



FIRE DISTRICT No. 14

SPRING 2010 NEWSLETTER

CHIEF'S CORNER

2009 was one of the busiest years ever for Fire District #14. We responded to 536 emergency calls last year, from fires to emergency medical, to rescue calls. We welcomed two new volunteer firefighters Anthony DeBlock and Nelson Rolens. They recently finished their training academy and are responding to emergency calls with the other firefighters. They are a welcome addition to our forces. I would like to thank Ashley Mershon, Jim Sherman, Chris Detherage, Todd Mock and Josh Snelling who have all left the Fire Department. They provided service to the community and were valuable members of the Fire Department during their time here.

Fire Station Addition - The Fire Department is fast outgrowing the current Meeting Hall/Office building, and are formulating long range plans for an addition to the Corbett Station. We received a \$10,000 grant from the Oregon Investment Board to complete the schematic design plans for a new Meeting Hall/Office building that would also have sleeping quarters and day room facilities to allow firefighters to sign up for night shifts at the station to help improve response times to emergency calls. There would also be additional classroom and training facilities for the firefighters to continue to meet their training requirements. We applied for a \$1.6 million dollar grant from federal stimulus money to fund construction of the new building, but were unsuccessful with the grant at this time. We will continue to explore funding options, as we finalize designs for this project.

"FIRE ZONE - NO PARKING" at the school - Recently an emergency call for a fire alarm activation at the Multi-Purpose Building at the Corbett

School brought to our attention an ongoing problem at the school campus. Upon arrival of the first fire engine and crew they found eight cars parked in the "FIRE ZONE - NO PARKING" red striped driveway in front of the Grade School. Some drivers were sitting in their cars waiting to pick someone up from a school activity and some were empty vehicles. The fire engine had to navigate around these vehicles to arrive where they needed to be for the emergency response. Thankfully this was a false alarm. If this had been an actual emergency these vehicle would have caused a delay in emergency response. If your child were inside the school for an activity would you want an emergency response for a fire or medical emergency delayed because cars are parked blocking emergency access? An emergency can occur any time and without warning. **Please respect the "FIRE ZONE-NO PARKING" areas at the schools.** Park in designated parking spots and walk just a little farther to pick up your children.

BREAKFAST JUNE 5TH- I hope everyone can join us for the Pancake Breakfast on June 5th. The breakfast funds a scholarship for a High School Senior in honor of Ferd Riehl who was a founding member of the Fire Department. Last year's recipients were Reba Harrington and Mathew Albright. They each received \$1,500 towards their college studies. This scholarship is made possible by the support everyone gives to the breakfast. Thank you! 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 Breakfast June 5 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!

BACKYARD BURNING SEASON

Backyard Burning season is open. Things to remember when backyard burning:

Call the backyard burn number 503-695-2225 every time you want to burn and find out if burning is allowed that day.

Be sure you tend your fire and keep a water supply nearby.

All fires must be out by dark.

Keep piles small, no larger than 8'-10' in diameter. If you have large piles, consider starting a smaller pile and feed it from the large pile.

Small piles will help you keep control if the winds pick up unexpectedly.

Only yard debris and similar items can be burned. **NO** garbage, plastic, roofing materials, sheetrock, insulation or similar materials can be burned. Burning these items may result in a DEQ violation and fine.

Backyard Burning will shutdown June 30th at the very latest.

Written burning permits are required for large agriculture or reforestation burning. Call our office 503-695-2272 to set up a time to have an inspection and receive a written permit.

LADDER SAFETY TIPS

Falls are by far the leading cause of home injury. The safest way to climb indoors and out is to use a safe and sturdy ladder. Whether you're cleaning the gutters, pruning a tree, painting or changing a light bulb the same basic ladder safety rules apply:

1. Always use a sturdy ladder when climbing. It's too dangerous to climb on a chair.
2. Place the ladder on level ground and open it completely. Make sure all locks are in place.
3. Always face the ladder when climbing and wear slip-resistant shoes, such as those with rubber soles.
4. Keep your body centered on the ladder and test your safety by your belt buckle. If your buckle passes beyond the ladder rail, you are reaching too far. This can cause a fall.
5. Stand at or below the highest safety standing level on a ladder. For a stepladder, the safe standing level is the second rung from the top.

Using an Extension Ladder

1. Before using a ladder outdoors, choose a location that is well away from all power lines. Coming in contact with live wires can be deadly.
2. Place the ladder on level ground and open it completely. Make sure all locks are in place.
3. Use the 4 – to- 1 rule for extension ladders. For each 4 feet of distance between the ground and the upper point of contact (such as the wall or roof), move the base of the ladder out 1 foot.



BREAKFAST WITH SPARKY

Saturday June 5th from 7:30 -11:30 a.m. Fire District #14 will hold their famous old fashion fire house pancake breakfast. Proceeds from the Breakfast fund the Ferd Riehl Scholarship that is given annually to a graduating High School Senior. The breakfast features rides on fire engines for kids of all ages, door prizes, balloons, old cars, Sparky the Fire Dog and a special appearance by Smokey the Bear. **Cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children ten years and younger.** Each year the community comes to support this scholarship breakfast. If you have an old car and would like to be part of a fire engine parade, please be at Lewis and Clark Park (MP18 on I84) at 9:00 am and be escorted to the Fire station for breakfast. (*contact Dennis Bryson at 503-695-5540 for more information*). **Special Guest pancake flippers this year are Sharon Nesbit, a writer for the Gresham Outlook and Multnomah County Sheriff Dan Staton. See you There!**

***Some interesting numbers
Fire District #14 would
like to share with you:***

***37 Billion**-The National Volunteer Fire Council says volunteers provide about \$37 billion a year in free fire services.
***1,096,250** – The number of paid and volunteer firefighters in the United States.

***73%** – Volunteer firefighters comprise 73% of all firefighters in the United States that's 800,050 volunteers.

***100%** - The number of Volunteer Firefighters who comprise Fire District #14, your fire department

41** - is the number of ***your neighbors who are volunteer firefighters for Fire District #14, your volunteer fire department

***536**- the number of emergency calls, including fire and medical emergencies your volunteer firefighters responded to in 2009

***145** – the average number of emergency calls each one of your volunteer firefighters responded to in 2009

***101**- the average number of hours each one of your volunteer firefighters attended training classes in 2009

***Priceless** – The service our volunteer firefighters provide to the community

What if there was a FIRE ... and no one came?

What if it was YOUR house???



What if there was a CAR ACCIDENT... and no one came?

What if YOUR loved one was in the accident????

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WANTED

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER?

This may be your chance.

We are accepting applications for Volunteer Firefighter positions now until August 2nd, 2010. Please call our office, 503-695-2272, for more information and to receive an application packet.

Plan on attending our Informational Meeting for prospective volunteer firefighters, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at the Corbett Fire Station.



ANSWER YOUR NEIGHBORS CALL FOR HELP.....

Make a Difference....apply to be a Volunteer Fire fighter.

(special note: you must be at least 18 years of age and live within the boundaries of Fire District #14 to apply)