CKFR WEEKLY

CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE

ISSUE: 12/20/2019



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 25

Admin Office Closed in observance of **Christmas Day**

January 1

Admin Office Closed in observance of **New Year's Day**

New 2020 Shift Roster goes into effect

January 20

Admin Office Closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

A Message from Fire Chief Oliver

I wanted to start my message this month by saying thank you to all the men and women of Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue. I am humbled to serve as your Fire Chief and I can't believe my first year has gone by so fast. I truly believe we are the best fire department in the state and you continue to amaze me with your commitment to our community and this great organization.

Our project to improve emergency facilities is a great example. What's driving this project is the need to better locate fire stations to improve response times, as well as provide a safer and healthier work environment for our firefighters.

We started this facilities project in November of 2017 with everyone's support, and completed the Capital Facilities Plan in October. In fact, questions and participation by personnel made this proposal stronger and I am grateful for that. You can find a copy of the Capital Facilities Plan on our website www.ckfr.org/bond-proposal/.

Our operating levies for fire and EMS are not enough to fund these capital projects. As a result, the fire district likely will ask voters to consider a bond during the August 4, 2020 Primary Election. As we started discussing the possibility of a bond, everyone was unified in wanting to reduce impacts to taxpayers.

This feedback enabled us to develop a bond proposal that would result in a *net tax decrease* to our citizens. As a matter fact, our Municipal Analyst tells us that if the bond passes, the average homeowner will pay \$24 less to the District in 2021 than what they paid in 2019. This is because an excess levy is expiring and we will have paid off the apparatus and equipment bond before the facilities bond would take effect.

These are just two examples of how your participation and input is making the facility projects better and our community safer. You have my sincere thanks and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season. I'll be back in touch after the New Year, but you can always contact me at joliver@ckfr.org or (360) 447-3566.





...And that's a wrap on the Santa Runs!



Pictured are the crews from the Ridgetop, Lake Symington, and Chico Santa Runs last weekend.







Vertical Ventilation

A-shift probationary FF/PM Graham continues to train on vertical ventilation evolutions during his rotation at Station 51.

Kudos to Lt. Bigelow for rigging up some simulated smoke in the "attic"!





2020 CK Cardio Throwdown

The 2020 CK Cardio Throwdown is almost here! It's time to get your monitors and get signed up!

https://buy.myzone.org/ship/?lang=enUS&voucher=LWUS001



B-shift celebrating the Holidays at the Axe & Arrow



Deferred Compensation Program

With the approach of the new year, it's a great time to evaluate your Deferred Compensation Program contributions. Are you saving enough to meet your retirement goals?

The IRS has increased the amount you can defer into DCP. In 2020, you can contribute up to the following maximum amounts:

- \$19,500 annually if you are under age 50
- \$26,000 annually if you turn 50 or older in 2020

Even if you don't contribute to the maximum, it's a good idea to check your deferral amounts and consider saving a bit more in 2020.

Depending on your employer's payroll, it can take up to 30 days for your account changes to go into effect. So for the new year, you might want to start your changes now! Change your contributions through your online account or call the DCP record keeper for assistance at 888-327-5596.

Remember, DCP is a special type of savings program that helps you invest for the secure and stable retirement you want to achieve. Unlike traditional savings accounts, DCP is tax-deferred — it lowers your taxable income while you are working and it delays payments of income taxes on your investments until you withdraw your funds. DCP is a great way to save.

review.

See more in the DCP section.

Plastic bag bans begin January 1 in unincorporated Kitsap County, City of Bremerton, and City of Port Orchard

For more information: https://www.kitsapgov.com/pw/

Important Reminder!

Please make sure to keep your address current with HR/Payroll. **W-2**'s will be mailed by January 31st to the address we have on file.



