

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1



November 25, 2009

Fire District Information Regarding the Oak Lodge Community Council Area

Open Burning Town Hall Meeting

A town hall meeting regarding open burning is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at the Fire District's Training Center located at 15990 SE 130th Avenue in Clackamas. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. Due to facility capacity requirements, public attendance is limited to the first 130 people. The main question to be answered is, "What does the public want in an open burning policy?" Feedback will be received on some draft policy options that have been developed by staff. For more details and to RSVP, please visit our website at www.clackamasfire.com.

H1N1 Update

Based on data collected nationwide and in Oregon, while vaccine supplies are limited, public health officials are urging local health departments and tribes to target vaccine outreach to the people who are at greatest risk for hospitalization and death:

- Pregnant women;
- Children under 5;
- People aged 5-64 with underlying health conditions (such as asthma, diabetes and cardio-pulmonary diseases).

In addition, people who come in contact with the high-risk group—caretakers of infants under 6 months, health care workers and some emergency personnel—should seek out the H1N1 vaccine.

Healthy people 5 to 24 years old are being asked to wait for their vaccine until more is available. National and state data show that this age group does not have as high a risk of hospitalization as other groups. Private drug manufacturers continue to ship the H1N1 influenza vaccine into Oregon, with more arriving each week. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has allocated another 85,746 doses to Oregon expected by Friday, Nov. 20, bringing the cumulative total to 528,155.

The Clackamas County has established an H1N1 Flu Vaccination Clinic at 168 Warner-Milne Road in Oregon City. That clinic continues to dispense H1N1 vaccine despite an overall shortage in the region and around the country. Vaccine shortages are expected to continue for at least several more weeks. The clinic is next scheduled to be open on Wednesday Nov 25. Hours of operation will be posted on the county website at www.clackamas.us/swineful or the **Clackamas County Information Line 503-722-2777**

Clackamas Fire Receives BRAG Award

Clackamas Fire District #1 is pleased to announce that it has received the BRAG award (Business Recycling Awards Group) from the Clackamas County Office of Sustainability. For the past several months, Clackamas Fire has been working on re-organizing and developing its recycling and sustainability program.

BRAG recognizes those businesses throughout Clackamas County doing an outstanding job of recycling, preventing waste, purchasing recycled-content products and promoting sustainability. Qualifying BRAG members must meet the following criteria:

- Recycle all prevalent materials regularly
- Prevent waste with at least three ongoing activities
- Consistently buy recycled-content copier/printer paper and other products
- Participate in at least one activity promoting sustainability
- Renew membership every three years

Clackamas Fire is proud to receive this award and will strive to continually improve the way we do business.

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Clarkes Station Update

A request for proposal (RFP) has been sent out for the remodel of the Clarkes Fire Station. The deadline for bids to be submitted has been extended to December 9, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at the John Adams Fire Station. This date was changed in order to allow bidders time to adjust their numbers based upon clarifications issued to the original RFP. Bids will be opened at 2:01 p.m. in the John Adams Fire Station community room. Bidders may be present for the bid opening.

Award of Courage

At the November 16, 2009 Board of Directors' meeting, Chief Kirchhofer presented the Fire District's "Award of Courage" to AMR Paramedic Thomas Koehler for saving the life of Eric Durano at High Rocks.

The following is the definition of the Award of Courage: Awarded to an on / off duty member or citizen of the District by his/her peers or others for an act/s of bravery under extreme conditions in the act of saving a life and in which extreme risk to the rescuers personal safety was present.

Capt. Chris Geiger, who recommended Thomas for the award, explained that Thomas was one of the AMR life-guards on duty at High Rocks on August 29, 2009, when Thomas was alerted by people that a boy had just disappeared under the water. Thomas made three attempts to locate Eric under the water before he found Eric and took him to shore. Eric was successfully resuscitated on the south bank of the river by paramedics from AMR, Clackamas Fire and the Gladstone Fire Department. He was transported to Willamette Falls Hospital by AMR and Clackamas Fire paramedics, then transferred to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Emanuel Hospital where he stayed for two weeks.

Because of the efforts of the crews from Clackamas Fire, AMR and Gladstone Fire that assisted in the save, Eric has made a complete recovery.



Thomas Koehler and Chief Kirchhofer



Thomas, Eric Durano, Capt. Geiger

Annual Audit for 2008

During the Board Meeting on Monday, November 16th, the Board was presented with the Audited Financial Statements by Kenny Allen of the accounting firm of Pauly, Rogers, and Co., P.C. Mr. Allen stated that he is providing an unqualified (clean) opinion regarding the financial statements for the District.

Mr. Allen reviewed the new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) reporting requirement for Other Post Employment Benefits included in the Fiscal 2008 audit report. The GASB statement #45 required the District to account for the implied liability created by employees participating in the District's health insurance plan post employment.

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The Board also received information related to future accounting and auditing issues. GASB Statement #51 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Intangible Assets requirements are effective for financial statements beginning after June 15, 2009. GASB Statement #54 Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions requirements are effective for financial statements beginning after June 15, 2010. The District will analyze the impact of these statements and be prepared for any impact there may be for future reporting. A complete copy of the audit report may be found on the District's website at www.clackamasfire.com.

Natural Gas Accident

Clackamas Fire crews were dispatched on November 18, 2009 at 8:54 a.m. to the scene of a natural gas line dig in that occurred on Warner-Milne Road in Oregon City between Molalla Ave. and Beavercreek Road. A privately contracted construction crew working on Warner-Milne Road, accidentally broke loose a 1" natural gas line with a backhoe that was directly connected to a 4" main line. It was originally reported that the 4" line was broken; this ended up not being accurate. Northwest Natural crews arrived on scene quickly to assess the damage. It was determined additional repair time was needed due to damage to the 4" main that was connected to the 1" line.

The priority of all entities involved was the safety of the public and the responding crews. Therefore as a precaution, evacuations of the businesses and homes in the area began as soon as Clackamas Fire crews arrived on scene. Clackamas Fire established a perimeter around the incident for three blocks in all directions. There were about 30 people and eight structures that were involved in the evacuation, including the Oregon City Police Department.

Oregon City Police and Gladstone Fire assisted Clackamas Fire crews on scene with this incident. There were no injuries and Northwest Natural Crews were able to repair the broken line without incident. The line was officially repaired at 1:30 p.m. Prior to allowing access to the evacuated buildings, all properties were inspected with highly sensitive air monitors to ensure no natural gas registered and the situation was safe.

Please remember to always have a locate service verify and mark all utilities before you do any digging on your property by calling 811. If you ever smell the "rotten egg" smell in your area, you should immediately call 911.

Program Highlight – Op Santa

GREETINGS FROM THE NORTH POLE!!

Though it seems too early for many of us to be thinking past Thanksgiving, Santa's helpers at the fire district have already been busy preparing for his big time of the year.

'Operation Santa Claus' has been a part of Clackamas Fire District #1 since 1974. After recognizing the need to provide toys and food baskets to people that may not be experiencing the joys of the holiday season, firefighters established Operation Santa Claus. The project has grown to be a month-long holiday toy and food drive. Fire District personnel lead Santa's fire engine parade down neighborhood streets to collect non-perishable food items, used to fill hundreds of food baskets for families in need. The Clackamas Town Center displays a giving tree and donates all the gifts to us, and donation sites for non-perishable food, toys, and other gifts are located at many area businesses and public places.

A little-known fact about Operation Santa Claus is that ***the firefighters committed some years ago to provide a holiday basket to every fire district resident who requests assistance.*** An ambitious effort has allowed us to accomplish this. For the past few years, the number of families served by Operation Santa Claus has been around 350. Due to the tough economy, we expect that number can grow by at least 100 more families. And, for the first year, we plan to serve some of our homeless population as well.

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We do not accept request assistance ourselves, but coordinate our campaign with those of other area service groups and organizations providing assistance at this time of year. A central clearinghouse is established to process the requests and assign them to the appropriate agency. This provides for the most efficient and effective distribution of the donations throughout the fire district and the rest of Clackamas County. Applications for assistance are available at all local DHS, social services, or housing authority office.

Please visit our web site (www.clackamasfire.com) and click on the Santa link to learn everything about the project, including printable maps of Santa's Fire Engine Parade in YOUR neighborhood, contact information, and ways you can help your neighbors have a more pleasant holiday season through Operation Santa Claus.

LOCAL STATION ACTIVITIES

Station 3 – Oak Lodge Fire Station

- Station 3 attended the Lunch Buddies Program at Oak Grove Elementary School.

October

Total Number of Responses for Station 3 in October = 251

Number of Medical Aid Calls = 182

Number of Fires = 16

Other = 53

Mutual aid given - 0

Mutual aid received - 5

District-wide

| | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Total number of calls during October | 1,306 | 1,389 |
| Total number of calls during January - October | 13,179 | 13,402 |