



CK Weekly

ISSUE: 01/06/2017

CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE

Yesterday, Lt. Bill Green rescued a 4-year old Labradoodle that was stranded in Island Lake.

Press Release: "Faulty Stove Activates CO Alarm"

Friday, December 30, 2016

Around 10:00 pm last night, crews from CKFR Station 56 responded to Peter Hagen Road for a carbon monoxide alarm in a private residence. Upon arrival the homeowners CO alarm read 78ppm. The firefighter's gas monitor registered the same. The house was evacuated and ventilated.

It was determined the origin was a propane heating stove that wasn't installed properly.

The stove and tank were both secured. The homeowners were advised to have a technician service the stove. The house was registered at oppm when crews departed.

Thank you, Traci Lester, for the kind words!



Traci Lester ▶ Seabeck Community

2 hrs · 📍

PSA - We had a Carbon Monoxide leak at our house last night. Thankfully we had a detector, and we called 911. Very nice firemen confirmed we had a life threatening leak in our propane stove. All is fine. But we NEVER thought for a second, that it would happen. So if you have propane, or even a woodstove (as those can cause the problem also) please spend a few dollars and get a detector. It saved our lives last night. — 🙏 feeling thankful.

PLACE CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS:

On EVERY level of your home

Near EVERY sleeping area

Near attached garages



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon. Jan 9—BOC Regular Meeting, Admin Building (4 PM)

This meeting will include presentations for Commissioner Dave Fergus, the Lieutenant Promotions, and new hires!

Mon. Jan 16—Martin Luther King Holiday

Mon. Jan 23—BOC Study Session, Admin Building (4 PM)

Mon. Feb 13—BOC Regular Meeting, Admin Building (4 PM)

Mon. Feb 20—President’s Day Holiday



Statistics for December 2016

As of December, Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue PulsePoint now has 2689 followers!

All totals for the month of December 2016	
Total number of followers	2689
Total number of followers with CPR alerts enabled	1775
SCA incidents	14
SCA incidents in public location	0
CPR Alerts sent	0
Number of devices alerted to CPR needed events	0
Total number of incident notifications	95
Total number of incidents appearing in PulsePoint	714

Followers by notification type (EOM December 2016)	
Structure Fire notifications enabled	822
Working Structure Fire notifications enabled	862
Vegetation Fire notifications enabled	578
Working Vegetation Fire notifications enabled	632
Traffic Collision notifications enabled	759
Traffic Collision Expanded notifications enabled	819
Technical Rescue notifications enabled	672
Hazmat Response notifications enabled	579
Water Rescue notifications enabled	739
NEWS notifications enabled	541
CERT notifications enabled	456
DISASTER notifications enabled	861



CKFR circa 2001

Press Release:

"Duke Takes An Icy Dip"

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Today, at approximately 4:10 pm, Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue crews received a call for a water rescue at Island Lake.



Initial callers stated they could hear someone yelling, but crews were quickly informed that it was a dog in the water and bystanders were yelling.

Upon arrival, crews located Duke, the 4 year old Labradoodle, in the water approximately 18 feet offshore just beyond the icy surface.

Duke's owner stated they had recently moved to the house on Island Lake and Duke had been outside playing the family's daughter when he decided to check out the lake.

Once the ice rescue equipment arrived on scene, Lieutenant Bill Green entered the water and was able grab Duke with the Life Hook.

After approximately 25 minutes on the lake, Duke was quickly taken inside for a warm bath.



Safety message for humans:

Our temperatures are low and our lakes are COLD. Do not venture out on ice as it is often much thinner and unstable than it may appear.

WEEKLY QUOTE

*“Coming together is a beginning,
keeping together is progress,
working together is success.”*

Henry Ford

December Event Coverage

CKFR is fortunate to have such dedicated Volunteers. Thank you to those who put in time during the December events to make them successful!

December 9 –JV Wrestling Aid Crew

Ed Scholfield
Kyle Fields

December 10 –JV Wrestling Aid Crew

Tony Stewart
Jen Yost

December 14—Santa Run

Travis Edwards
Deb Leenstra

December 15 –Santa Run

Travis Edwards
Ted Fry
Seth Sullivan
Kyle Fields
Deb Leenstra

December 16—Santa Run

Travis Edwards
Dave Brisbon

December 16 –Station 42 Standby

Kyle Davison
Kyle Fields

December 17—Santa Run

Travis Edwards

December 24—Station 53 Standby

Linda Jenkins
Brian Fuchs
Valerie Quill
Darryl Stevens
Kyle Davison

December 30—Station 53 Standby

Travis Edwards
Valerie Quill
Linda Jenkins

December 31 –Station 42 Standby

Tony Stewart
Jen Yost
Kyle Fields
Travis Motl

December 31—Station 53 Standby

Brian Fuchs
Valerie Quill





**Val Quill featured
in the Kitsap Sun for
being accident-free
her entire career!**

**“It’s no accident these
drivers are celebrated”**

Kitsap Transit driver Valerie Quill
drives her Silverdale route
Wednesday. (Photo: Meegan M. Reid /
Kitsap Sun)

[Read the full article](#)

**Last Friday, some friends
of Commissioner Andrews
toured Station 51!**



Why we need fire department PIOs

Managing the media and public-facing communication is a science unto itself; here's a look at why PIOs are vital and what you can do to help them.

Dec 29, 2016

Once upon a shift, there was a newly promoted captain. Hearing the tones for a bicycle accident, he moved to the rig, confident in himself and his crew.

On arrival, the scene moved like ballet — firefighters on the victim dislodging legs and arms from twisted tubing with medics patching an apparent wound to the head. The patient chose to firmly fasten her helmet to the rear of the bike's frame instead of to the prescribed area.

As the ambulance headed toward the hospital and firefighters cleaned the accident area, the newly promoted and somewhat proud captain drifted toward wandering civilians. From the crowd came the obvious retort, "What happened?"

The officer, flushed with relief, quickly replied in a commanding voice, "She's fine, just a bump on the head."

Next day, the phone rang in the duty office of the newly promoted and somewhat sleepy captain.

"Good morning, Station Two, Captain Smith speaking."

"Who the hell made you a neurosurgeon?"

"Hello, who is this?"

"This is Dr. Brooking your medical director and I just want to ask, what were you thinking?"

"What do you mean, Doctor?"

"Read the headline in today's paper. I assume you can read," the phone clicking silent.

Walking outside to the nearby newspaper box, he grabbed the top paper and unfolded it: "Fire Captain Sites Extensive Head Trauma to World Champion Mountain Biker."

MEET THE PIO

It is the public information officer's job to protect firefighters and get one unified story to where it needs to be. While occasionally rewarding, it is an extremely stressful, sometime hazardous and at no time a celebrated occupation.

For their part, PIOs are critical first responders, educated in communications and experienced in the ways of media, beginning with the local outlets and ending with national press releases and incident action plan reviews.

They are comfortable in the world of emergency scenes, incident command and disaster protocol. They understand the public demand for information and how to balance it with departmental interests.

In the short-term, they can be counted on to corral the press, deflect questions away from working firefighters and act as a buffer for officers on scene.

On extended incidents, PIOs conduct press briefings at regular intervals and serve much like reporters themselves. The what, who, where, when, how and why of the scene are gathered and disseminated at the appropriate time and place by an operational PIO.

A PIO arriving on scene will be concerned with documenting the following:

1. Time and date of the incident.
2. Nature of the call.
3. Names and addresses of those involved, locations affected and related items.
4. Type and size of buildings or vehicles.
5. Number of alarms and resources used.
6. Actions taken.
7. Determined cause if available.
8. Information for immediate release.
9. Confirmed lives saved, casualties and injuries to civilians and firefighters and the status of pets.
10. Damage estimates, persons displaced and property saved.
11. Next briefing time for media.

MEDIA EVENT

While many departments realize the value of PIOs, much of what they do is lost on line firefighters. Journalism is very competitive, something firefighters may not expect during an incident.

As firefighters, our instinct is to cooperate and be a team.

Sometimes we extend this cooperative approach to anyone on scene, including a reporter looking for a scoop. Letting our guard down for whatever reason makes us vulnerable.

Pressed for time and needing the story first, reporters may grab any sound bite or picture in order to make a headline and a deadline. A tired, frustrated and careless firefighter can make for tantalizing, but inaccurate copy.

Line officers, in the course of their duties, can be curt with media types, seeing them as a dangerous intrusion into their job. A poor attitude, however justified, can damage an already stressful situation.

Whether tired, impolite, impatient or angry, a firefighter can put their career, their department, and even their community in a bad light with one wrong sentence.

Visually, the public doesn't understand 20 firefighters standing around after a knockdown or one firefighter advancing toward the camera with an ax.

An effective PIO directs the media away from such misrepresentations by giving the press a substantive story and access to good pictures and informative interviews.

And like our fictional Capt. Smith learned, members of the media aren't always obvious. Gone are the days of fedoras with "press" credentials tucked in the band.

In fact, gone are the days of defining media as someone who works for a media outlet. Anyone in the crowd with a phone, a social media account and drive to share is potential "media" — and that's pretty much everyone.

7 WAYS TO HELP PIOS

The job of PIO isn't for everyone and candidates must be properly trained to be effective. Just because someone takes good pictures does not make them qualified to speak on behalf of the department.

Such an occupation requires classes in English, organization, culture and communication — communication and communication theory and strategy are the most important.

It takes training in courses specific to the challenges of the job. Outside these required training sessions, there are many videos, certified classes and even private companies geared toward instructing firefighters on the role of PIO in the fire service.

If you doubt the importance of such training, take the time to read [NFPA 1035](#), Standard for Professional Qualification for Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer and Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist, 2010 edition.

The job of PIO is designed to protect firefighters, the fire department they serve and the community at large by focusing on the facts and delivering correct information at the appropriate time, hence their inclusion in NFPA's 1000 series.

If a PIO is not immediately on scene, here are clear-cut actions a firefighter can take.

1. Direct all media inquiries to officers or designated press location if possible.
2. Never exaggerate or speculate.
3. Never assume anything you say or do is off the record.
4. Never give out names or details.
5. Never give an opinion or state your feelings.
6. "Under investigation" and "I do not know" are acceptable answers.
7. Be polite, but be careful.

About the author

Jim Spell spent 33 years as a professional firefighter with Vail (Colo.) Fire & Emergency Services, the last 20 years as a captain. He helped create the first student/resident fire science program west of the continental divide, formed the first countywide hazmat response unit and was on the original Colorado Governor's Safety Committee. Today, Jim serves as an adjunct instructor with his hometown combination fire department. As founder of [HAZPRO Consulting, LLC](#), Jim advises business and industry on subjects ranging from hazard analysis and safety response to personnel development and organization. As a writer, Jim has won six IAFF media awards since retiring from active duty. Jim has an associate's degree in fire science and a bachelor's degree in communications. He can be reached at Jim.Spell@FireRescue1.com.