



Thurston County Fire Protection District 8 South Bay Fire Department News

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WWW.SOUTHBAYFIRE.COM

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JOIN US!

Join us for our monthly Board meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, beginning at 5:30 pm, normally held at our South Bay Station 8-1.

During the Covid-19 pandemic and Washington State's phased re-opening approach, meetings may be held virtually.

See our website for link.
www.southbayfire.com

Fire Chief's Corner



Chief Brian VanCamp

Summer has come and gone with effects of the pandemic changing our lives and creating a "new normal." As you may expect, our day-to-day operations providing public safety services have been more complicated. Our efforts to provide a safe and healthy work environment for our members and their families has required us to address new challenges. Even though we have generally been closed for non-emergency public contact, we are still in business and ready to serve you.

There are a few brief topics I'd like to share with you:

- We have been asked "when will we re-open our doors for public use of our facilities?" The answer is "I'm not sure." The public's use of our firestations will depend on the determination by our Governor and local health authorities that it is safe to do so. We have been preparing for the re-opening and will let everyone know when that happens.
- Every four or five years, all fire departments in Washington are evaluated for their capabilities for fire protection by a non-profit organization known as the Washington Survey & Rating Bureau (WSRB). This organization provides ratings for fire insurance purposes to subscribers (*usually insurance companies*) to help in determining fire insurance premium rates. Our District underwent such an evaluation this Summer and we plan to announce the results of this evaluation to you by the end of the year.

- The District maintains a repairs and replacement plan and budget for its capital assets including existing facilities, apparatus and equipment. As part of that plan and budget, we have ordered the replacement for a 27-year-old pumper and are paying for it with these funds. This vehicle is expected to arrive in June 2021. The new vehicle is designed to provide improved reliability and best meet our operational needs.
- The District has been actively engaged in master planning since 2016 - covering all aspects of our organization. The process was completed this Summer. The work was done in three phases and focused on 1) staffing, 2) deployment of resources (i.e. staffing levels and firestations), and 3) programs (i.e. asset management, community relations, incident readiness and response, training and safety, and financial plans). This work forms the basis for annual goals and objectives. These all can be found on our District website
- Every month I provide an informative report to our Board of Fire Commissioners about the department. Copies of each month's Chief's Reports can be found on our District's website. I encourage you to take a look.

Congratulations Fire Academy Graduates!!



Back row left to right: BC LaDue, Chief LeMay, Angelina Flynn, Robert Dixon, Christian Valdez, Bethany Kraft and Lieutenant Mahoney
Front row left to right: BC Hall, Chief VanCamp, Claudette Matunan and Jake Johnson. (Not shown: Coby Kubiak)

On July 28th, the District and the County Training Officers' Committee recognized new graduates from the *Thurston County Firefighter Recruit Academy*. It was a novel process, all of which was done remotely over an internet feed using "Zoom." Our graduates included: Robert Dixon, Angelina Flynn, Jake Johnson, Coby Kubiak, Claudette Matunan and Christian Valdez who participated from Station 8-1, along with several District chief officers. Jake Johnson was awarded the Academy's Outstanding Recruit Award! Congratulations to Jake and all graduates!

Unfortunately, EMT class was canceled entirely, but these students and their peers and instructors worked to keep our pipeline of fire/rescue professionals flowing during the adjustments to the Covid-19 pandemic!



BC Les Robinette
member since 2002
BC since 2013



BC Brent McBride
member since 2000
BC since 2018



BC Chris LaDue
member since 2010
BC since 2018



BC Damian Longmire
member since 2008
BC since 2013



BC Jonathan Clemens
member since 2006
BC/EMSO since 2018



BC Derek Hall
member since 2008
BC since 2020

Meet Our Battalion Chiefs!

Since 1953, we've been providing emergency support to the South Bay community with Volunteer Responders. Our programs have grown over time, resulting in improved leadership skills and promotion opportunities for our volunteers.

Currently, we have four volunteer Battalion Chiefs and two career Battalion Chiefs. These individuals are senior officers who are generally in charge of the response and supervision of all crew members on shift. During an emergency, the BC is the "Incident Commander," giving the orders to all the engines and other crews for scene management. In most cases, our BCs also have program or project management responsibilities. The South Bay Fire Department is very proud to be one of the few fire departments to have a Volunteer Battalion Chief program!

We are pleased to introduce you to our current Battalion Chiefs. Volunteer BC's: Les Robinette; Damian Longmire; Jonathan Clemens and Chris LaDue. Career BC's: Brent McBride and Derek Hall.

South Bay Fire Dept. News
Thurston County Fire Protection District 8
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Fire Prevention Week October 4-10, 2020



Fire Prevention Week is October 4-10. The National Fire Protection Association, (NFPA) announced that this year's theme is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!"

According to NFPA, unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%)

of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

Here are some safety tips to keep you from having a cooking fire.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly and stay in the home.
- Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it's cool.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop.
- Loose clothing can hang down onto stove burners and catch fire. Wear short, close-fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

For more general information about **Fire Prevention Week** and cooking fire prevention, visit www.fpw.org

Free for Our Community!

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.

Smoke Alarms

Prevention is the best way to keep your home and family safe from fire. To get a free smoke alarm, stop by our South Bay Station 8-1.

