



CKFR WEEKLY

ISSUE: 11/03/2017

CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE

SEABECK CONFERENCE CENTER ANNUAL TRICK-OR-TREAT



Trick or Treat

A big thank you to everyone who donated candy for trick or treating out at the Seabeck Conference Center! Crews from Station 56 and 53 had fun as they passed out over 35 pounds of sweets!

Captain Stebor passed along that the adults in attendance all appreciated CKFR for coming out to the event and dozens of ghouls, goblins, princess, and super heroes got to sit in the fire engine and had a great time! ~

Pictured Above (L to R): FF Craig Wellbrock, PM Vince Muscolo, PM Dan Martin, EMT Lacey Newman, Capt. David Stebor, and FF Travis Edwards.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1—December 1
Open Enrollment

Friday, November 10
Admin Office Closed in
observance of Veterans Day

Saturday, November 11
Veterans Day

Monday, November 13
BOC Regular Meeting
Admin Building (4 PM)

***BADGE PINNING FOR
AO PROMOTION: SMITH***

Thursday, November 23
Thanksgiving Day
Admin Office Closed
Silverdale Rotary Turkey Trot

Friday, November 24
Native American Heritage Day
Admin Office Closed



*LT Jonathan Thomas and
AO Ron Jackson rocking their
pink shirts at Station 45!*

*Thanks to all who coordinated
pink shirts last month!*

BENEFITS OPEN ENROLLMENT

November 1 through December 1, 2017

*Please contact HR if you'd like to make any changes
to your existing benefit plans. Information on your
benefit plans are on the HR site on CKShare:*

<http://ckshare/divisions/hr/SitePages/Benefit%20Information.aspx>

From: Rundle, Stacy (DRS)
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 8:07 AM
Subject: DRS Retirement Seminars

A gentle reminder that the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) will be hosting Retirement Planning Seminars on **Saturday, November 18th** in Tacoma, and **Saturday, December 2nd** in Centralia. Plenty of seats are still available for both seminars. These seminars are designed to provide a broad range of information you'll need as you near retirement. Attending a seminar will help you to navigate your path to retirement by learning how VEBA, health insurance, Deferred Compensation and your state retirement plan work.

If you would like to attend, please register at <https://fortress.wa.gov/drs/retirementplanning/main.asp> or call (toll-free) 888-711-6676 or (local) 360-664-7300 or 711 for TTY service for the hearing impaired.

More fliers at the end of this issue...



Kidde Product Safety Recall Notice: Plastic Handle & Push-Button Fire Extinguishers

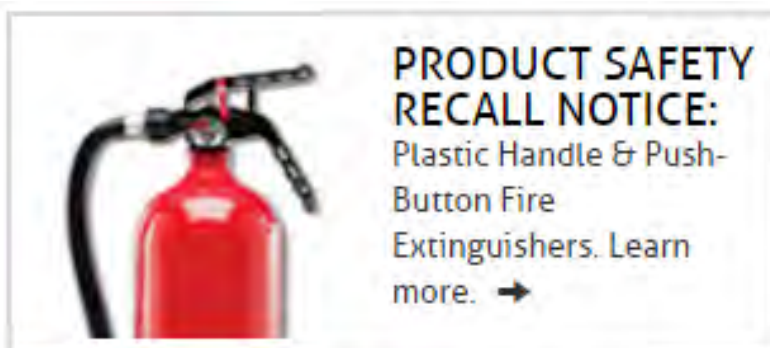
Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue encourages everyone to check their home and vehicle extinguishers on the heels of the following news from major manufacturer Kidde ...

Kidde is recalling about 40 million plastic-handled fire extinguishers in the U.S. because they can clog or simply fail to activate during a fire emergency.

For further information on how to check if your extinguisher is included, or how to replace it if needed, please read the following article by USA Today:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2017/11/02/fire-hazard-more-than-40-m-fire-extinguishers-may-not-work-recalled/824785001/>

If you would like fire extinguisher training or a fire safety talk for your group, please contact CKFR's Public Information Officer, Ileana LiMarzi at 360-447-3603 or ilimarzi@ckfr.org



Silverdale Rotary's Annual Turkey Trot!

For more info, check out their link:

<https://youtu.be/3vzqEptnE5Q>

Get your flu shot for a chance to win!

Everyone is encouraged to get a flu shot. It's one more way that we can protect ourselves, families, coworkers, and patients. In order to inspire us to achieve the coveted state of "maximum herd immunity", we are pleased to offer a \$50 gift card to the Yacht Club Broiler, sponsored by Commissioner Guy Earle. Provide proof of your flu immunization to Division Chief Jeff Sorenson by November 15, and your name will be submitted to a drawing!



