

The End of a Stellar Career



Interim Fire Chief Ryan Gillespie with retiring Fire Chief Sara Boone

Portland Fire Chief announces retirement.

Portland Fire Chief Sara Boone announced her retirement from Portland Fire & Rescue, effective July 12, 2023.

Starting as a line firefighter with PF&R in 1995, Chief Boone earned her way up the ranks in Emergency Operations, holding positions as Lieutenant, Captain/Staff Captain, Battalion Chief, and Bureau Safety Chief. She also brought executive level experience to the job, having served as the Deputy Chief of Logistics/Management Services Division and the Division Chief of Medical Services & Training.

During her tenure, Chief Boone led PF&R through a series of unprecedented events, from the global COVID-19 pandemic to civil unrest for social justice, and then from record breaking wildfires to the humanitarian crisis among our unhoused population. Under Chief Boone's leadership, the bu-

reau also launched the Community Health Assess & Treat (CHAT) pilot program, which responds to lower-acuity medical calls and provides much needed relief to emergency responders.

"Together we have experienced some of the most challenging times in the history of Portland Fire," said Chief Boone. "Considering all that we've faced over the past four years, I couldn't be prouder and more honored to have closed out my career by leading one of the nation's premier fire agencies."

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez: "As we bid farewell to Chief Sara Boone, let us acknowledge the formidable path she has walked for others to follow. Making history as Portland's first African American female fire chief, she has steered our fire bureau through the most difficult moments in living memory. To Chief Boone we extend our gratitude for her years of sacrifice and selfless commitment to the Portland Fire Bureau. As her duty comes to an end, a legacy of excellence and resilience remains."

Close to 1,800 Nurses and Clinicians Go On Strike

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load requirements placed on nurses and clinicians working in patient homes."

The ONA said they want better pay, better healthcare, better staffing, and reasonable sick and paid time off for the workers. This is the first nurse strike in Portland in more than 20 years. Providence is preparing to cut back some services in Oregon in response to strike plans. The health system

has also hired temporary workers through the staffing agency. Providence Seaside Hospital has also rescheduled all surgeries for next week.

During the strike the ONA does not want anyone to delay seeking medical care. "To all our patients and to those who receive services from Providence in Seaside and the Portland metro area: If you are sick, please do not delay getting medical care! Patients should

seek hospital care immediately if they need it. We would rather be the ones providing that care, but Providence management have forced our hand and we find ourselves on the picket line advocating for you, our communities, and our colleagues. Going into the hospital to get the care you need is NOT crossing our strike line. In fact, we invite you to come join us on the strike line after you've gotten the care you need."

GAIN GLOBAL SKILLS ONLINE MEET LOCAL CHALLENGES

There is joy in putting food on someone's plate. Velda Hendricks knows the feeling well. But it's also a responsibility. She has lived and studied throughout the Caribbean — St. Kitts, Jamaica, St. Croix — to help island communities live healthier lives. And to broaden her impact and skills as an agriculture educator, Velda earned a degree online from Oregon State University. The diploma is new, but her mission remains: teaching people the hands-on, self-sustaining work of growing your own food.

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TOP-RANKED DEGREES ONLINE



Oregon State University