



THE FDC – FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION

A Quarterly Publication for the Membership of the Silverton Fire District

www.silvertonfire.com

Volume 13



SPOT OF RECOGNITION

We have had a couple new members join our ranks! Alissa Wiebe, Rigoberto Lopez, and Kidron Schurter have come on board as Support Services. If you see them at drills or out on calls, take a moment and welcome them! All three are excited to jump in and learn the Silverton way!

Additionally, Brody Kuenzi has joined us as a new Resident Volunteer. If you happen to see him in between his classes, say 'Hi!'

A Day of Thanks to YOU!

October 28th is National First Responders Day! Established after the passing of Boston Police Officer Sean Collier during the 2013 Boston Marathon Bombing, this day is meant to recognize the bravery and dedication of all first responders.

Here in Silverton, you continually demonstrate what it means to serve with heart, courage, and commitment. The members of the Silverton Fire District dedicate countless hours to training, emergency response, and community education—all to ensure the safety of our residents. Whether you're responding to a structure fire in the middle of the night, providing life-saving medical care, or teaching fire safety, you go above and beyond. Your professionalism, teamwork, and compassion are at the core of what makes Silverton a strong and resilient community.

The Silverton Fire District is proud to be made up of individuals like you who embody the true meaning of service. From career staff to volunteers, every one of you contributes to the success of our mission and the safety of our community. Your long hours, continued training, and willingness to respond at a moment's notice do not go unnoticed.

On this National First Responders Day, we extend our sincere gratitude to each of you for your tireless dedication, bravery, and compassion. Your service makes a difference every single day, and our community is stronger because of you.

UPCOMING:

OCTOBER

- 1st EMS Night
- 6th Open House Station 2
- 7th Open House Station 3
- 8th Open House Station 1
- 8th Association Dinner
- 9th Open House Station 8
- 10th Open House Station 9
- 13th Columbus Day
- 14th Board Meeting
- 15th Drill Night: Downtown Target Hazards
- 16th Civil Service Commission Mtg.
- 18th Chicken Dinner
- 22nd Drill Night: Basic Fire Skills
- 28th National First Responders Day
- 29th Drill Night: 1st 5 Minutes

NOVEMBER

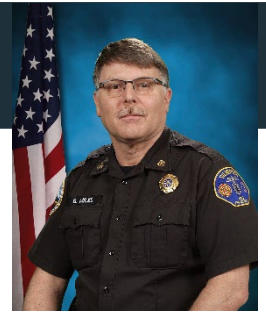
- 1st TAG Meeting
- 2nd End of Daylight Savings
- 5th EMS Night
- 10th Board Meeting
- 11th Veterans Day
- 12th Association Dinner
- 19th Drill Night: Search and Rescue
- 26th Poker and IMCT
- 27th Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 3rd EMS Night
- 9th Board Meeting
- 10th Christmas Dinner
- 17th Drill Night: Fire Alarm and Suppression
- 21st First Day of Winter
- 24th Christmas Eve
- 25th Christmas Day
- 31st New Years Eve

FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

Bill Miles



Dear Members,

It's hard to believe that summer is behind us and fall is upon us. That means small evening campfires, Fire Prevention Week, leaves to rake, changing the batteries in your smoke and CO alarms, having your furnace professionally serviced, and being alert to school buses while driving and watching for children at cross walks.

We had another busy fire season, with many of our members and apparatus deployed to incidents throughout the state – and even once to California. So far in 2025, we've supported **eight deployments**, including that California response.

Thank you to everyone who stepped up to deploy and to those who helped with **backfilling shifts at home**, ensuring we maintained our daytime response capabilities. A special thanks to **Candace** for her outstanding work getting the billing processed for State reimbursement once our crews return.

With the arrival of steady fall rains, it appears Oregon's conflagration season is winding down – at least for now.

OSFM Up-Staffing Grant

The **OSFM Up-Staffing Grant** has made a significant impact this year, allowing us to expand staffing during evenings and weekends. Thank you to everyone who has worked those extra shifts – you've made a big difference.

Equipment Update

Congratulations to AC Veit on securing a **side-by-side UTV** through the **SPIRE grant program** from Oregon Emergency Management. While we await its arrival – pending the state procurement process – we'll share updates as we learn more. Great job!

