

FIRE PREVENTION & PROTECTION



FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE *Jim Langborg*

As the Chief of Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) I want to thank you for taking the time to learn about your Fire District and Firefighters. SVFR has a long history of providing the community with outstanding service and working hard to make sure we are taking care of today's needs while preparing for the future. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have the support of our community and we consider it a privilege to serve you.

We take the job of protecting you seriously and we are committed to using your tax dollars wisely. Did you know that our maximum allowed tax rate is \$1.54 per thousand dollars of assessed evaluation, but we set our rate at \$1.13? Did you know that we partner with other organizations to stretch our money further and find ways to do more with less? For instance, we are currently partnering with Lane Community College and Western Lane Ambulance District to host the first EMT-Basic training program in Florence in over 20 years. This training program is at half the cost and will result in many newly certified EMTs in our Fire District as well as Mapleton and Swisshome/Deadwood Fire Districts.

The EMT training program is only one of many partnerships we are currently engaged in. We are also in the process of utilizing over one million dollars in grant funds to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and prepare some of our fire stations for an earthquake. Not to

mention the agreement we have with Western Lane Ambulance District to share administrative services, which enables both Districts to redirect tax dollars where they're needed to maintain and improve our service levels for you.

Nevertheless, none of these things would be possible if it were not for the wonderful group of committed and motivated people who work and volunteer for us. Our Volunteers put in countless hours training and responding to emergencies to ensure you have the level of protection that you deserve. Our paid full-time staff also puts in countless hours keeping for emergencies and finding ways to ensure SVFR is ready for the future. Whether it's putting out a fire, assisting the paramedics on a medical emergency, our making sure your smoke alarms work, our people are there and they are working hard to serve you.

