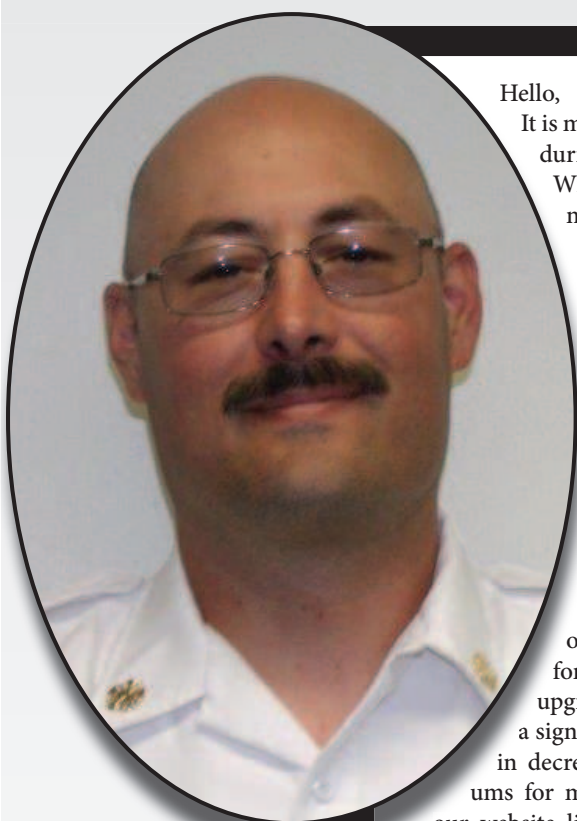


Cottage Grove Sentinel
Presents:

**Fire
Prevention Week**
SOUTH LANE FIRE & RESCUE



FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE - JOHN WOOTEN



Hello,
It is my pleasure to share this news with you during the 2016 Fire Prevention Week. With your help and support, our organization continues to improve, and enhance service delivery to our customers. This year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Don't Wait-Check the Date!" Smoke detectors should be replaced every ten years. If you do not have a working smoke alarm in your house, please contact the American Red Cross.

COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION RATING (ISO)
Thanks to your support of our 2012 Operational Levy, 2015 Apparatus Bond, and ongoing participation in our community outreach programs for fire prevention, our ISO score was upgraded from a 5/9 to 2/4/10W. This is a significant improvement already resulting in decreased homeowner's insurance premiums for many of our customers. Please check our website link for detailed information on this improvement.

The Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rates fire departments on their ability to deliver service and scores based on several categories. SLCFR is now in an elite group of fire departments/districts nationally who hold a rating of 2 or better. This was a long and expensive project for SLCFR, and would not have been possible without your support. One of the keys to maintaining our new rating is the Operational Levy of \$0.047/\$1000 of assessed property value. This levy is used primarily to maintain staffing and includes the operation of our 24/7 Paramedic level ambulance service delivered from the Cottage Grove and Creswell stations.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND MEASURE 20-237
Measure 20-237 passed with great voter support. The Board, Staff and I thank you for the support. We are pleased to report the new fleet is ordered and is in the manufacturing process. The new fleet consists of the

- following:
- 107' Aerial/Quint
 - 2 Custom Structural Engines
 - 1 3000 Gallon Water Tender
 - 1 Type 3 Urban/Interface Engine
 - 1 Command Vehicle

The new Type 3 Urban/Interface engine has been delivered and is currently in the final stages of being prepared for service delivery to you. The command vehicle has also been purchased, equipped, and is now in service. The remaining portions of the new fleet are expected to be delivered within the next 10-15 months. This new fleet will deliver service to the District for the next 20 to 25 years. Look for the fleet to be unveiled in a formal ceremony sometime in 2017. The new fleet will provide safe, up to date equipment for our firefighters. This means better safety and reliability for you.

CRESWELL FIRE STATION

The District continues exploring options for a new fire station in Creswell. This is a priority for the District, and a few options are being actively explored at this time. The current fire station does not meet seismic standards, and has been outgrown.

FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

We continue to bolster and build our community outreach and fire prevention programs. The goal is to enhance your safety and ours. SLCFR will be rolling out a new program aimed at helping businesses improve their fire safety. The goal is for our crews to visit the businesses and become familiar with the building's layout and systems. There will be more to come on this, so stay tuned.

Ambulances

The District will be taking delivery of two new ambulances on October 28, 2016 from Braun Northwest in Chehalis, WA. Once equipped and in service one of the two will be placed in Creswell and the other in Cottage Grove. The two ambulances will be replacing two outdated ambulances in our fleet. These new units will improve safety and service reliability within our EMS program. Ambulances are replaced based on a ten year

service life.

SAFETY

The District recently took delivery of four new thermal imaging cameras (TIC), with the latest technology. These TICs allow our firefighters to see through the smoke and identify where the seat of a fire is located. They are able to see into walls and crawl spaces as well. This technology is also used to find victims in smoke filled environments, and can assist in searching for lost people at night. We have placed these in operation at our Cottage Grove and Creswell stations.

2016 FIRE SEASON

The 2016 Fire Season is now officially over given the rain we have had, all regulated use restrictions were lifted by me on October 5, 2016. Open burning will be allowed beginning Saturday October 8, 2016. Please check LRAPA's web page for information on open burning. This year's fire season saw only a few incidences within the District and overall, fire season yielded a below average number of fires. SLCFR did not deploy on any conflagrations this fire season, however we did provide mutual aid responses to our neighboring agencies.

The fire of most note, and potential in our District this season, was the Mt. David fire in Cottage Grove. This fire was intentionally set, and posed a real potential for structural loss in the affected area. We worked cooperatively in a unified command with ODF, and were assisted by several agencies from Lane and Douglas counties extinguishing the fire.

VOLUNTEERS

The District actively uses reserves (volunteers) to supplement and enhance our career workforce. We are always seeking new recruits, and encourage those with a desire to be part of something rewarding, to help serve your community by volunteering as a firefighter or EMT with the District. Recruit classes begin on a rotating basis, with the District providing all training, uniforms, PPE and equipment.

Nationally, and locally the success of volunteerism relies on those willing to help their community. If you are interested, please go to our web site at www.southlane-fire.org for more information.

Thank you,
John Wooten, Fire Chief

CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK