



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 fire station 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 fire station. As you no doubt know, this ballot measure did not pass.

CITIZEN ADVISORY TASK FORCE TO RECONVENE

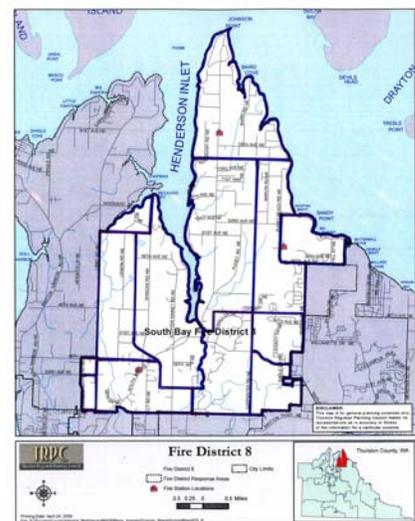
The Board of Fire Commissioners and staff of the District are now planning to convene another Citizen Advisory Task Force this April to review options and give advice regarding improved service delivery in the District's north-end. The process will be similar to the previous effort, with three weeknight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

COMMUNITY MEMBERS NEEDED FOR TASK FORCE!

As we further develop these workshops, previous Task Force members will be invited to participate 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. Meeting dates will be Tuesday evenings, April 10, 17 and 24, 2012, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm.

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.



South Bay Fire Service Precincts

Please consider applying to serve on the Citizen Advisory Task Force. You can do so by contacting me at 360-491-5320 or by e-mail at VanCamp@SouthBayFire.com.

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?

Twenty years in March 2012; over seven 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) who 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 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.

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)

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

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 BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

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



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, please stop by or email us to request one. Markers will be installed by the department free of charge.

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

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.

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

FACTS ABOUT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT!

- ♦ There are three Fire Commissioners that are elected by the citizens of the District. Their job is to oversee the Department at a policy level and guide the Fire Chief in the direction that they feel is best for the citizens.
- ♦ Approximately 70% of the United States firefighters are volunteers.
- ♦ We have 65 emergency responders; 58 of them are dedicated volunteers.
- ♦ There are four career Chief officers that serve as administrators and respond to large emergency incidents.
- ♦ There are three temporary firefighters that work Monday – Friday, 6 AM - 6 PM.
- ♦ There are nine volunteer shifts that are on duty nights and weekends.
- ♦ Twenty percent of our members live within the fire district.
- ♦ Each volunteer shift has six members assigned to it; one of which is a shift Captain.
- ♦ Seventy percent of Department members are qualified as both a firefighter and an emergency medical technician (EMT).
- ♦ Sixty percent of all new SBFd department members were referred by existing members.
- ♦ It takes over 180 hours of training to become a firefighter and an additional 180 hours of training to become an EMT.
- ♦ The Department owns three fire engines, two tenders (*water trucks*), two command rigs, a rescue (*ambulance*), a utility vehicle and a brush truck.
- ♦ On average, 20 people apply for SBFd membership every six months - On average only four of those 20 end up selected for membership.



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 cleaned 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 be kept 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.



FREE 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. 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:

- ♦ Flashlight, battery-operated radio/extra batteries, maps, compass
- ♦ Water, snacks, cash/change, toilet paper
- ♦ Mylar blankets, plastic shelter tarps
- ♦ First aid kit, latex gloves, plastic storage bags, matches in a waterproof container
- ♦ Jumper cables, tow chain, road flare, whistle

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) 539-7610 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/www

Our Mission:

We are committed to serve our community with prompt, consistent and professional fire suppression, basic life support and rescue services.

SOUTH BAY FIRE DEPT.
THURSTON COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT 8
3506 SHINCKE RD NE
OLYMPIA, WA 98506



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The South Bay News is an informational update for residents and taxpayers in the Thurston County Fire District 8. *Disclaimer:* This publication contains opinions and interpretations of various authors. South Bay Fire District 8 and its management do not make warranties with respect to accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information in this publication. Comments and concerns should be directed to:

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Olympia, WA 98506
(360) 491-5320



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PREVENT FIRES
IT'S YOUR JOB!

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?”

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.

21ST ANNUAL SCOTT FIREFIGHTER STAIRCLIMB

On Sunday, March 11, nineteen firefighters from the South Bay Fire Department will compete in the 21st annual Scott Firefighter Stairclimb in Seattle. The event consists of fire fighters climbing 1311 steps to reach the top of the Columbia Center tower. During this stairclimb, participants will wear seventy pounds of fire gear consisting of pants, jacket, boots, helmet, gloves, mask and air pack. Although this is a competition, the purpose for the event is to raise awareness and funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Thanks to our previous donors’ generosity, South Bay members have consistently finished in the top 20 teams of over 200 teams that compete internationally. If you are interested in donating to the South Bay team, please visit www.LLSWA.org/goto/SOUTHBAYFIRE by March 24th, 2012. Thank you for your support!