

Fire department honors its own

More than 100 guests gathered together on Friday, March 3, at FivePine Conference Center to celebrate the 2016 accomplishments of the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District.

Keynote Speaker Tim Birr, retired Public Information Officer for both the City of Eugene and Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue said, "I'm glad to see family members here tonight, because the fire service is very much a family business...especially if you're a volunteer. The pager goes off at the worst possible times; family events, kid's games, nights, weekends and holidays. In addition, the things you see on calls aren't the kinds of things you can neatly leave at the fire station after a call... they follow you home. The support you get from your family has a lot to do with your ability to serve your community."

Deputy Chief Tim Craig spoke about operations and training updates including a 22 percent increase in call volume in 2016, an Insurance Services Office rerate, receipt of the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Award and upcoming projects for the Fire District.

Fire Chief Roger Johnson awarded the Outstanding Partnership Award to the City of Sisters. Chief Johnson said, "The City of Sisters has been an outstanding partner for the Fire District in the past year. When deep snow fell in December the City offered 24-hour emergency snowplow assistance to help ambulances and fire engines access homes of people experiencing a fire or medical emergency. The City also helped the Fire District update its Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating



PHOTO PROVIDED

Fire Chief Roger Johnson presented awards for a variety of achievements at the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District's awards dinner last week.

in 2016. Forty percent of the Fire District ISO rating is based on the community water system capabilities. The City of Sisters also worked closely with the Fire District in planning and mitigating impacts of storm related events."

Lifesaving Awards were presented to Fire Medic David Ward, Lieutenant Hayden Jones, EMR Josh Ward, Fire Medic Keller and Captain Jeremy Ast for two separate incidents. The first incident involved a 16-year-old male patient that was involved in a motor vehicle accident and was trapped. Personnel used the Jaws of Life to extricate the patient and then treated and transported the patient Code 3 to the hospital. The patient suffered a traumatic brain injury but survived due to the efforts of the crew. The second incident involved a motor vehicle accident on Highway 20. The patient was the driver of a vehicle who struck a tree and was in cardiac arrest. Personnel performed CPR on the driver and saved his life.

District award winners were announced next and included:

- 5 years of service: David Keller, Luke Boskovich, Nyle Head and Matt Millar.
- 10 years of service: Angie Ward, David Gentry and Gail Butler.
- 15 years of service: Steve Ward.
- 35 years of service: Gary Lovegren.
- Career Firefighter of the Year: Matt Millar.
- Past Fire Corps Chairs: Gail Butler and Les Schell.
- Contributions to the Address Sign Program: Bruce Shaull.
- Rookie of the Year: David Ward.
- Outstanding Fire Fitness: Luke Boskovich.
- Resident Volunteer of the Year: Hayden Jones.
- Fire Corps Volunteer of the Year: Beverly Halcon.
- Volunteer of the Year: Heather Miller.
- EMT of the Year: Christi Davis.
- Firefighter of the Year: Cody Manzi.

Chief Johnson closed the evening congratulating all of the award winners and recognizing everyone who helps make the District a wonderful place to work and volunteer.

Coming through the snow...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

A rare double-budded tulip comes through the snow reminding us that spring is indeed on the way. When a tulip bulb has the best of growing conditions it can develop two flower buds in the bulb.

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