



# CKFR NEWSLADDER

CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE AND RESCUE

**ABOVE:** Crews have been spending time on some spring cleaning! Ladder 51 is looking sharp!

## Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue is celebrating 80 years of service!

We thank you for allowing us to serve you and we're proud to be part of the Central Kitsap community.

We know that our work today prepares our organization for the next 80 years and we take pride in everything we do.



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# CKFR NEWS



**Rod Elmore**  
Fire Commissioner



## Welcome Commissioner Rod Elmore!

Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue is pleased to introduce Rod Elmore as our newest Fire Commissioner.

He fills the vacancy left by the passing of Commissioner R. E. "Dick" West, and was selected after going through a process that culminated last Thursday with the Board of Commissioners conditionally appointing him. He was officially sworn in on Wednesday, April 6th with an Oath administered by CKFR's Attorney, Ken Bagwell.

Not only does Commissioner Elmore bring over 20 years of active military service to the CKFR Board of Commissioners, he is also currently employed as a Security Specialist at the Trident Refit Facility at Bangor and served as a Youth Academy Residential Specialist at the Washington Youth Academy.

His first meeting as Commissioner will take place this coming Monday, April 11th, at 4:00 pm.

## CFSI Symposium & Dinner - Washington, D.C.

CBO Tim Maule spent some time in D.C. this week attending the Congressional Fire Services Institute Symposium & Dinner with members of the Washington Fire Chiefs. Pictured below from left to right: **1)** Shortly after their meeting with Representative Dan Newhouse, **2)** Meeting with Representative Marilyn Strickland, **3)** During the CFSI Dinner on Thursday, April 7th.





## AC Rick O'Rourke retires from CKFR after 25 years of service!

On April 1st, CKFR held a retirement BBQ for Assistant Chief Rick O'Rourke at the Shop. It was a beautiful day out, and a fun time celebrating one of our Chief Officers who's had a great impact on our organization.

AC O'Rourke was hired as a firefighter with Fire District #15 in January 1997. He promoted to Lieutenant in April 2008; then to Captain in July 2013; then to Battalion Chief in June 2017. In January 2021, Rick was promoted to Assistant Chief, overseeing the Operations Division.

**Congratulations Chief O'Rourke on your retirement with the District! We thank you for your significant contributions to our organization and for your service to our community!**



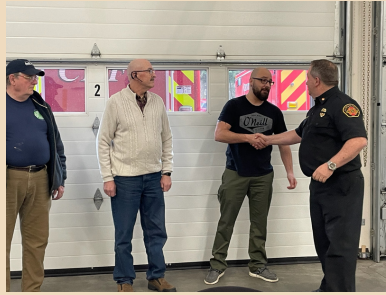
**Pictured:**

R. E. "Dick" West's Memorial Service held on April 2nd at the Crossroads Church in Bremerton.



## Volunteer Recognitions

On March 30th, the Volunteer Association held a recognition event for its longtime members who have retired from the fire service, including Steve Atkinson, Ted Fry, Carlos Suazo and Eric Haugen. Chief Oliver had the opportunity to attend and present Chief's coins.



## MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS



**Henry & Judy Henneman**  
Rehab Unit

Henry has lived in the Meadowdale/Tracyton area for the last 58 years. He became a volunteer firefighter in June 1978 with Fire District 15 and a career firefighter at Keyport in 1985. In September 1990, he was hired by District 15 (now CKFR) and retired June 2019. He then returned to the volunteer ranks working Rehab and Tenders. During his spare time he helps others with remodeling projects when not on a cruise ship!

Judy joined SKFR (then FD 7) in February 1982, but the love of her life brought her to CKFR (then FD 15) in May 1989. She has worked in many aspects in the fire service; firefighter, EMT, Inspector, PIO/Educator and is now very happy to be working on the Rehab Unit. During her spare time, you will find her in the garden or at her sewing machine, unless she is on a cruise ship with her hubby!

Henry & Judy married in September 1990 (yes, that was a full month of changes for Henry!) "It's been a wonderful ride through the years with a wide range of incidents, big and small, injuries – received the dreaded call from the ER- twice! We find great satisfaction knowing we are part of a wonderful community of volunteers assisting our neighbors and friends. The best thing about volunteering with your spouse... now he must get out of bed too when the tones go off during the night!"

**CKFR is now accepting applications for Volunteers for the Fall Open House. If you are interested in serving your neighbors in an extremely rewarding position, go to: [CKFR Volunteers](#)**



# OPERATIONS



## Kitsap Fire Academy Update

The Kitsap Fire Academy started on March 21, 2022. The academy class consists of firefighters from Bremerton Fire Department, Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue, East Jefferson Fire and Rescue, and North Kitsap Fire and Rescue. The academy is a 13-week firefighter academy and is being held primarily at the Bremerton Training Center. The recruits will train and be tested on skills such as ladders, ventilation, hazmat, ropes and knots, building construction, and firefighter survival.

This is the inaugural class for the Kitsap Fire Academy and the recruits were tasked with picking a mascot for their academy. This name will become the permanent name of our academy and every future class will take it as their identity.

This is the Kitsap Fire Academy Wolfpack.



Pictured: CKFR B-Shift Battalion photo taken March 2022.

**RIGHT:**

B Shift congratulates FF Jen Sargent on completing her Engine Driver Qualifications.



**LEFT:**

A little rain (OK, Monday was a LOT of rain) doesn't stop Lt. Rhodes from leading physical fitness for the Kitsap Fire Academy recruits.



**RIGHT:**

With the springtime weather comes training for wildland firefighting. All CKFR Wildland Team members are "Red Card" certified every year. These personnel will be trained and ready to deploy to wildland fires in Washington, Oregon and California.



# Upcoming Events

**April 25**

Board of Commissioners Study Session

**May 10**

**Seabeck Virtual Community Meeting**

Meeting access on [ckfr.org](https://ckfr.org)

**April 11**

Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

**May 9**

Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

**May 23**

Board of Commissioners Study Session