- **VOLUNTEERS:** Return your receipt to the Volunteer Coordinator, Captain Kevin Goodwin and you will be reimbursed by the District. If you happen to have medical insurance that provides for flu shots, then we encourage you to utilize that option.
- **CAREER STAFF:** Most flu shot locations will honor our WFCB Health Insurance and provide the flu shot **at no cost to the employee.**

Seasonal Flu Shot Questions & Answers
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/flushot.htm>



In Loving Memory

From: JD Tollefson

Date: October 29, 2017 at 7:52:59 AM PDT

Subject: Passing of Karl Grahn



Roger "Karl" Grahn, 88

Kitsap Sun Published 11:17 a.m. PT Oct. 30, 2017

Roger "Karl" Grahn
Bremerton, WA
June 17, 1929
to Oct. 24, 2017

[Read the full obituary on the Kitsap Sun.](#)

I wanted to let you know the sad news that Karl Grahn, an original member and retired Assistance Chief of Fire Dist. 15, passed away early last week. My family received the news late last week that Karl had suffered another stroke and did not recover. Karl's smile, even, after his many strokes, was contagious, along with his laugh.

Karl was a fixture throughout the local Brownsville and Gilberton area, cooking lefse and enjoying pickled herring. His family, Grandfather Carl, was an original homesteader in Gilberton around 1890, naming it Grahn Cove. His family has always served the community, from running a Mosquito Fleet ferry before there were roads, to his son serving the citizens as a Bremerton Fire Captain (Raymond "Buck"). Karl was a member of the Brownsville Fire Department from the early 1950's until his retirement in the mid 1990's, helping build the Brownsville station in 1952.



Navy, local firefighters team up to assist one another year-round on-base, off

[View the full press release here.](#)

As we get closer to the weekend, we'd like to remind you that when you change your clocks on Sunday - please change your smoke alarm batteries!

Working smoke alarms save lives! If your alarms have a ten year lithium battery that doesn't get changed - please **TEST** your alarms.

~ PIO LiMarzi



Working SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery

"Dedicated To Life Safety"

Congratulations, Linda Jenkins!

This week, Captain Goodwin, Ted Fry, and Pat Busby attended Linda's badge pinning. She will be the new Assistant Chief at Mason County Fire #4!



FIRE INSPECTOR POSITION OPENING 2018

The Kitsap County Fire Marshal's Office will be adding another Fire Inspector during 2018.

4-H TEEN RALLY

ISLAND LAKE CAMP

4-H Teen Rally Participants,

What a day!! You all answered the call to help out and make a SIGNIFICANT impact on nearly 100 teenagers from all over Washington state. Not only did you help train these future leaders in CPR and Bleeding Control, but you provided messages on career development and set a positive example through your involved, caring, interactive, interested and engaged approach.

The smiles on the faces of these kids said it all: You made a difference in their lives today. And, by making that connection today, the possibilities for their future are expanded and positively changed!

I'm very proud of everyone involved from CKFR, KCSO and Harrison Hospital. Your willingness to take time out of your day, teach young adults, share a meal, ask questions and . . . yes, learn a new game was inspiring! (Ga – Ga – Ball!!)

PM Josh Cooper -- Thank you for stepping up and answering the call to lead this effort in the wake of PM Jeff Wildes' sudden USCG deployment to Puerto Rico. You gathered a team, created a plan and set it in motion. Your leadership and genuine interest in affecting the lives of these teenagers illustrates your commitment to the community and Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue.

It is honor to serve with each and every one of you.

Battalion Chief Greg Platz







Quick Look...

■ No IRS Form W-2 Tax Reporting

You do not need to report HRA VEBA Plan coverage on IRS Form W-2 for 2017.

■ New Idaho Trustee

Teresa Benner from City of Post Falls is the new HRA VEBA Trustee from Idaho.

■ My Care CardSM Fee Going Away

Good news! No more \$1-per-month My Care Card fee beginning January 1, 2018.

■ Free Webinar

Register for our upcoming free webinar: **HRAs, HSAs, FSAs...and a Hot Bowl of Alphabet Soup**. You will learn how these three types of medical reimbursement plans compare.

■ Award-winning Customer Care

You deserve outstanding service. Our team earned a **Top Contact Center** award in 2017.

■ PCORI Fee Increase

The PCORI fee is increasing from \$2.26 to \$2.39 for the plan year ending September 30, 2018. We deduct this fee from your participants' accounts and pay it to the federal government.

■ Spouse/Dependent Integration Rules

We've helped make this easy for you. Spouse/dependent integration rules became effective October 1, 2017 for the HRA VEBA Plan.

No IRS Form W-2 Tax Reporting

You are not required to report HRA VEBA Plan coverage on IRS Form W-2 for the 2017 tax year. IRS Notice 2012-9 confirmed that coverage under a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) is excludable from Form W-2 reporting. This guidance remains in effect until further notice from the IRS.

New Idaho Trustee

Please welcome Teresa Benner to the HRA VEBA Board of Trustees! Teresa is the human resources director at City of Post Falls in Idaho. She was recently elected to fill the HRA VEBA Board's new seventh position.

