

THE FIREFLY

Spring 2009



Foothills Fire
Protection District
Fire Chief
Brian J. Zoril
303 526 0707 Ext 2 #



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From The Fire Chief

We are off to a strong & productive 2009.

Wildfire mitigation & prevention is a large focus of our plan for this year. We want to help our first line of defense, the community, to be as well prepared as possible **BEFORE** a wildfire strikes.

As we have seen so far this winter, wildfire season can be any time of the year. Please do your part to ensure you and your neighbors are prepared for a fire, and that you have taken as many proactive mitigation steps as possible.

You can find more information on wildfire mitigation by accessing the **Community Wildfire Protection Plan** available on our website, or by contacting the department.

As our economy continues its ups and downs, we are taking proactive measures to budget for the future. We are currently reviewing our planned capital expenditures and deciding on ways to contain our expenses going into the future.

After a variety of construction related delays, work is continuing on the **Rainbow Hills project.**

Our electricity has finally been installed. We are waiting for final approval from IREA to turn the power on. Once this is completed, the final work on the interior can be finished and we can set a move-in date.

Please rest assured that the work is on-going and that we will vacate the modular structure at Lookout Station as soon as possible

In closing,

I would like to thank everyone for their support of the work we do at Foothills Fire. Without the many dedicated volunteers, officers, auxiliary, and community members, we would not be a functional operation. As always, if you would like to get involved, **CONTACT US!** We are always looking to expand our family.

Wishing you the best in everything,

Brian J. Zoril Fire Chief



SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 7 th
7 -11 AM
FFPD ANNUAL
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN STATION

APRIL 25 th
7 -12 NOON
9NEWS HEALTH FAIR
MOUNT VERNON
COUNTRY CLUB



CONGRATULATIONS FFPD FIREFIGHTER

Foothills Fire & Rescue
Firefighters
are recognized for their
outstanding achievements,
duty to the community
& the department.

Congratulations
this quarter to
Todd Foster



RESIDENTS ARE INVITED

To attend the Foothills Fire Protection District 2009
Board Meetings. Held every third Tuesday of the month at MVCC
Upcoming meetings:
Tuesday 6.30 pm
April 21st, May 19th, June 16th & July 21st

9News Health Fair at Mount Vernon Country Club Saturday April 25th, 7am to 12pm

The fair features several affordable screenings
including

Blood Count Screening (blood draw)
Eye Health Screening
Finger Stick Glucose Screening
Foot Screening
Hearing Screening
Skin Screening

Fasting is required for the blood draw screening, &
advanced registration is recommended
For additional information contact the
Highland Rescue Team (303) 526-9571
or visit www.9healthfair.org

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Kills Family of Four in Aspen

Article by Glen Saraduke, Fire Protection Engineer/Fire Fighter/EMT-B

**Most of us recall this recent terrible
tragedy which occurred on
November 28th in Aspen.**

Reportedly, a snow melt system had
malfunctioned and caused fatal levels of
carbon monoxide to build up in the
home and in turn cause the deaths of
two adults and two children.

**Each year in the US carbon
monoxide poisoning kills
approximately 500 people and
injuries over 15,000.**

**Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a
colorless, odorless and toxic gas.**

At lower levels, CO gas causes mild
effects that can be mistaken for flu
symptoms - headaches, dizziness,
disorientation, nausea and fatigue.
These symptoms can vary between
people depending on age, overall health,

CO concentration & length of exposure.

CO gas can come in many sources such
as gas-fueled appliances (e.g., water
heaters, furnaces, etc.), charcoal grills,
wood burning appliances, fire places,
portable generators and motor vehicles.

**Although CO detectors are not
required by most building/fire
codes, they are available at a
reasonable cost and do provide
protection.**

When purchasing a CO detector, make
sure it is UL listed or tested & approved
by a nationally recognized laboratory.

**Remember that CO detectors
measure the gas concentration over a
period of time and will alarm when
concentrations are enough to cause a
normal healthy adult to experience
symptoms.**

**In addition to installing CO detectors
to protect you and/or your family;**

Make sure that all your fuel burning
appliances, furnaces, venting,
chimneys and similar systems are
inspected at least once a year by a
qualified person.

Never use your range or oven to help
heat your home and never use a
charcoal grill or hibachi in your home
or garage.

Never keep your car running in a
garage. Even with the door open, CO
fumes can build up.