Fire Prevention Month

October is **Fire Prevention Month**, and this year's theme is: **"Take Charge of Fire Safety!"**

This campaign emphasizes taking simple steps to protect your home and loved ones. Focus on three key actions:

1. Buy only listed products
2. Charge devices safely
3. Recycle batteries responsibly

Smoke Alarm Program and Public Education

If you have any questions about the **Smoke Alarm Program**, please reach out to **Max**.

As we roll out Fire Prevention activities, we encourage everyone to participate. Please consider helping with **station open houses** and other **public education events**. Contact **Max or Dan** if you're interested or have questions.

Station Open Houses (6-8pm):

- **Station 2** – October 6
- **Station 3** – October 7
- **Station 1** – October 8
- **Station 8** – October 9
- **Station 9** – October 10

Your help is truly appreciated in making these events a success!

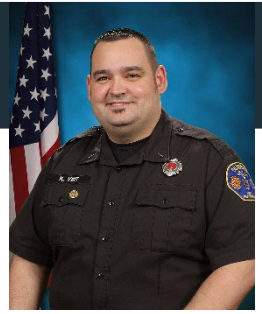
Thank you all for your continued **dedication and service** to our communities. The time and energy you invest in training, responses, and public outreach is remarkable – and doesn't go unnoticed.

Stay safe and take care,

Bill Miles
Fire Chief

ASSISTANT CHIEF

Keith Veit



It's Fall!

As we move into the fall, it's important to remember that fire season is not over yet. While the peak summer heat may be behind us, conditions remain dry and the risk of wildfire is still real. Please continue to stay sharp on calls, at training, and in your daily routines.



I want to extend a sincere thank you to those who responded on conflagration assignments this season, as well as those who stepped in to provide backfill coverage here at home. Your efforts ensured that our district remained protected while also supporting our neighbors across the state.

In addition, thank you to everyone who has participated in our OSFM grant funded upstaffing program to this point. Your willingness to step up and add capacity during periods of heightened risk has been a tremendous benefit. We anticipate this program will wrap up in mid to late October as the available funding is depleted, but the impact it has made this season is clear.

Grant Updates

The 2023 FEMA AFG grant that was awarded to fund the purchase of new PPE extractors and dryers is nearly complete. To finish out the project, we are currently adding a new table in the upper bays to serve as a work surface to disassembling, reassembling, and inspecting PPE during the cleaning process, as well as a rack system to securely store the chemicals used with the new extractors. We expect to have some excess funding remaining which will be utilized to purchase additional PPE for stock along with other equipment.

Our 2024 FEMA AFG application for the replacement of our SCBA breathing air compressor and filling station is still under review – we should be notified of the outcome soon.

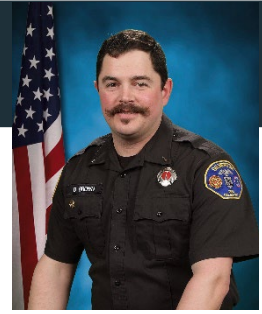
Finally, I am pleased to share that our application for the 2025 SPIRE grant program administered by OEM was successful, the district has been awarded a UTV. This new resource will strengthen our ability to respond in difficult-to-access areas and during times when traditional road access may be limited. We do not have a delivery date at this time.

Let's continue to support one another, stay ready, and finish the season strong!



TRAINING & RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR

Lt. Dan Brown



Everybody know what time it is???????

Recruiting Season!! October Open Houses are a GREAT way to get the folks we've been talking to all year to come to their closest Fire Station and see what's cookin'! Literally... Who doesn't like FREE HOTDOGS!?! Encourage your friends, neighbors and friendly neighbors to come to our open houses Oct. 6-10. Each night at a new station! This is an excellent opportunity to get folks interested in volunteering to fill out an application at the station they're most likely to respond from, and to spread some Fire Safety messages out to Mr. and Mrs. Taxpayer! Keep eyes and ears open for interview panel and Physical Agility Test proctor needs, as we'll be hunkering down in late October/early November with Academy recruit testing!

I'm proud of all the work that was completed during Q3 by the RV's on CWE shifts, staff, as well as the up-staffing crews! EVERY station looks great! It makes my job as a recruiter much easier when everyone pitches in to make the stations and apparatus SHINE!!

