



## FIRE DISTRICT No. 14

### FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER

#### CHIEF'S CORNER

**Back to School-** School is back in session and its time to be extra careful when driving by our school. Even during times when the 20 mph speed zone is not in effect be conscious of the fact that with sporting events, band concerts, plays, PTA, School Board meetings and many other activities that happen at the school, its always possible to have kids moving around the street and parking lots.

**Please respect the FIRE ZONE-NO PARKING** areas around the school property. These are there for the safety of everyone and the response of emergency vehicles. We have incidents where upon arrival to an emergency call to the school we have found cars parked in the **FIRE ZONE – NO PARKING** areas and that has hampered our access to the buildings. This lack of respect for the no parking zone could result in a delay in reaching a patient or fighting a fire in the school. Would you want your child endangered by someone who doesn't feel the need to walk just a little farther when picking up their own kids because of parking a little farther out? Help us keep the schools safe and secure for all of the kids.

**Backyard Burning** – It's that time of year when everyone is anxious to begin backyard burning after the long summer and before the wet season is upon us. Please be patient and check the Backyard Burn Phone #- 503-695-2225 before you burn. **Burning will be allowed after we have had sufficient rainfall to decrease the fire danger.** We

also have to factor in the east winds and this could cause burning to open and then close again many times before things completely calm down. October has been one of our busiest wildland fire months over the years due to the east winds. Please be safe and follow the rules for burning. Remember if your fire gets out of control, you are liable for the damages that can occur and also for the costs of fire suppression.

**Thank You** – I would like to thank Paul Mershon and Bruce Reiter who have retired from Multnomah County RFPD #14 in recent months. Bruce served for 14 years and was very involved in training, as Supply Officer and a leadership role during his time. He also worked with the Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT). Paul spent 34 years with the Fire Department and has been in every role from Firefighter to Chief. He was a Paramedic and was very involved with our emergency medical training. Both of these people made many positive contributions to the Fire Department and will be missed. I have enjoyed the pleasure of working with both of them. Don't miss an opportunity to thank them for their service if you get the chance.

*I hope to see everyone at the Community Open House October 15<sup>th</sup>.*

Chief Layton

#### ADDRESS SIGNS

##### **If you need us can we find you?**

Have you noticed those reflective green and white address signs at the end of your neighbors' driveways? Do you want your driveway marked so we can find your home quickly in the event of an emergency? Ordering an address sign is easy. **TO ORDER: Call our office 503-695-2272 to request an address sign order form OR, pick up a form at the OPEN HOUSE October 15th at the Corbett Fire Station.** There is a minimal cost for the sign. The Fire Department Volunteers will install the sign for you when it is received.

***Help us find you during an emergency order your sign today!***

## **WHAT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT COSTS YOU.....**

Multnomah County Rural Fire Protection District #14 is funded through property taxes. The permanent tax rate for the Fire District is **\$1.2624 per \$1,000 of assessed value**. This means if your house is assessed at \$200,000 you pay approximately \$253.00 per year for your Fire Department.

## **WHAT DO YOU GET ...**

**\*\*Three Fire Stations** – 1 in Aims, 1 in Corbett and 1 in Springdale

**\*\* 1 Community Fire Hall**

**\*\* 3 Fire Engines**

**\*\* 2 Water Tenders**

**\*\* 2 Brush trucks**

**\*\* 1 Rescue**

**\*\* 1 squad and equipment vehicle**

**\*\* 1 utility pickup**

**\*\* 1 Reserve Engine**

**\*\*40 Dedicated Volunteer Firefighters** trained to State Firefighter Standards including 12 Emergency Medical Technicians and 2 Paramedics

**\*\*All the equipment necessary to respond to your calls for help** including, house fires, brush fires, auto accidents, falls, high angle rope rescues, water rescues, hazardous material spills, public assistance, power lines down and many different emergency medical problems.

**\*\* Peace of mind knowing** that help is just a phone call away anytime day or night.

Thank you for your support!

## **Fall Holiday Safety Tips**



### **HALLOWEEN**

*Halloween is a fun and spooky time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little ones with a few easy safety tips*

**\*\*\* When choosing a costume**, stay away from billowing or long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so they can see out.

**\*\*\* Provide Children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.

**\*\*\* Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper** are highly flammable. **Keep** these and other decorations well away from open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs and heaters.

**\*\*\* It is safest to use** a flashlight or battery-operated candle in a jack-o-lantern. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.

**\*\*\*Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.



### **THANKSGIVING**

*The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.*

**\*\*\*Stay in the kitchen** when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.

**\*\*\* Keep children away from the stove.** The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.

**\*\*\*Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids.** The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.

**\*\*\*Be sure electric cords** from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.

**\*\*\*Stay in the home** when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.

**\*\*\*Keep the floor clear** so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.

**\*\*\* Make sure your smoke alarms are working.** Test them by pushing the test button.



Stop and say Hello to Sparky at the OPEN HOUSE Saturday, October 15, 2011.



**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

*October 9<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>*

*During Fire Prevention week volunteer firefighters of the Fire Department will visit the Corbett Grade School to teach fire Prevention and Home Safety to our students. Assistant Chief Phil Dearixon will lead the group, spending time with Grades K-6 to stress the important message of fire prevention and safety. The end of the week we will host our annual*

**OPEN HOUSE**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2011**

**FROM NOON TIL 4:00 P.M. at the Corbett Fire Station.**

**36930 E. Historic Columbia River Highway.**

**We'll have hot dogs, chili, balloons, fire truck rides and fire safety demonstrations.**

**Take this opportunity to find out more about Home Fire Safety and pick up some free literature on Fire Prevention.**

**Something for everyone so**

**BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

**See you there.**