



Foothills Fire Protection District

THE FIREFLY

A Publication for the Community by Foothills Fire & Rescue

Autumn 2006

Close Encounter of the Buffalo Kind

by Stacy Dorian, EMS Captain

On Sept 2, 2006, Foothills Fire was dispatched to an unusual locale – the Buffalo Enclosure off I-70. A car had gone off westbound I-70, down a hill and through the fence into buffalo territory. Upon the arrival of engine 543, the firefighters discovered a car located approx 20 feet inside the fence with a patient still inside of the vehicle. A large herd of buffalo were lingering 20-30 feet from the vehicle. They were gracious enough to allow Foothills firefighters and Highland Rescue to approach the vehicle (with much caution). We were able to safely remove the patient for a carry out to the waiting ambulance.

As soon as we had exited the buffalo enclosure, the buffalo surrounded the disabled vehicle and proceeded to investigate the "intruder" in their midst. The larger buffalo began to engage in head butting and other aggressive behavior and then became



interested in the hole in the fence. With the assistance of law enforcement, the fence was jury-rigged to keep the animals off I-70 until the Denver Mountain Parks Buffalo Herd caregiver arrived on scene to

assume animal control. Removal of the vehicle was left to the discretion of the tow truck driver and law enforcement. All Foothills firefighters were able to clear the scene intact.

Foothills Fire Protection District Welcomes Fifth Board Member

On September 28, 2006 the Foothills Fire Protection District Board met in a special meeting to consider candidates for an open board seat. After considering five candidates for the position over the past four months, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Ric Koogle to serve the remainder of the term which expires May of 2008. The vacancy was created by the resignation of Richard Kunter from the Board earlier this year.

Mr. Koogle comes to the Board with over 13 years of fire fighting experience, four of which were as a Chief Officer, with Arvada Volunteer Fire Department. When Mr. Koogle retired in 1993 from Arvada, they were one of the largest volunteer fire departments west of the Mississippi. Mr. Koogle's professional experience includes over 36 years in the gas and utility industry as an engineer and project manager.

The other members of the Board which include Mr. Marvin Miller, Debra Medved, T.J. Carney, and Richard Bartlett, along with the Foothills Fire Department are excited about the expertise and energy Mr. Koogle will bring to the Board and the Community as a whole. Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at the Mt. Vernon Country Club beginning at 6:30 p.m. The community is encouraged to attend.

Quote from America's First Fire Chief:

"These Officers, with the Men belonging to the Engine, at their Quarterly Meetings, discourse of Fires, of the Faults committed at some, the good Management in some Cases at others, and thus communicating their Thoughts and Experience they grow wise in the Thing, and know how to command and execute in the best manner upon every Emergency."

Benjamin Franklin, 1735

What Have You Done For Me Lately?

