# APRIL 2014 VOLUME II, ISSUE I

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#### 2013 STATISTICS

STRUCTURE FIRES: 61

**BRUSH FIRES: 46** 

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: 15** 

EMS INCLUDING VEHICLE ACCIDENTS: 662

PUBLIC SERVICE CALLS: 80

FALSE CALLS: 149

**TOTAL: 1,013** 

#### **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK**



**CHANGE YOUR BATTERY** 

SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES!

WE ALL CHANGED OUR CLOCKS ON 3/9/14, ARE THOSE SMOKE DETECTOR BATTERIES BEING CHANGED?

# EAST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

In our 2014 Budget we proposed to continue improvement of service coverage with the addition of 3 career personnel. The addition of these personnel will move us from a 2 man engine company to 3 Man Company during our 24/7coverage. We will have 1 career member working day shift, Monday through Friday when we are the most exposed to limited additional personnel resources. The search for our 2014 hires began with 132 online applications. Our step 2 process then narrowed the applicants to 12, based on identified requirements. Step 3 consisted of final interviews and physical testing which provided the final three personnel. Position 1, was filled by Sean McDonald, formerly with Snohomish Fire District 26. Position 2, is filled by Victor Nelson, from Snohomish Fire

District 22 and Position 3 is filled by Eric Love, from North County Regional Fire Authority. We welcome them to our team. A rewarding opportunity of my position as Fire Chief is to announce the successful completion of probation of our previously hired career firefighters Josh Spellman and Michael Stevens. I am also pleased to announce the promotion of FF Ryan Evers to Lieutenant. They have all been exceptional in their 1 year probation period evaluation and in service delivery. Congratulations! Thank you for your service. Yakima County Fire District 4 continues to rely on its paid-on-call response personnel commitments and efforts for providing services. The recent staffing additions

reinforce emergency response coverage, significantly improve response capabilities, personnel safety, public safety and will fill any gaps that could occur with the ever increasing call volumes and demands. In 2013 the district responded to 1,013 incidents. I would like to thank all of our personnel, their families, fire commissioners' and tax payers who make our service possible. I would also like recognize and thank FF Darryl Sybouts on behalf of the department and the fire district; he has recently retired from the department with 26 years of service.

Please visit our web site at www.ycfd4.org current information, events and a great resource to learn about your local Fire Department.

# **COMMISSIONER'S CORNER**

A new year welcomes new faces. The Board would like to welcome new hires Sean McDonald, Eric Love, and Victor Nelson to the department. We look forward to working together and providing our citizens the best service possible in 2014. A new year also bids farewell to familiar faces. A

heartfelt thank you and best wishes in his retirement to Darryl Sybouts, who served 26 years on the department. Your dedication and service is truly appreciated, Darryl. New apparatus is also on the horizon for 2014. The department is looking forward to receiving a new brush







Chairman Joe Gendron

n Commissioner Dan McNulty

ty Commissioner Les Rie

truck and pick-up to more economically meet the equipment needs of the district. A balanced budget closed out 2013 and the Board would like to express their thanks and appreciation to Chief Riel and staff for a great year of teamwork.

#### KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PROPERTY SAFE



Creating defensible space is essential to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. The buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees and shrubs that surrounds it is what can make the biggest difference. This space is needed to stop or slow the spread of wildfire and help protect your home from catching fire.

Listed are some general guidelines to protect your property and are meant for awareness purposes only.

- Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds
- Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from your yard, roof, and rain outters
- Remove branches that hang over your roof and keep dead branches 10 feet away from your chimney
- Remove or prune flammable plants and shrubs near windows
- Clear combustible from under deck's



- Clear a space between vegetation and owned goods, i.e. lawn furniture, wood piles etc..
- Remove all tree branches at least 6 feet from ground

### **MESSAGE FROM THE EAST VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**





#### PANCAKE FEED

This past year has been a great one for our department! Thank you again for supporting your local firefighters! This past year's annual pancake feed was a huge success! We saw a great number of you supporting an amazing cause. Thank you to all who came out in support! This year should be another great one. Mark those calendars for June 1st, breakfast will be hot from 6a.m.-noon! Come and get your breakfast made and served by your

firefighters! All proceeds go towards, helping families in need for Christmas, High School scholarships, The Northwest Burn Foundation and the East Valley High School Baseball Team.

#### BENEFIT POTATO FEED

Last year, one of our very own Firefighters, Kyle Schlotfeldt, had a winning battle with an extremely rare tumor inside of his spinal cord. Kyle fought through some battles in his road to recovery, and we like to think, his positive attitude and drive to recover was a key part in him

being able to come back and serve you once again. Along with the sudden medical news and procedures, Kyle has also seen the sudden impact of medical bills associated to his surgery and recovery. EVFD will be holding a potato feed in his name on April 12th, from 5p.m.-8p.m. at our main station located at 2003 Beaudry Rd. Come down, bring the kids, see the fire trucks, meet your firefighters and support a great cause! The cost will be \$5 per plate with donations welcome. Kyle thanks you all in advance for the well wishes!

#### **HIRED MARCH 15, 2013 EAST VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS**

Completed their probation on March 15 2014. Ryan Evers promoted to Lieutenant and Josh Spellman and Michael Stevens promoted to Firefighter Status.



C Shift Lieutenant Ryan Evers



B Shift Firefighter Josh Spellman



C Shift Firefighter Michael Stevens

#### YOUR NEWLY HIRED JANUARY 1,2014 EAST VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS



A Shift Probationary Firefighter Sean McDonald



C Shift Probationary Firefighter Victor Nelson



Day Shift Probationary Firefighter Eric Love



RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

26 YEARS OF SERVICE

FF Darryl Sybouts

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE





Thank all of our personnel, their families, fire commissioners' and tax payers who make our service possible.

Please visit our web site @ www.ycfd4.org