My Care CardSM Fee Going Away

Good news! No more \$1-per-month My Care Card fee in 2018. The VEBA Board recently approved removal of the fee effective January 1, 2018. This will benefit

thousands of participants. Notification to participants will be included with their account statements in January.

Free Webinar

Gallagher will be hosting a free webinar for you on November 14, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time: **HRAs, HSAs, FSAs...and a Hot Bowl of Alphabet Soup**. You should have already received a registration email with more details. Sign up today! This webinar will compare three common types of medical reimbursement plans.

Award-winning Customer Care

Our Customer Care Center personnel work hard every day to provide you and your participants with top notch service. After a careful review of our processes and service delivery, which included a random participant satisfaction survey, BenchmarkPortal (benchmarkportal.com) issued its **Top Contact Center** award to our team in 2017.

PCORI Fee Increase

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) fee is set to increase from \$2.26 to \$2.39 for the plan year ending September 30, 2018. We deduct a prorated portion of this fee from your participants' accounts each quarter. Collected fees are paid to the federal government every July. The PCORI fee is expected to continue through the plan year ending in 2019.

Spouse/Dependent Integration Rules

Beginning October 1, 2017, spouses and dependents of HRA VEBA Plan participants must be covered under your (or another) group health plan at the time they incur a medical care expense. If not, the expense cannot be reimbursed. This new requirement under federal healthcare reform applies only to your actively-employed participants under the Standard HRA Plan.

Don't worry! We have revised the Claim Form and online claims process to help you and your participants comply with this new rule as it relates to the HRA VEBA Plan. Participants now confirm spouse and dependent coverage when they submit claims. You do not have to track or maintain this information with respect to your employees' HRA VEBA Plan coverage.

You can find the most current version of the Claim Form and other forms online. Log in at hraveba.org and click **Resources**.



Gallagher VEBA

ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

Spokane & Idaho

1-800-888-8322

Portland

1-877-695-3945

Tacoma/Bellevue

1-800-422-4023

Tri-Cities

1-855-565-2555

www.hraveba.org

HRA VEBA Customer Care Center

1-888-659-8828

Aflac for Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue employees

Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue is now making the following Aflac insurance policies available to its employees:



1

Short-Term Disability

In the case of illness or injury, it helps you maintain your standard of living and helps you pay your bills.

2

Accident

For a covered accident, Aflac policyholders receive cash benefits for use as they see fit. This plan helps provide a financial cushion if an accident occurs.

3

Cancer/Aflac Plus Rider

Aflac's cancer/Aflac Plus insurance policies are designed to pay cash benefits that can be used to help offset cancer/critical illness related expenses and to help with a variety of daily living expenses.

4

Critical Care Protection - ***NEW***

Helps offset critical illness-related expenses.

For more information about policy benefits, limitations, and exclusions, please call your Aflac insurance agent/producer, **Suzi Obrien, at (360) 620-1514 or email suzanne_obrien@us.aflac.com.**

This is a brief product overview only. Plans may not be available in all states. Benefits are determined by situs state and plan level selected.

Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue Employees:

- Aflac is different from major medical insurance; it's insurance for daily living.
- Aflac pays you cash benefits, unless assigned, to use as you see fit.
- Aflac benefits can help with unexpected expenses.
- Aflac insurance policies belong to you—not your company.
- Aflac offers competitive rates.
- Aflac processes claims quickly—usually within four days.¹
- Thanks to the Aflac Duck, nine out of ten people in the United States know the Aflac name.²

¹Company statistics, December 31, 2011.

²Aflac 2011 Year in Review.



We've got you under our wing.®

Coverage is underwritten by American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus.

In New York, coverage is underwritten by American Family Life Assurance Company of New York.

Worldwide Headquarters | 1932 Wynnton Road | Columbus, Georgia 31999



BECOME A CKFR FIREFIGHTER/EMT

ABOUT CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE

CKFR is one of the largest fire service providers in Kitsap County, providing Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response to approximately 115 square miles of residential and commercial land, serving a population of more than 72,000 citizens.

**FOR APPLICATION MATERIALS AND THE POSITION DESCRIPTION
VISIT WWW.CKFR.ORG/JOIN-CKFR/**

The National Testing Network (NTN) conducts the initial testing of our candidates to establish an Entry Level Firefighter/EMT Eligibility List.

Please visit their website: www.NationalTestingNetwork.com

*NTN Testing must be completed by **11/11/17**.*

*Application materials must be received by **4:30 PM on 11/13/17**
at the CKFR District Headquarters.*

5300 NW Newberry Hill Road, Suite 101, Silverdale, Washington

Contact Lindsay Anderson, HR Asst. Manager (landerson@ckfr.org) for questions.

INTEGRITY • RESPECT • DUTY • LOYALTY