Our TAG group has done an amazing job creating and coordinating quarterly drill plans. We've done some awesome trainings over the past 3 quarters, and we want to keep that going! If you have any ideas for training and training props, get ahold of any of the TAG members so they can be presented to the group! The Annual TAG meeting is scheduled for November 1st. If you're interested in becoming a TAG member or attending the annual meeting, lemme know!

Let's finish 2025 strong by making sure we all have our IMCT DONE EARLY!! Most of it can be done on Target Solutions!!

Notable Quarter 4 Training Dates:

- 10/15- Downtown Target Hazard Response Considerations
- 11/1- Annual TAG Meeting
- 11/5- EMS Firehouse Football! Each Engine Company is invited to bring a "tailgating snack" to enjoy during the game!
- 11/19- Search and Rescue in-class review/discussion
- 11/26- Poker in the front, IMCT in the rear!
- 12/3- Legacy Burn Center- Burn injury treatment
- 12/10- Christmas Dinner
- 12/17- Fire Alarms and Systems with OSFM Fire Marshall
- 12/24-Christmas Eve
- 12/31- New Year's Eve
- Jan 2nd- 1st night of 2026 Academy!!

OPEN HOUSE

OCT 2025

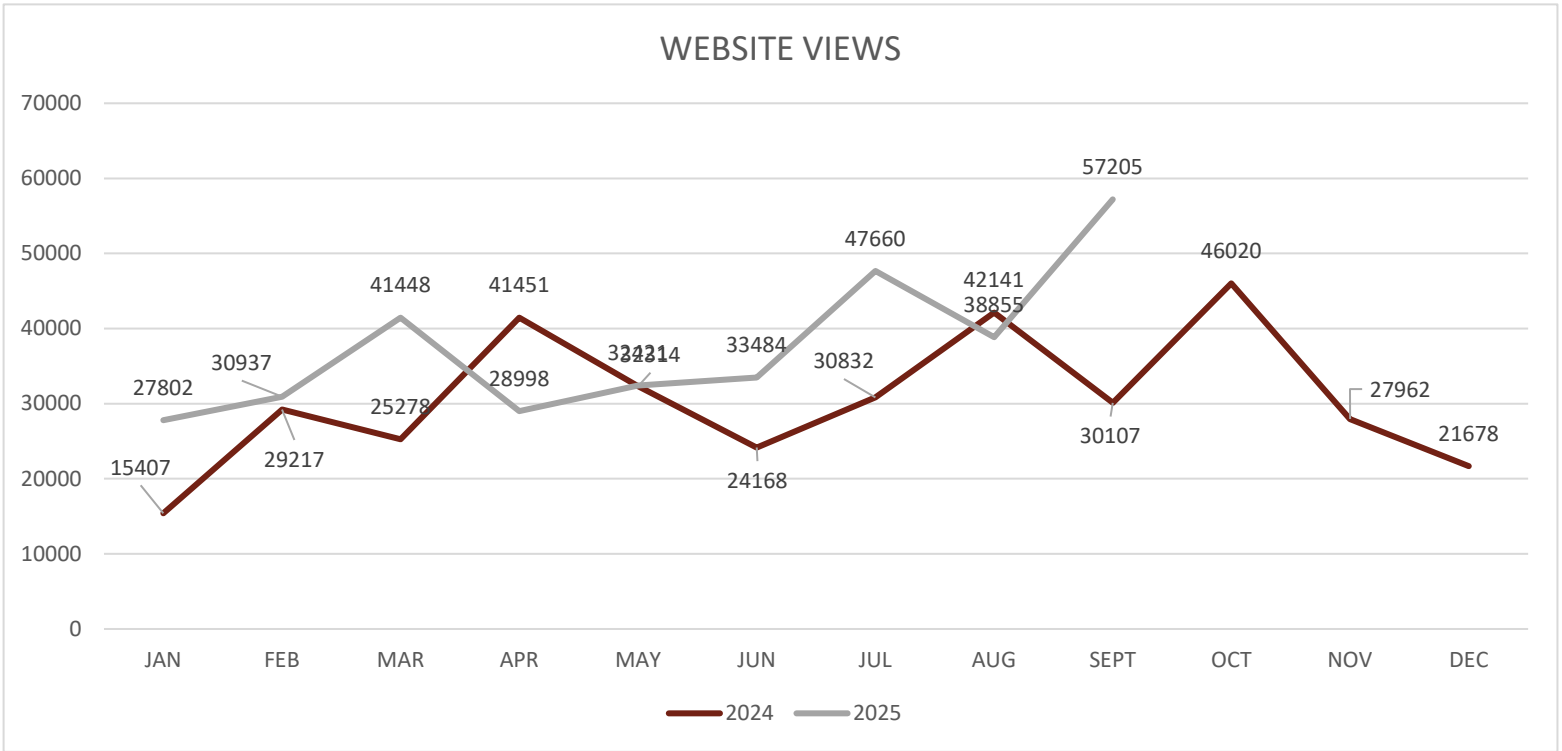
SILVERTON FIRE DIST.