By Rob Sontag, District Administrator

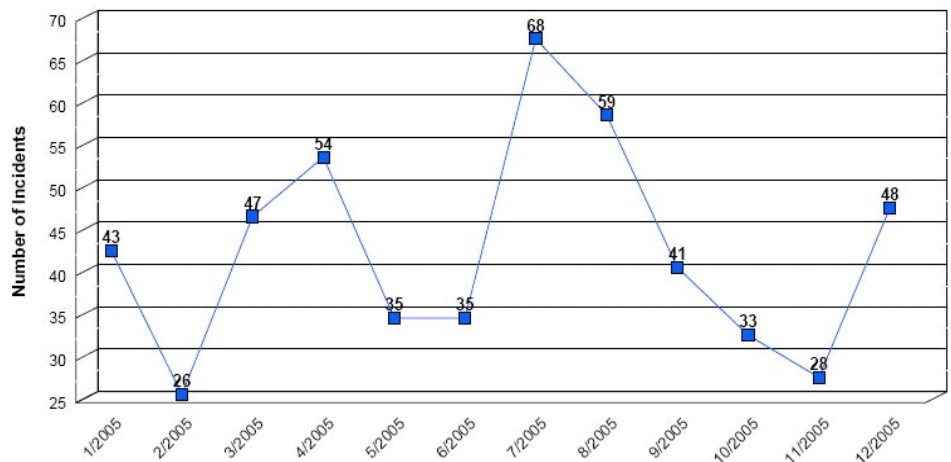
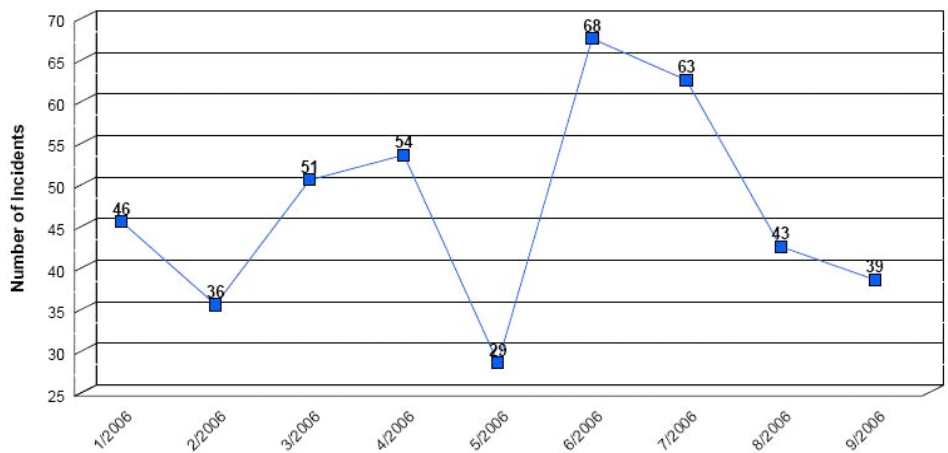
In an effort to let our constituents know a little more about the emergency services provided by the District we are starting a year to date round-up of the calls which Foothills Fire & Rescue has responded to. Since this is the first time we have tried this we will treat the first three quarters as one period. In future editions of the firefly we will present the previous quarters' statistics and a updated yearly total for these statistics

Since January 1st of this year we have run approximately 430 calls for service. Our current average response time for the year is 7 minutes and 42 seconds. Check out the charts below and to the right to see a breakdown of our calls.

We hope this helps everyone have a little better understanding of what we do and what is expected of the volunteers and staff who help protect your homes and businesses. If you have questions about any of the call breakdowns or statistics, feel free to contact the District Offices and we will do our best to answer your questions.



Firefighters extinguish a car fire at the Mount Vernon Country Club



CALL TYPE	# OF INCIDENTS	% OF TOTAL INCIDENTS
Fire Calls	30	6.98
Explosion	8	1.86
Rescue and EMS	205	47.67
Hazardous Conditions	13	3.02
Service Call	15	3.49
Good Intent Call	141	32.79
False Alarm/False Call	18	4.19

Life-Saving Tips To Prevent Winter Fires

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Test smoke alarm batteries every month and change them at least once a year. Consider installing a 10-year lithium battery-powered smoke alarm, which is sealed so it cannot be tampered with or opened.
- Make sure wood stoves are properly installed, away from combustible surfaces, have the proper floor support and adequate ventilation. Never use flammable liquids (such as gasoline) to start or accelerate fire.
- Make sure your space heaters have an emergency shut off in case they tip over. Kerosene heaters are not permitted in many areas. ONLY use the fuel recommended by the manufacturer. Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot. Refuel outside, away from the house.
- Have your furnace and chimney professionally inspected annually and cleaned if necessary. Chimney

Dramatic Fire Service Documentary Debuts This Fall

Fireman's Fund is pleased to announce the upcoming release of a dramatic, new documentary film that features authentic fire service stories from around the country - all told by the firefighters who actually lived them.