**When purchasing a home, make
sure the heating and other systems
that produce CO are thoroughly
inspected for proper operation and
installation.**

If you have any questions about carbon monoxide detectors or need additional information,
please contact Fire Inspector Dave Gerald on 303-526-0707, 4 # or visit the
US Fire Administration's web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov

Foothills Fire Protection District Board Update

By Patrick Smith FFPD Board Secretary

The last ten months for the District have been very busy and very successful for FFPD.

Some of the main highlights you should be familiar with are:

- The new Long Range Plan was accepted by the Board in November 2008. During the budget process at the end of each summer, the Board & Chief will update the five year plan by developing & adding the fifth year agenda into the plan. By being proactive for the taxpayers, the District & firefighters will be more fiscally responsible.
- The new heavy rescue truck was purchased & delivered with a large portion of the funds, \$154,000, coming from a gaming grant for response in the District. \$94,000 was received from a no smoke grant to improve hazardous smoke from the engines & to protect the firefighters.
- A new billing service was retained for \$3,500 instead of the \$30,000 from the previous year.
- Certifications of members are now made available to firefighters & the community. **New** legal council Collins, Cockrel & Cole were retained effective January 1, 2009 as was the **new** auditor Mark James & Associates.
- FFPD hired two **new** employees. A new business manager Jeanette Kehoe & a new fire investigator /firefighter Dave Gerald.
- The FFPD website has been updated & dramatically enhanced which has already received several acknowledgements from members of the community as one of the best fire department sites in the state. If you desire any documents or information on the department please visit our website. www.foothillsfire.org
- Elimination of monthly payments to Board members for serving on the Board was made, saving the district several thousand dollars annually.
- The remodel of the Rainbow Hills station is near completion with planned trailer removal at the Lookout Mountain station to begin shortly.
- FFPD is supporting Highland Rescue Team Ambulance District with the first 9News Health Fair on the mountain April 25th, 2009 at MVCC.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Should you have further questions you can contact myself 303. 526. 0649 or other Board members.

Wildfire season will be on your doorstep before you know it.

There are many things that you & your family can do to make your home safer.

Have an emergency plan for your family in case of a wildfire. Many people have exit plans for a house fire, it's the same concept for a wildfire.

Have a planned exit drill should a wildfire near your neighborhood.

Fire needs fuel to burn.

You can find different types of fuel all around your house. Reducing the amount of fuel that surrounds your home will help slow a fires progress down. It is recommended that you remove fuels at least 30 feet away from your house.

Remove leaves, broken branches, pine or fur needles & any other dead vegetation from around your home.

Firewood is considered a fuel

you should move it away from your house & keep it stacked away from your home

- **During a wildfire, access for emergency responders plays a key role in home survivability.**
- **Be sure street signs & house numbers are clearly visible from the road for responders.**
- **Remove any obstructions that could hide those signs.**

For more information on wildfire mitigation access the **Community Wildfire Protection Plan**

available on our website,

www.foothillsfire.org

or please, contact the department
303 526 0707 Ext 0 #



FFPD

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**JUNE 7th 2009 7- 11 am
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
STATION**

Please join us !

Practice Wildfire Safety

Wildfires often begin unnoticed. They spread quickly, igniting brush, trees, and homes.

Reduce your risk by preparing now – before wildfire strikes.

Meet with your family to decide what to do and where to go if wildfires threaten your area.

Follow the steps listed below to protect your family, home, and property.

- Contact your local fire department, health department, or forestry office for information on fire laws.
- Make sure that fire vehicles can get to your home. Clearly mark all driveway entrances and display your name and address.
- Report hazardous conditions that could cause a wildfire.
- Teach children about fire safety. Keep matches out of their reach.
- Post fire emergency telephone numbers.
- Ensure adequate accessibility by large fire vehicles to your property.
- Plan several escape routes away from your home – by car and by foot.
- Talk to your neighbors about wildfire safety. Plan how the neighborhood can work together before a wildfire strikes.



**SILENT AUCTION
DONATIONS
NOW
BEING
ACCEPTED.**

If you have items that you wish to donate to the silent auction at the Pancake Breakfast

**Please contact Jeanette
303.526 0707
EXT 1#**

Donations may be tax deductible.



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PLEASE

REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE ALL PRODUCTS WHEN POSSIBLE.



"The Firefly" is distributed to every address in the Foothills Fire Protection District. Sometimes issues are mistakenly delivered to addresses in Genesee, Golden, Evergreen or West Metro fire districts. If you are not located in the Foothills Fire Protection District and have received a copy, we apologize. We also encourage you to contact your local fire district for further information or needs on any of the topics presented in this issue.



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