right combinations of factors the main fuse will blow. The last occurrence of a blown fuse resulted in the gate failing in the closed position in an opening cycle, and subsequently was not able to be pushed open without the chain drive being removed. We have contacted RGS Construction to replace the wheel and bearing assembly and are waiting patiently for them to respond to numerous requests for assistance.

While the gate is not functioning, residents should be extra vigilant, especially with enticing new Christmas gifts in our homes.

FLOOD DAMAGE ASSISTANCE

All damage from the recent flooding should be reported to the Snohomish Department of Emergency Services at

425-388- 5088

Be sure to have your documentation of damage ready when you call. Or go to the following site to submit an online damage report

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3R275N>

Phantom Volunteer Blessing to RSCC

An unknown volunteer on a small quad with a blade attachment was seen clearing snow from our entrance hill on the evening of Monday November 22nd. Does anyone know the identity of our "Snow Angel"? A heartfelt thank you goes out to this good Samaritan volunteer.

The New Quarry Road Truck Bypass can shave a couple of minutes off your commute

Did You Know?

Chappel Road was named after Granite Falls first Doctor, Dr. Frank Chappell, who also served as the town's first Treasurer. Dr. Chappell also owned "Dr. Chappell's Drug and Hardware Store" and Chappell Shingle Mill". The first mayor of Granite Falls was Burt Chappell.

Ancillary Drain Decommissioning Completed

Most residents have noticed the heavy equipment parked on the dike of Rainbow Lake near the new culvert at the base of Rainbow Drive. The project to decommission the Ancillary Drain (which was not optional, but state mandated) is finally completed. The state demanded that we either decommission the drain or replace it completely. We chose the least expensive option.

Many may have also noticed a rise in the water level of the creek during the beginning of November. Several industrious Beavers were intent on damming up the creek by plugging the new culvert with branches and debris. Numerous times board members and residents removed the Beaver's debris from the culvert, as the road was in jeopardy of flooding. And each time, the persistent Beaver dam re-appeared. Finally a wire mesh was installed at the entrance of the culvert to discourage further plugging of the culvert. It has been reported that the Beavers have moved down the creek to the next pond.

RSCC Loses a Tireless Volunteer

As many of you know, former residents Floyd and Michelle Smith moved from Rainbow Springs this last November. Floyd and Michelle recently purchased their dream home and began their retirement in Apache Junction, Arizona.

Floyd not only served as a Board Member for many years, but also was personally committed to countless hours of volunteer service to Rainbow Springs. If there was a project to complete, Floyd was there. He is the kind of person that you can always count on to pitch in and help. No matter what the project, Floyd proved his skills as a "Jack-of-all Trades" many times over. Floyd was part of a three member volunteer team known as "the Three Amigos" also consisting of friends Hal Newell and Kevin Hayes. Floyd showed us all just how much impact one life can have in their community. He made us all better just by knowing him.

This fall when a neighbor was gone for a three week vacation, Floyd mowed their grass for them, without being asked. Floyd was the kind of neighbor we all dream of having.

An avid motorcyclist, Floyd will enjoy 5 months of each year with his riding buddy Hal Newell, who also has a winter home nearby with wife Gwen. Happy trails to you guys! We all wish Floyd and Michelle the very best as they begin this exciting new chapter in their lives. We will miss you!

Media Advisory – Dec. 14, 2010 Snohomish County

Aaron Reardon
County Executive

Residents urged to assess, report flood damages

Snohomish County residents, farmers, businesses and municipalities suffering damage from this week's flooding are urged to submit a damage assessment report to the county's Department of Emergency Management.

The damage assessments will be used to determine and justify the need for possible State and/or Federal assistance.

Residents and business owners can file reports by calling **425-388-5088** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays or by going to www.wnoco.org and clicking on the appropriate damage report link.

"This is the first step toward trying to secure State and Federal assistance," said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon, who spoke on Monday the 13th with Gov. Chris Gregoire about flooding impacts here.

Reardon issued an emergency declaration Sunday in response to record flooding along the Stillaguamish River and its branches. The raging waters impacted several communities in Granite falls, Arlington, Stanwood and unincorporated Snohomish County. As waters return to more normal levels, damage to homes, businesses and farms will become more apparent.

Individuals filing reports need to provide an address where the damage occurred, the amount and type of damage, primary and secondary insurance information as well as deductible amounts. All damages should be documented with photographs if possible. Damages also should be reported to private insurance providers.

Reporting to the county does not assure Federal Assistance, however it is a step in requesting Federal Assistance.

Snohomish County municipalities and public agencies should complete and return PA-1/2 forms to the county DEM.

Department of Emergency Management staff is available 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, to assist or answer questions. They can be reached at **425-388-5088**

The Winners of the Holiday Lights Contest Winners were 2 homes on 120th Best Theme – Div. 2 Lot 88 the Homer Simpson House, Most Creative Div. 2 Lot 89 next door, and for the 2nd year in a row Most Lights Div. 2 lots 18/19 167th and Rainbow Drive



Create an Emergency Kit

A simple emergency kit can help you get through power outages. The kit should contain items such as:

- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Battery operated candles
- Matches
- Emergency candles
- Bottled water
- Energy bars, canned food
- Manual can opener
- Battery-powered radio/clock
- First Aid kit
- Blankets and warm clothes
- Charged cell phone



Power Outages a Common Winter Storm Occurrence in Rainbow Springs

The national Weather Service reports that this year's La Niña weather pattern could be the strongest in 50 years. For Western Washington that translates to colder, wetter weather with the possibility of heavy snows. With that forecast we could also be affected by high flood waters.