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
EACH DAY

06 OCT	Station 2 13404 Riches Rd SE
07 OCT	Station 3 17447 S Abiqua Rd NE
08 OCT	Station 1 819 Rail Way Ave
09 OCT	Station 8 480 3rd St Scotts Mills
10 OCT	Station 9 4724 Crooked Finger Rd NE Scotts Mills

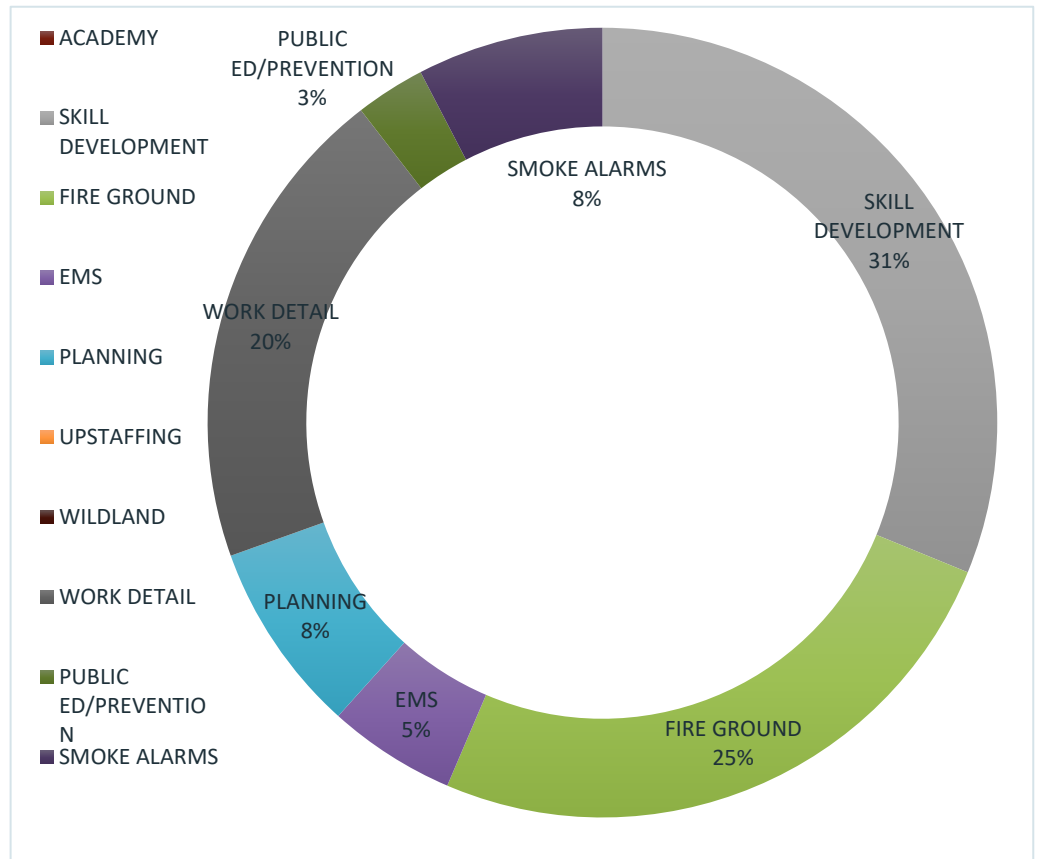
- FREE FOOD
- STATION TOURS
- GAMES
- MERCH
- MEET FIREFIGHTERS
- VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

2025 WEBSITE VIEWS



ACTIVITY HOURS
Quarter 3

Activities by members are hours beyond regular Wednesday night drills. These include Academy training and other training completed by members on their own accord. Public education and public assistance events can include many different functions; school assemblies, first Fridays, installing smoke alarms and batteries. Work Detail is when a volunteer(s) help with maintenance, cleaning, EMS Standby for sports etc.



