

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1



March 31, 2008

Fire District Information Regarding the Area

New Firefighter Recruit Academy

The Fire District's new Firefighter Recruit Academy began Tuesday, April 1. The 18 new recruits will complete their 10-week academy with a graduation ceremony on Friday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Training Center. Upon graduating, they will help to fill vacancies created by retirements and to fill positions created by the opening of the South End Fire Station. They will be introduced to you in upcoming newsletters.

Promotional Interviews

Promotional interviews were held on March 12 and March 18. These were for lieutenant, apparatus operator, captain and battalion chief. None of the promotions will be effective until after July 1. The District is just identifying the successful candidates as early as possible to enable more effective planning for personnel assignments.

Retirements

The Fire District is experiencing numerous retirements through June 2008. Congratulations to the following employees who have served the District well.

Retired as of December 31, 2007

Apparatus Operator Wade Rice – 28 years, 2 months

Lt. Steve Stevenson – 32 years

Apparatus Operator Randy Tidwell – 17 years

Retired as of February 29, 2007

Apparatus Operator Rick Meyer – 27 years

Retired as of March 31, 2008

DFM Grant Brough – 17 years

Retired as of April 1, 2008

Capt. Bob Dixon – over 30 years

Management Classes for District Personnel

District personnel attended Portland State University's management classes from January 7, 2008 through March 13, 2008. These classes were offered to staff as part of the District's succession planning process. On March 20, Chief

Kirchhofer attended and shared a few words at the graduation celebration for the graduates. Three members of our staff graduated from the management class – Operations Assistant Lori Fawcett, Lt. Stuart McVey and Capt. Joe Pelletier. Six staff members graduated from the executive management class – Capt. Chris Geiger, Capt. Karl Koenig, Battalion Chief David Scheirman, Battalion Chief Ken Horn, Battalion Chief Fred Charlton and Deputy Chief Scott Weninger.

Volunteer Firefighters Recognized

At the board meeting on March 17, 2008, Chief Kirchhofer recognized Volunteer Firefighters Aaron Baldovinos and Matt Job for their outstanding work on a call that took place on March 3, 2008. They were the crew on Brush 12 that was the first to arrive on scene in response to a Code 99 call in the Estacada Fire District. They recognized the situation as a cardiac arrest, deployed the AED and saved the patient's life. Aaron and Matt were presented with letters of commendation.

Network Communication Upgraded

The Board of Directors has approved the purchase of a core network communication equipment upgrade. This will allow for the update of the background equipment that is necessary for the computers and technical equipment to operate better, fast and more efficiently. It will also allow for video conferencing.

Standards of Response Coverage Document Update

The Standards of Response Coverage document was approved at the March board meeting. This document evaluates the Fire District's efficiency and effectiveness regarding emergency response travel times to structure fires and emergency medical services incidents. The District is continually measuring its performance to determine ways in which it can improve response times. While this document is updated every two years, this current document is a complete revision that incorporated many hours of research and preparation. Many thanks to Opera-

tions Assistant Lori Fawcett for her work in the preparation of this document.

Foundation Trustee Term Renewals

The Clackamas Emergency Services Foundation is made up of 19 Trustees from the community. Each year some of the Trustees' three-year terms end and they have the option of being renewed by the District's Board of Directors. At the March board meeting, the Board approved the three-year term renewals for the following Trustees:

Mark Cauthorn – Personal Services Chief with Clackamas Fire District

Gordon Day – Day Wireless Systems

Bob Gross – Bruun Lorentz Co., Inc.

Rick Parker – Lieutenant with Clackamas Fire District

Craig Roberts – Sheriff of Clackamas County

The Foundation's mission is "To provide humanitarian assistance to those who have been adversely affected by disaster, tragedy, injury or other misfortune, and to work towards preventing such misfortunes in our community."

Civil Service Commission Term Renewal

The purpose of the Civil Service Commission is to ensure the Fire District follows the provisions in Oregon Revised Statutes 242.702 through 242.824 and where these rules do not apply to ensure the Fire District follows their specific Civil Service Rules. The Commission is comprised of 5 members (who are appointed by the Board of Directors), 1 chief examiner, 1 recorder, 1 liaison from Clackamas Fire District #1 Board of Directors and 1 liaison from labor. The Board approved the four-year term renewal for Allan Mackey to the Civil Service Commission. Allan has been a member of the Commission for approximately 30 years. He began his service with the Happy Valley Fire Department in the late 1970's. We appreciate Allan's commitment to the Commission and the Fire District.

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Enterprise Zone Policy Update

An updated draft of the Fire District's Enterprise Zone (E-Zone) Policy was presented at the March board meeting. An E-Zone is a specific geographic area targeted for economic revitalizing. E-Zones encourage economic growth and investment in distressed areas by offering tax advantages and incentives to businesses locating within the zone boundaries. Board members discussed changes to the E-Zone policy. Staff will incorporate the changes and present a revised document at the April board meeting.

Read Across America

Chief Kirchhofer participated in "Read Across America" on March 3. In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2, each year schools throughout the United States encourage people to come and read to classes throughout the day. Chief Kirchhofer read in the morning to classes at Gaffney Lane Elementary School in Oregon City. In the afternoon, he read to classes at Lot Whitcomb Elementary in Milwaukie where he was also invited to present reading awards during their school assembly.

Fire District Hosted Chamber Event

The Fire District hosted the North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce's AM Business Connection at Fire Prevention/Station 3 (Oak Lodge) on Friday, February 29. This is a weekly networking opportunity hosted by a different member each week. About 50 local business leaders (including House Speaker Dave Hunt) attended and were provided an excellent fire safety demonstration by staff. Deputy Fire Marshal (DFM) Kari Shanklin demonstrated the use of Sparky's Fire Safety House, which we recently purchased from federal grant funds. DFM Shanklin prepared the grant proposal and facilitated the purchase of this new public education tool.

District Blood Drive Update

The District's blood drive on Friday, March 7, was a huge success with 36

people participating!

Starbucks on Mill Plain Blvd in Vancouver provided the coffee cake, condiments and paper products and the Starbucks on Sunnyside across from Kaiser Hospital they donated all of the coffee. We had some wonderful volunteers who helped as well. District retiree Dave Price and his wife, Bernice, helped the entire five hours of the drive.

If you missed the opportunity to participate in the blood drive on March 7, you have another opportunity to help on **Friday, April 11** from noon to 5:00 p.m. at Station 5. You may sign up on-line by going to www.givelife.org and entering the **sponsor code, ccf1** and following the instructions to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact AO Burke Slater at 503-742-2600 or Karen Strejc at 503-742-2646.

American LaFrance Bankruptcy

The District has been notified that American LaFrance corporation has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. After discussion with Legal Counsel John Osburn and reviewing fleet records, it doesn't appear that the District has any claims. None of the ALF apparatus is under warranty at this time. The District has seven fire engines, one ladder truck, and two brush engines that were purchased from American LaFrance Corporation between 1999 and 2003.

Program Highlight – Strategic Business Plan Update

Chief Kirchhofer has recently appointed Battalion Chief Tim Dahl to lead the Fire District's effort to update its Strategic Business Plan. The previous document was intended to sunset at the end of this year. A successor document will be prepared and implemented to act as a guiding light for the organization for years to come.

A strategic plan is a roadmap that answers the questions, "Where are we now?", "Where are we going?" and "How will we get there?" A cross-section of Fire District personnel will be analyzing our

Mission, Values and Vision statements, performing a strengths/weaknesses/opportunities/threats analysis, identifying current strategic objectives and developing short-term goals/priorities/initiatives to convert our objectives into specific performance targets. A process for measuring and managing the Strategic Business Plan will also be created.

Chief Kirchhofer is intending on the new Strategic Business Plan to be more of a "living document" than previous versions and incorporate elements of our Standards of Response Coverage, best-practices requirements to maintain our internationally accredited status with the Center for Public Safety Excellence and including input from the communities we serve and allied public service agencies.