Directed by Academy Award®-winning director Bill Couturié, and produced by Fireman's Fund, <<http://www.firemansfund.com/intothefire>> "Into the Fire" is a powerful and moving portrait of the modern fire service. The film will air nationally on the History Channel this fall before its release on DVD next year.

"Into the Fire" airs nationally on The History Channel on October 13 at 8:00 p.m. and October 22 at 4:00 p.m. It will then air again in early 2007 before its release to the public on DVD.

- tar build-up is a common cause of chimney fires.
- Use a glass or metal screen in front of your fireplace to prevent sparks igniting nearby carpets or furniture.
- Never thaw frozen pipes with a blow torch or other open flame. Use hot water or a UL listed device such as a hand-held dryer.
- Dispose of hot ashes in metal containers placed away from the house.
- Never use the range or oven to heat your home.

- If there is a fire hydrant near your home, keep it clear of snow for easy access.

For more information on how you can help prevent fires and fire deaths, please contact your local fire department on a non-emergency number or the U.S. Fire Administration at (800) 238-3358 or visit www.usfa.fema.gov or www.firesafety.gov.



Excitement! Challenge! Sense of Community!

These are all experiences you will find with Foothills Fire & Rescue. We are seeking individuals that can help our community as volunteer firefighters, medical providers, auxiliary members, cadets, fund raisers, general maintenance, and a variety of other service positions that will help our department continue to build our service to the community.

We are also looking for firefighters to join us for our Spring Academy beginning in January. Please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested in becoming a firefighter so that you are able to join this Academy class.

If you would like to join the team and find out what Foothills Fire & Rescue has to offer, please contact us at 303-526-0707 for an application, or you can contact me directly at 303-526-0649. You can stop by our offices at 67 S. Lookout Mountain Road in Golden, CO 80401 during office hours Monday–Friday 7 am–7 pm, or you can visit us online at <http://www.foothillsfire.org/>. You can also stop by our Open House in October for more information.

I look forward to your involvement in making Foothills Fire & Rescue the pinnacle of service to our community. I look forward to meeting you soon!

*Deputy Chief
Patrick Smith*



**FOOTHILLS FIRE & RESCUE
Presents**

Foothills Fire Cadet Program

- ★ Are you interested in pursuing a career in the fire service?
- ★ Would you like to serve your community in a fun and exciting way?
- ★ Would you like to learn what it takes to be a firefighter?

Foothills Fire & Rescue is now offering a cadet program and **WE WANT YOU!!!**

For details, contact: **Randy Groe – Fire Inspector**
303-526-0707 Ext. 4#

Or, stop by the **Lookout Mountain Station**
67 South Lookout Mtn. Rd.
Golden, CO 80401

ADOPT-A-FIREFIGHTER

We are asking the Community to participate in a Adopt-A-Firefighter drive to outfit our firefighters with Traffic Safety Vests. The reflective tape on these vests will make our personnel much more visible on the highway and other emergency scenes. Each vest costs \$45.00. If you would like to purchase a vest or vests for our firefighters please send the Foothills Fire Department a tax deductible contribution along with this coupon.

Name _____
Address _____

Number of Adoptions _____ x \$45.00 = _____

(Please visit the Fire Station to receive a hug from your adopted firefighters)

Send to: Foothills Fire Rescue
67 South Lookout Mountain Road
Golden, Colorado 80401

(Please retain a copy for your tax records)

Special Thanks to the following for the time and effort to produce this edition of the Foothills Fire Protection District Firefly newsletter: Robin Martin for donating design and layout of "The Firefly", and K.E.M. Printing at 16250 S. Golden Road in Golden, (303) 277-1127 for donating their time and printing of this publication. "The Firefly" is distributed to every address in the Foothills Fire Protection District. Sometimes issues are mistakenly delivered to addresses in the Genesee, Golden, Evergreen or West Metro fire districts. If you are not located in Foothills, we apologize and encourage you to contact your fire district if you need further information on any of the topics presented in this issue.



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