Data used for this report is rendered from the number of current active firefighters on our roll sheets divided by the number of personnel that attended drill night.

Additionally, drill nights typically follow a consistent training activity schedule as listed below:

1st Wednesday

Safety Committee, Apparatus Inspections, EMS Related Topic

2nd Wednesday

Officer's Meeting, Apparatus Inspections, Association Meetings

3rd Wednesday

Apparatus Inspections, Fire Related Topic

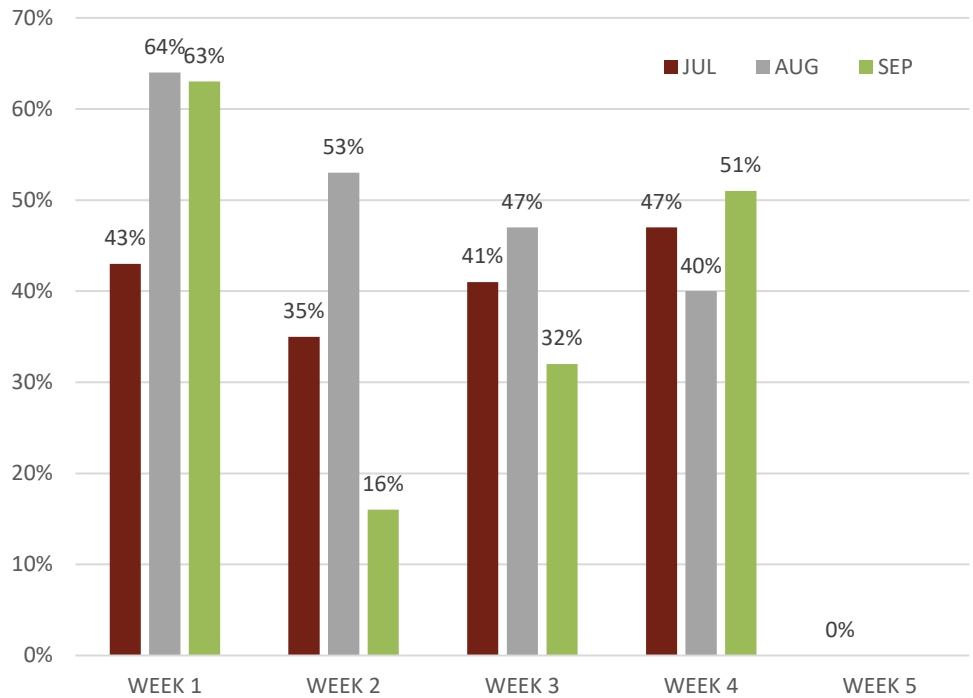
4th Wednesday

Apparatus Inspections, Fire Related Topic

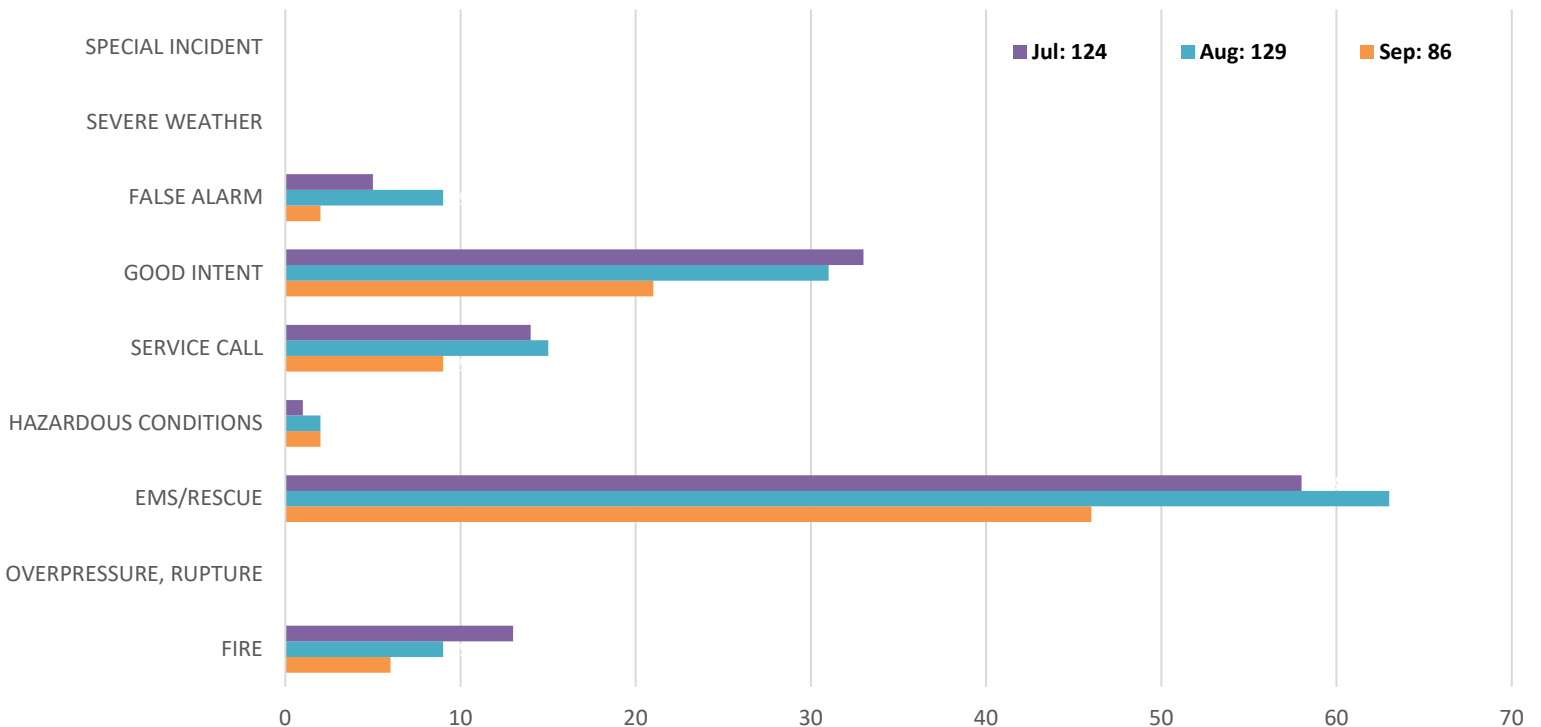
5th Wednesday

When fifth Wednesdays are present in the month, Officer or specialty training is given

**DRILL PARTICIPATION
Quarter 3**



**CALL DATA
Quarter 3**





September is National Suicide Prevention month. If you suspect someone is at risk, you can help by taking these steps:

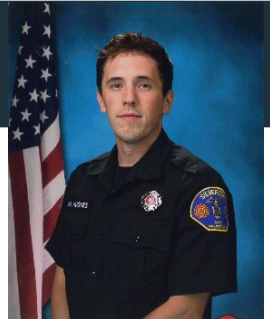
- **Ask:** Ask directly and compassionately if they are considering suicide. Research shows this can provide relief.
- **Be There:** Listen to their problems without judgement. This can make them feel less overwhelmed and more hopeful.
- **Keep Them Safe:** Reduce access to lethal items and work with them to create a safety plan.
- **Help Them Connect:** Assist them in building a network of support, including calling or texting the 988 Lifeline.
- **Follow Up:** Continue to check in with them. Brief, ongoing contact can be an important part of prevention.



Additionally, October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. There will be pink gloves available for use in the month of October to show support.

FIRE PREVENTION

Max Hughes



This past month we had the chance to be out in the community at Homer Davenport days and the Homer Davenport parade. It was a great opportunity to connect with the public, answer questions, and share important fire safety information.

A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped make it happen – from those who staffed the booth, to our OSFM upstaff who jumped in and made sure we were covered. Your time and energy really made a difference.

We're also happy to report that our merch completely sold out! While it means we need to restock, it also shows just how many people we reached and engaged with. It's always encouraging to see the community excited to support us and to walk away with safety information in hand.



October is coming up fast, which means **Fire Prevention Month**. Expect school visits, station tours, and extra community education events on the calendar. Thanks in advance to everyone helping out!



Hey everyone! As fire season winds down, please take a few minutes to look over your Wildland PPE for any **damage, wear, or missing items**. If you notice anything that needs repair or replacement, fill out a **PPE/Uniform Service Request form** so we can get ahead of next year’s orders.

