



Thurston County Fire Protection District 8 South Bay Fire Department News

Volume 15, Issue 1

WWW.SOUTHBAYFIRE.COM

Winter 2023

JOIN US!

Join us for our monthly Board of Fire Commissioner meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, beginning at 5:30 pm. These are held at our South Bay Station 8-1 all months except Jan, April, July and Oct., when they are held at our North Olympia Station 8-3.

We also offer meetings virtually. See our website for the link.
www.southbayfire.com



Chief Brian VanCamp

FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

Our fire department works hard to provide consistent, high-quality, round-the-clock emergency medical and fire services from our two primary fire stations, (South Bay located at 3506 Shincke Road NE and North Olympia located at 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE). All fire agencies are facing significant cost increases due to declining volunteerism, COVID-19 impacts, and inflation. For many years, we have funded our service with a property tax levy rate of up to \$1.50 per thousand dollars of the assessed real property value. Comparable fire departments in our region have been operating with voter-approved excess levies above that level. Our property tax levy rate has declined to \$1.20 per thousand for 2023 as property values have increased faster than we are allowed to increase revenue. To keep up with growing costs, we are preparing to propose a primary election ballot measure that would authorize a return to the \$1.50 rate effective in 2024.

The quality of emergency medical and fire services has an impact on the safety of our community and on homeowners' insurance rates. Levy ballot measures provide voters the opportunity to weigh these benefits against the cost. We will be working over the coming months to inform you about our department's plans for the future so voters can make an educated decision on our levy proposal. You can help by sending me your questions and comments. What would you like to know about your fire department? Please email me at vancamp@southbayfire.com or give me a call at 360-491-5320. I will use your questions to help craft our communications.

You can learn more about our plans on our department website. Go to Southbayfire.com and select About Us/District Direction.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

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DISTRICT SECRETARY:

Heidi Stumpf

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CONGRATULATIONS MEMBERS!

On December 19th, Thurston County held their Fire Academy and EMT Academy graduation.

Three members of the South Bay Fire Department graduated from Fire Academy and one member graduated from EMT Academy! These dedicated volunteers worked hard to complete their programs, putting in more than 200 hours to become certified EMTs and Firefighters. The new graduates have been assigned to shifts and are proudly volunteering to help serve our great community!



L to R: Richard Freed and wife, Christian Valdez, wife and AC LeMay, and Kyle Yenne, wife and AC LeMay

At our last Board meeting, we held a recognition and pinning ceremony for our newest career members, Christian Valdez and Kyle Yenne, and firefighter/EMT Richard Freed who completed his certifications. Their wives and Assistant Chief LeMay helped with the pinning.



L to R: Jacob Carlson, AC LeMay, Colton Kerns, Rhomel Delos Santos, Chief VanCamp, Esmeralda Cavos, Commissioners Kilpatrick & Bivens

FREE FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

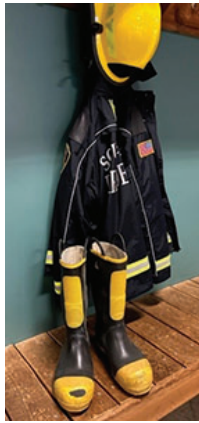
CPR Training - Compression only CPR training is offered monthly and held at our North Olympia Station 8-3. Dates are listed on our website. Sign-up is required through Medic One. Call 360-704-2790 to sign up.

Blood Pressure Checks - Stop by our South Bay Station 8-1 any time and receive a free blood pressure check.

Home Address Markers - We can't help you if we can't find you. If you need a free home address marker, please call us or order one on our website. www.southbayfire.com

Covid-19 Tests - To get a free Covid test, stop by our South Bay Station to pick one up.

We Have Boots That Will Fit You!



No matter what shoes you wear to work, we have boots that will fit you.

Volunteer with the South Bay Fire Department in your free time. We have flexible shifts to accommodate your current work schedule and we provide training to become a certified Firefighter/EMT.

Visit our website for more information at southbayfire.com

South Bay Fire Dept. News

Thurston County Fire Protection District 8
3506 Shincke Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98506
(360)491-5320 | www.southbayfire.com

February is American Heart Month



Heart disease can affect all age groups. Heart month brings awareness to heart attack symptoms that can include:

- ♥ Chest Discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.
- ♥ Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
- ♥ Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.
- ♥ Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

Learn more at heart.org and learn CPR. We offer free compression only CPR training monthly on the second Wednesday of the month. Training is held at our North Olympia Station 8-3. Dates are listed on our website. Sign-up is required through Medic One. Call 360-704-2790 to sign up.

SANDBAGS AVAILABLE

Recent heavy rainfalls have caused flooding concerns for some residents. Thurston County Emergency Management provides filled and/or unfilled sandbags to fire departments in the county. The South Bay Fire Department keeps a supply at our North Olympia Station 8-3, located at 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia, WA 98506. If any resident within our district needs sandbags for flood protection, we can help! We are even available to deliver and help set them up on your property! Call Station 8-1 at 360-491-5320 for more information.



On-duty crew helping a resident with sandbags

MEMBERS ENJOY HOLIDAY CHEER



Assistant Chief LeMay, son Ayden, wife Belle and Santa

Each December, the department celebrates the holidays with its members by hosting a traditional holiday dinner. We are fortunate to have a special guest attend who provides holiday cheer to the children.