



Thurston County Fire Protection District 8

South Bay Fire Department News

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FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

BY CHIEF BRIAN VANCAMP

FIRE STATION PROJECT UPDATE

I have written in past issues of the *Newsletter* about our plans for a new firestation on Johnson Point that will replace two existing sub-stations. In January 2010, the District convened a Citizen Advisory Task Force to obtain information and advice on the strategic direction for the project. Based upon this advice, the District placed a funding issue on the November 2011 General Election ballot to help pay for a new firestation. As you no doubt know, this ballot measure did not pass.

CITIZEN ADVISORY TASK FORCE TO RECONVENE

The Board of Fire Commissioners and staff of the District are now planning to convene another Citizen Advisory Task Force this April to review options and give advice regarding improved service delivery in the District's north-end. The process will be similar to the previous effort, with three weeknight meetings with facilitated work sessions. Various options to achieve improved services will be presented for group discussion, evaluation and advice to the Board.



Chief Brian VanCamp

As we further develop these workshops, previous Task Force members will be invited to participate again with priority for a seat at the table. Other citizens, based upon District voting precincts, will also be invited as needed to provide a well-rounded representation of the whole community. Final dates and details have yet to be established, however, it is planned that three mid-week meetings will be scheduled from 6 pm to 8:30 pm on consecutive weeks.

GUIDELINES FOR NEW CITIZEN PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

- ◆ Must be a registered voter within a precinct in Fire District 8
- ◆ Requests for participation are prioritized on a "first-come, first-served" basis
- ◆ Each participant must commit to attending and participating in all three meetings
- ◆ Only one participant per household will be considered.

If you are interested in applying for the new Citizen Advisory Task Force, please contact me at 360-491-5320 or by e-mail at VanCamp@SouthBayFire.com.

I would like to remind you that we are a volunteer fire department and are always on the look-out for new willing & able members. I would invite you to take a look at our website at SouthBayFire.com to learn a bit more about our programs and people. I also wish that you and your family have a safe and joyous holiday season!

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GET TO KNOW ONE OF OUR MEMBERS

Our Department is proud to have over 60 dedicated volunteer members. We would like to introduce members to the community as part of an on-going section in this newsletter. We are proud to interview and acquaint you with Captain Doug Kilpatrick.

How long have you been a Volunteer with the Department?

20 years in March 2012; 8ish ??? (Heidi, please double check) of them as a Captain.

What do you find unique about being a Captain?

I enjoy the opportunity to take a series of individuals and turn them into a team. My role takes the form of being the big brother, uncle, dad, friend or mentor, depending upon the situation. As a Captain, I can help develop a sense of "community ownership" within my crew as well as teach them leadership skills.

What do you do as a career when you are not volunteering?

I work as a Project Manager for the State of Washington

How is your role as a project manager similar to the role of being a Captain?

Similarities are the importance of communication, expectations and preparation for what is next. Also, taking ownership and seeing a project through to completion. New recruits are like new projects, you get the opportunity to put something of yourself into making them a finished product.

Why did you become a volunteer with the South Bay Fire Department and what has kept you here so long?

I was recruited by a neighbor, Dave Dicke, in 1992. At the time there were several other volunteers (including Alex Wright) lived on my street and were neighbors. Once I started, these neighbors became friends. The good relationships are part of what has kept me here so long.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I love dialects, accents and how people pronounce words. For fun, I like to imitate foreign accents that I hear. (Scottish, English, Russian, etc)

What is most rewarding about your role in the Department?

I have lived and volunteered here long enough that I am now recognized by some community members when we go on calls. I think it's comforting and reassuring to those individuals who call 911 for help, to know the person who is responding. I often make it a point to tell our customers that I'm one of their neighbors and live right here in the district.

With all your years of experience, do you have any advice for new volunteer members?

I recommend that they assess themselves and realize their own strengths and weaknesses. Then I would suggest they seek out other members who have really strong skills in areas where they want to improve. Let that person know you admire and respect their knowledge or skills and ask if they'd help you learn and strengthen your own skills. With practice and determination, you can overcome a weakness and perhaps teach an old dog a new trick or two.

Thank you for your interview. Do you have any closing comments you would like to share?

I appreciate the feeling of family we have in the fire service. I know there are any number of members who would help me out in a second if I ever needed something.



Captain Doug Kilpatrick

YOU CAN BE A VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDER

"Volunteers are vital to enabling this country to live up to the true promise of its heritage." ~ Bill Clinton



The South Bay Fire Department is looking for energetic and determined individuals to join our team and support our community.

Our Department provides emergency response and public service to the South Bay area. We are currently accepting applications for entry level firefighter and emergency medical technicians. Some of our members are actively pursuing fire service careers and are gaining training and experience as a volunteer. Most of our members have been here for many years and all have a strong sense of pride and honor as valued members of the South Bay Fire Department.

As an emergency responder we will train you to safely respond and engage in firefighting operations or provide emergency medical assistance and serve the community in a way that no other volunteer organization can offer.