As we have all experienced, winter storms and high winds can be a challenge when you live in a forested area such as Rainbow Springs. The Board of Directors has a trained professional Arborist who diagnoses and tags problematic trees for removal each year prior to the storm season; however no one can predict what Mother Nature may bring our way.

If your power goes out choose a small room with few windows as your primary living area. Close off doors to the rest of the house. Keep blinds and window drapery closed as much as possible. Also dress warmly. Wear several layers of clothing, and if needed gloves, hat and scarf.

Never use a Barb-B-Que indoors for cooking. Use new battery operated candles if possible to cut down on fire danger. Have a plan in place and prepare an emergency kit. Have food items on hand that can be consumed without cooking such as jerky, high energy bars and nuts.

Pay attention to storm warnings. Keep your cell phone charged and use your car charger if necessary. Only call the P.U.D. during outages if you have specific information about a downed tree against the power lines, or a line down on the ground. Never approach a downed line, the electrical current can arc to you, causing electrocution. The P.U.D phone line is **425-783-1000** or toll free at **1-877-783-1000**. If you have a life threatening situation or a medical emergency call 911. If you have disabled residents in your home such as a person on an oxygen pump, have a plan in place for them ahead of time for transportation and temporary housing. Don't forget to check on the welfare of your more vulnerable neighbors.

Granite Falls Trivia

The first name of the plateau now known as Granite Falls was “Portage”. The name was narrowly defeated as the town’s official name by “Granite Falls” when a vote was taken.

“Portage” was in reference to the fact that local first nation’s tribes used the area between the South fork of the Stillaguamish River and the Pilchuck River to portage their canoes between the two waterways. The coastal and local tribes used these waterways for fishing salmon.

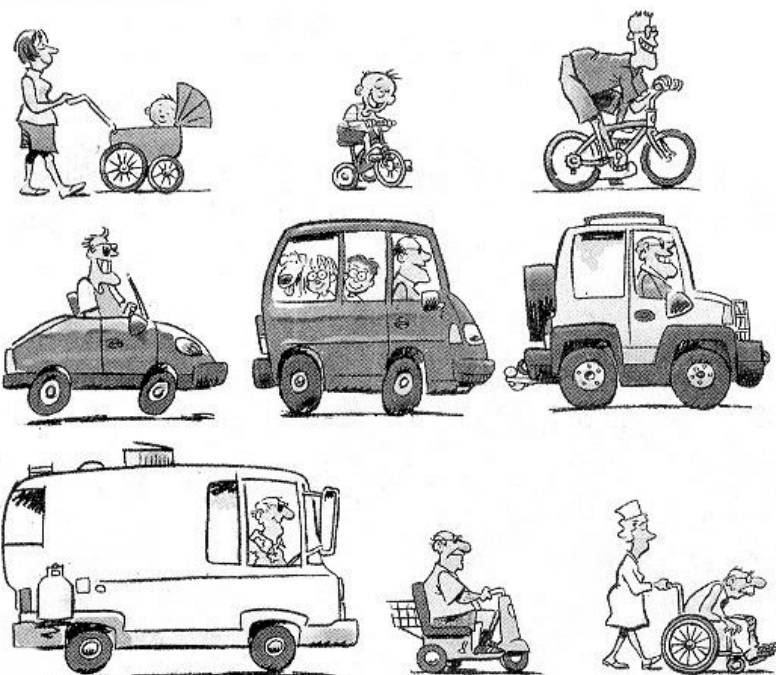
Speed Bumps

By Larry Parent, RSCC Board of Trustees

By now everyone has driven over the new speed bumps, and they are doing their job, by slowing down vehicles to make the community a safer place for everyone. The response by the community to the new speed bumps has been a positive one except, for one speed bump on 169th that apparently is too high for some vehicles. Community members have complained that their cars are bottoming out on it. This problem will be rectified in the near future, so until then please drive slowly over it. So you do not bottom out your vehicle.

For those of you that are choosing to avoid the speed bumps by going around them. Please stop! You are damaging the easement and the edge of the pavement. This will not be tolerated, if you choose to drive on your own easement that is your choice, but please do not do it to others.

The Wheels of Life



Raccoon Alert

On New Years Day 2 diseased and suffering raccoons had to be euthanized near the Lake Park. Sadly these animals were sick, convulsing and had to be put down in order ensure the safety of the other animals in our community, and to end their suffering.

Please be aware of the wildlife that is roaming in Rainbow Springs. They can carry Leptospirosis, Distemper, or Rabies. Make sure your pets are confined, and up to date on their vaccinations. And to avoid such deadly bacteria or parasites do not allow your pets to drink from streams, lake, creeks or puddles.

It's your responsibility to be prepared for winter driving in our community as well as public roads. If your car is not prepared to drive on snow or ice, you are creating a hazard for everyone else as well as yourself and vehicle occupants. Do everyone a favor....stay home!



Check out our community website

<http://www.rscconline.org>

Calendar of Upcoming Events

JANUARY 2011

- Sat. Jan. 1st – New Years Day
- Wed. Jan. 19th @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting @ Granite Falls Fire Station

FEBRUARY 2011

- Mon. Feb. 14th – Valentine's Day
- Wed. Feb. 16th @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting @ Granite Falls Fire Station

March 2011

- Wed. Mar. 16th @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting @ Granite Falls Fire Station

**URGENT: Important
Flood Information Inside**

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