What’s New:

- **Wildland Gear:** We’ve moved away from Lakeland and are now issuing Coaxsher BetaX Shirts and Coaxsher “Vector” Pants. These are lighter, more comfortable, and designed for better mobility.
- **Turnouts:** We’re returning to Lion for structural PPE due to their proven durability and reliability.
- **Carhartt Coats:** The annual order is currently in the works.
- **Traffic Vests:** Still available district wide. If your rig or crew is missing one, let me know and I’ll get you covered.

Reminders:

- The PPE/Uniform Service Request form is now available online, making it faster and easier to submit new orders, replacements, or updates.
- Keep using the UniMac washers and dryers after heavy use to extend the life of your gear and reduce contaminants.

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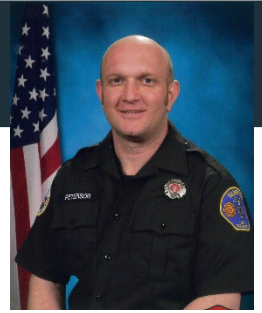
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COREY SELFRIDGE

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MAINTENANCE

Ian Peterson



Things to keep an eye out for:

- Hose testing and ground ladder testing September 30th through the first week of October
- Annual testing for SCBA's through the end of the year

Things to remember as we head into winter:

- Review chain inventory and make sure that your apparatus is ready for winter weather! Review putting chains on.
- Check your chainsaw inventory on apparatus. It's almost tree chopping season.
- Check flares on apparatus (even the electronic ones)!

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

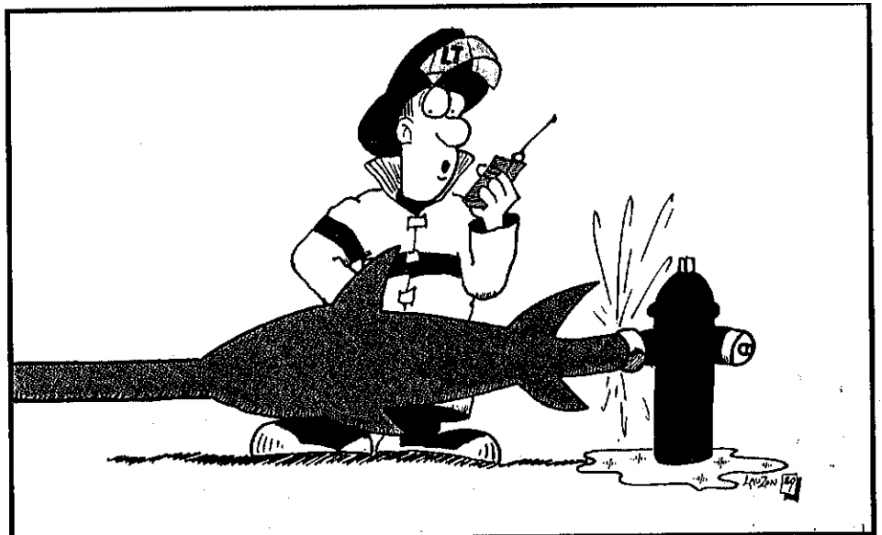
Candace Cantu

As we prepare for W-2 season, it's important to make sure your mailing address is up to date. W-2 forms will be sent out early next year, and having the correct address on file ensures you receive your tax documents without delay.

Please take a moment to review and update your address in your employee profile by December 1, 2025. Questions? Reach out to Candace Cantu.

HISTORY'S HOT SPOT

"There are presently 251 fire hydrants in the Silverton water system, and for the first time in several years, all have a fresh coat of paint. A few months ago, when approached regarding the condition of the hydrants, Captain Russ MORRISON came up with an idea that maybe a joint venture between the Fire District and the City could be struck where a firefighter could use City equipment to redo the plugs, and his pay could be shared by both entities. The City and District agreed, and so Firefighter/EMT Scott MESSMAN contracted to handle the job. Scott also did the 5 hydrants in Scotts Mills (at Fire District Expense), making a grand total of 256 bright yellow (for visibility reasons) hydrants in our fire district. Hopefully they will last until next time, when we may be able to work out a similar deal with the City. At least they all look better, and we're getting several public compliments on how nice they appear."



The Silverton Volunteer Fire Department Newsletter – November 1992