In addition, we have dedicated Volunteer Receptionists who help in the office.

Volunteers are rewarded with the personal satisfaction of serving their community, saving a life or dwelling and serving a necessary purpose to the well-being of their fellow man.

Your dedication efforts don't go unnoticed. In addition to being respected and appreciated by the community, volunteers are also rewarded by our Department. We offer our volunteers a competitive array of financial incentives, educational and training opportunities, as well as insurance, retirement benefits and much more!

If you want to challenge yourself and be a part of something bigger while helping others in the community, fill out an application and get it to us! Feel free to ask for a station tour and meet current members to learn more.

To find out more about volunteering with the South Bay Fire Department, you can call us at (360) 491-5320 or visit us on the web: www.southbayfire.com or stop by and pick up an application at 3506 Shincke Rd NE Olympia WA 98506

Benefits

- ♦ Training (Fire fighter & EMS)
- ♦ Complete Uniforms & Bunker Gear
- ♦ Stipends
- ♦ Health & Wellness
- ♦ Pension Plan
- ♦ Accident Insurances
- ♦ Life Insurance
- ♦ Chaplain Services
- ♦ Employee Assistance Program
- ♦ Fire Fighter's Association
- ♦ Social & Recognition Events

USING 9-1-1

Occasionally, our Department receives calls from concerned community neighbors regarding issues of a non-emergency nature. Often, the caller will ask "when should I call 9-1-1?"

Our District's 9-1-1 service is provided by Thurston County Dispatch (TCOMM). In addition to serving law enforcement, fire and emergency medical agencies, TCOMM also provides various services throughout Thurston county including public works, animal services, county coroner, judges and prosecutor, private ambulance and tow companies, Nisqually Tribal police, and Thurston County Search and Rescue.

9-1-1 dispatchers receive thousands of calls a year, many of them of a non-emergency nature, and hundreds are "phantom" or "unattended" cell phone calls. When they have to take the time to answer these calls it takes up valuable time that could be utilized to save someone's life. **This is where you can help.**

- ★ Please be sure to always call 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- ★ If you have a need for a non-emergency service call such as animal in a tree, home safety examination, or something else, please call TCOMM's non-emergency line at (360) 704-2745.
- ★ To help prevent accidental cell phone calls, users are asked to be careful how and where they stow their phone. If your phone is stored in a purse, briefcase, backpack or even a pocket you can accidentally dial 9-1-1. Often people don't even realize they have dialed 9-1-1. Key guards will help but not prevent a 9-1-1 call from happening.

VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.SOUTHBAYFIRE.COM

COLD WEATHER FIRE PREVENTION TIPS FOR THE HOME

Each year in the United States, 240,000 home fires occur during the winter months. Here are some safety tips to prevent your home from being one of them.

COLD WEATHER SAFETY

Never use outdoor camp stoves or barbecues indoors. Make sure curtains and blankets don't touch baseboard heaters. Never leave a vaporizer to run dry. Check that cords at the plug are not too hot. Use heavy duty extension cords or separate outlets. Never fold or roll electric blankets; heat will build up in the wires. Unplug and smooth flat when not in use.

SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES

Have at least one smoke detector on each level of your home, especially outside of bedrooms. Smoke is responsible for 3 out of 4 fire deaths. Keep smoke detectors dust free and change batteries at least once a year. Test smoke detectors once a month.

ESCAPE PLANNING

Establish a fire escape plan and make sure the whole family knows and practices it. Have two means of escape from each room. Make sure all windows open and are not painted shut. Decide on a meeting place for all family members away from the house. If you suspect fire, get out and call 9-1-1 from a neighbor's. Never re-enter the home; it could cost you your life.



FIREPLACE & WOODSTOVE

Have a sturdy metal screen or heat tempered glass door covering the fireplace opening. Never leave any fire unattended. Woodstoves should be cast iron or heavy steel and have a damper or draft control. Stove should be positioned on the base of a non-combustible material extending at least 18 inches beyond the stove in all directions.

CHIMNEY

Before and after each heating season, using a qualified technician, have the chimney cleaner and checked for crumbling bricks, loose mortar, obstructions and creosote buildup. Burn dry, well-seasoned hardwoods like maple, elm, oak and birch. Avoid pine, spruce and wood that is green or moist.



FURNACE

Have a qualified service technician check and clean your unit and controls. Keep flue pipes clean, hole-free and well supported. Check the emergency shut-off. Be sure trash, papers, paint and anything that could catch fire away from the furnace area.

PORTABLE SPACE HEATERS

Never leave small children unattended in rooms with portable heaters. Be sure the heater shuts off by itself when tipped over. Avoid using in a garage or area where explosive fumes or materials may be present. Be careful around kerosene heaters when using a canister type vacuum cleaner. The exhaust can spread the flames onto carpets, drapes or other flammable materials in the room. As mentioned above, be sure to remove anything that could catch fire away from the heater.

