



## From the Deputy Chief

I would like to encourage your active involvement in the next two months to further strengthen our department and enhance our community outreach efforts. As most of you are aware summer months can be controlled chaos.

Our fire department is known for its exceptional service and commitment to public safety. All of us as members are dedicated to life safety and fire prevention. The success and effectiveness of our operations depend on the dedication and participation of each member. As we move forward, I believe it is crucial that we all unite our efforts and work together to achieve our common goals.

Over the next two months, we will be called to respond and asked to help participate in events that require your active participation. I would like to highlight a few key opportunities where your involvement can make a significant difference:

Seasonal Help- As you are aware the summer months can get busy. While answering calls for service is our main priority, we are remaining active in our community participating in multiple events throughout the season. This requires additional staffing. We have opened multiple shifts this summer. It is encouraged that members sign up if possible. If you need help with the staffing software, please contact me or Yelena.

Training- Continuous learning and skill development are crucial in our line of work. We have organized a series of training events that will require officers and instructors to step up and assist. We have a live burn at the end of June continuing with practical drills in July and August. I strongly encourage you to actively participate in these opportunities to expand your expertise and ensure we are well-prepared for any challenges that may arise.

## Happy Birthday July

5th- Shannon Degrasse  
6th- Sonia Padron  
9th- Gene Reed  
11th- Carmen Weber  
12th- Randy Zolman  
13th- Sue Gabales  
20th- Laura Belino  
20th- Kevin Durand  
23rd- Scott Cook  
23rd- Howard VanBaugh  
28th- Jonathan Morrison

## August

2nd- Travis Kirk  
4th- Sabrena Stufflebeam  
8th- Ken Redburn  
12th- Ben Belino  
14th- Arnie Ramirez  
28th- Blake Fuller  
28th- Jason Garrison

## Welcome

### New Volunteers

May - June

- Sabrena Stufflebeam- