



National EMS Week

CHIEF JOHN OLIVER

National EMS Week is May 16-22, 2021. I always think of this week as a time to remind ourselves of the important role that emergency medical service plays in our daily lives. We hope you never have to call 911. If you do, we want to reassure you that we will be there in record time to help with the best care available.

Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue is asking voters to renew the EMS levy at the previously voter-approved rate (\$0.50/\$1,000 of assessed property value) and same time period of six years. The request will be on the August 3 Primary Election ballot.

CKFR provides Basic and Advance Life Support. ALS is the highest standard of care possible using highly-skilled Paramedics with more than 1,800 hours of training. If you have a heart attack, seizure, stroke or car accident? These are the professionals you want showing up. These women and men save lives every day, and we are fortunate to have them.

In addition to personnel, your financial support of our EMS program also funds a top-of-the-line mobile emergency room. These ambulances help us manage the critically ill, stabilize traumatic injuries, diagnose and treat unstable heart rhythms, or even ventilate a person if they are struggling to breathe on their own. *(Continued.)*

ABOVE: Magic Trick? Illusion? Or just A-shift firefighters training? In this evolution, they were rolling a Ford Expedition to train using Rescue 64's winch, grip hoist and other rescue tools.



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(Continued.) That's a good introduction to some of the medical equipment we use in the field. Portable ventilators to help people breathe have always been important. We also have a mechanical CPR machine to administer perfect chest compressions, cardiac monitors to diagnose and treat irregular heart rhythms, and defibrillators to shock a heart back into a steady rhythm.

EMS is the emergency service our community relies on most. The total cost of the EMS levy for the owner of a \$400,000 home (an average for the area) is \$200 per year for a 24-hour paramedic response.

You can learn more about our EMS program by visiting our website at www.ckfr.org. As always, feel free to contact me with questions at joliver@ckfr.org.

HR CORNER

RETIREMENT PLANNING

Annual Checkup – Now's a great time to review your retirement information!

To get started, log into your DRS online account and select "Plan Summary" to view your contributions, and "Service Credit Detail" to check your service totals.

DRS recommends you review your totals at least once a year. You can also use the Benefit Estimator to project how much your pension will be under different scenarios.

<https://www.drs.wa.gov/give-your-retirement-an-annual-checkup-3/>

COLA Percentages 2021

Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) have been set for 2021 and will take effect July 1 for PERS and LEOFF 2 Plans.

<https://www.drs.wa.gov/retirees/information/cola/>

2021 CKFR Employee Retirement Guide

The CKFR Employee Retirement Guide has been updated to reflect retiree plans and rates for 2021, and can be located under the HR's Benefit Portal on CKShare. For questions regarding your retirement, please feel free to reach out to HR.

[https://ckfr.sharepoint.com/intranet/hrportal/Document%20Center/CKFR%20Employee%20Retirement%20Guide%20\(2021\).pdf](https://ckfr.sharepoint.com/intranet/hrportal/Document%20Center/CKFR%20Employee%20Retirement%20Guide%20(2021).pdf)

Nearing Retirement Seminar (online)

Upcoming Dates: Saturday, May 22 @ 9am, Friday June 11 @9am, Saturday June 26 @ 9am

To sign up/view other webinars visit DRS here:
<https://www.drs.wa.gov/education/webinar/>



PAYROLL REMINDER:

Payroll changes are due by the 12th of every month. Changes submitted after the 12th will be included in the following month's payroll.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM UPDATE

Assistant Chief Rick O'Rourke

2020 and early 2021 have been very trying for the CKFR volunteer program. Large group training, which our volunteers have been accustomed to, was restricted due to social distancing requirements set by the Governor. During this time many members maintained their operational readiness with the on-line training provided by our Training Division and small group station drills held every Wednesday evening.



Recently we have resumed staffing high school sporting events; where medically trained personnel standby in the event of injuries to players. Since February we have been able to support football games hosted by the three high schools in our District, Central Kitsap, Klahowya, and Olympic. In small groups the volunteers have also been providing station standby on evenings and weekends. This time spent at the station was filled with training classes and drills, in addition to responding to 911 calls. A few members have been able to complete drills and respond with career members on 24-hour duty.



Our program saw another volunteer member added to the career ranks with the April 2021 hire of DeVonte Short as FF/EMT. DeVonte is currently at the Fire Academy at Bates. CKFR has placed volunteer firefighter recruitment on hold as COVID continues to impact our Operations. We look forward to resuming recruiting and on-boarding in 2022 as things hopefully return to normal.

A note from one of our firefighters to LT King:

May 8, 2021

I wanted to take a second to address something I witnessed yesterday concerning PM Wright and FF Rankin that you should be made aware of.

We've had a frequent patient over the last few weeks that we've watched rapidly decline. During this time, we've had a lot of interaction with the patients spouse and POA daughter. They are a nice family in an unfortunate situation.

Upon learning that the patient died in the hospital following the most recent transport Aaron and Jeff, without prompting or suggestion, went and purchased a flower arrangement and condolences card and delivered to the family.

These are two exemplary members of our team that are "all-in", they've taken ownership that the communities we serve are their communities. I'm reasonably certain they don't recognize what a huge deal their actions are, simply doing it because they feel it's the right thing to do.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT





ASSISTANT CHIEF MIKE TAGUE

On May 3-4, the first phase of replacing the Sta. 51 fueling station was accomplished. The old Convault fuel cell, a split tank, 1000-gal gas/1000-gal diesel was removed by Sabyr Contactors, Inc., located in Tacoma. Deterioration caused fuel to leak into the surrounding interstitial space. This failure necessitated replacement of the entire system. The removal process included disconnecting all electrical, pumping out all residual fuels, triple rinsing both tanks as well as the secondary containment space, and then removal via a 60-ton crane onto a tractor trailer for off-site disposal.

Due to Sta. 51 potentially being relocated, and the Sta. 41 remodel (which will include the removal of those underground fuel tanks), the decision was made to purchase a mobile fueling station to serve the District's present and mid-range needs. The mobile fueler is presently being fabricated and should be delivered within the next two months. At that time it will be sited, wired, and the fuel reading telemetry will be connected, which will complete the second phase of this project. Additionally, this system will include a DEF dispensing system for our diesel equipped vehicles.





STAFF CPR TRAINING

On Tuesday, May 11, PM Doug Bekenyi provided training for 18 Admin Staff members on CPR!

Thank you Doug, we appreciate it!

Staff will soon be trained on Stop the Bleed.
More to come!



Reunited!

LEFT: *Contributed by Trevor Stanley*
"FF Connor Bitterman and my son Jake hanging out together in Qatar. They went to high school together. Conner was two years ahead of Jake."



Upcoming Events

May 16-22
National EMS Week



May 24
Board of Commissioners
Study Session

May 31
Memorial Day
Admin Office Closed



June 14
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting

June 28
Board of Commissioners
Study Session