CANDLES

Never leave a burning candle unattended or alone in a room with young children. Use sturdy, burn-proof candle holders that don't tip easily. Place burning candles where they can't be knocked over or brushed against. Keep candles away from natural and artificial trees and holiday decorations. Keep candle wicks trimmed to 1/4 inch. Extinguish candles when they burn within 2 inches of their holder or decorative material. Extinguish carefully using a long-handled candle snuffer or a soft, directed breath. Don't leave the room until wicks have stopped glowing. During power outages...don't walk with candles. Use flashlights and battery-powered lamps when possible. Don't use candles to light kerosene or other flammable fuels.



SMOKE ALARMS

The South Bay Fire Department is offering our community members free smoke alarms. Fire Department personnel and volunteers will install the alarms. During the installation, they will provide fire prevention tips and help homeowners and residents with fire escape plans. Prevention is the best way to keep your home and your family safe from fire.

To apply for a free alarm, you can call our front office at (360) 491-5320; visit our web site at www.southbayfire.com or stop by our station at 3506 Shincke Road NE. We will take your information and schedule an appointment.

PREPARE FOR WINTER DRIVING

Winter weather can put drivers in emergency situations. bring and . Here are some suggestions to make the driving challenges easier:

WINTER DRIVING

- ♦ Be prepared with good winter tires, chains, a scraper, and a bag of sand for traction on ice.
- ♦ Carry extra winter clothing (including sturdy shoes, rain gear & work gloves)— the first rule of winter comfort and survival is to stay dry.
- ♦ Don't use cruise control in wintry conditions. A brief touch of your brakes to deactivate the cruise control feature can cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- ♦ Remember: A four-wheel drive vehicle can lose traction on ice just as easily as a two-wheel drive vehicle.
- ♦ Keep an emergency supply kit in your vehicle that includes:
 - ♦ Small shovel, jumper cables, tow chain, road flare, whistle
 - ♦ Flashlight, battery-operated radio/extra batteries
 - ♦ Maps, compass
 - ♦ Water, food, & supply of vital medications
 - ♦ Cash/change for phones
 - ♦ Mylar blankets, plastic shelter tarps
 - ♦ Infant diapers and wipes
 - ♦ Matches in a waterproof container
 - ♦ First aid kit, latex gloves, plastic storage bags
 - ♦ Games and books for kids, pet supplies (if they travel with you)
 - ♦ Toilet paper, towelettes

DRIVING IN DIFFICULT CONDITIONS

- ♦ Drive with your headlights on.
- ♦ Fill the fuel tank before entering open country. Stop to fill up long before the tank begins to run low.
- ♦ Don't try to out-drive the conditions.
- ♦ Start early. Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.
- ♦ Leave plenty of room to stop.
- ♦ Brake carefully. It takes more time to stop in adverse conditions.
- ♦ Look farther ahead in traffic than you normally do to gain extra time to safely react to situations.
- ♦ Drive cautiously near trucks. Avoid cutting quickly in front of them.
- ♦ Make sure your car is in good working condition. Check these:

✓ Ignition system	✓ Antifreeze
✓ Fuel system	✓ Wiper blades
✓ Belts	✓ Washer fluid
✓ Fluid levels	✓ Tire tread/pressure
✓ Brakes	✓ Defroster
✓ Exhaust system	✓ Proper grade oil
✓ Battery	✓ Cooling



For more emergency information, contact Washington State Department of Health www.doh.wa.gov

BURN PERMITS

Residential outdoor burning is not permitted from July 15 through October 15



OPEN BURNING PERMITS

Residential outdoor burning permits expire each year on July 14 and a new permit is required for the next burning season beginning October 16.

You can obtain a residential outdoor burning permit at our main fire station at 3506 Shincke Road NE or download one at home from our web site www.southbayfire.com

Safe burning practices and regulations can be found on the back of the burning permit as well as a list of prohibited burning materials.

For alternatives to burning contact Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (orca) (360) 586-1044 or visit www.ORCAA.org Other alternatives to burning can also be found at the Thurston County Water & Waste Management site www.co.thurston.wa.us/wwm

SOUTH BAY FIRE DEPT.
THURSTON COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT 8
3506 SHINCKE RD NE
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ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

**PREVENT FIRES
IT'S YOUR JOB!**

WE'RE HERE TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

Free CPR Classes



If you or someone you know would like to take a CPR course, free CPR classes are available through the South Bay Fire Department usually on Wednesday evenings. Classes are held 7 - 10 pm.

For specific dates, give us a call or visit our web site. To register for a class, please call Medic One at (360) 704-2780.

Free Home Address Markers

Free address markers are available from the South Bay Fire Department. If you live in the district and need a marker or know someone else within the district who needs a marker, please stop by or email us to request one. Markers will be installed by the department free of charge.



Free Installed Smoke Alarms

To apply for a free alarm, you can call our front office at (360) 491-5320; visit our web site at www.southbayfire.com or stop by our station at 3506 Shincke Road NE. We will take your information and schedule an appointment.



Free Blood Pressure Checks

Stop by our Station 8-1 any time and receive a blood pressure check.

Go Green

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, please let us know by giving us your name and email address at info@southbayfire.com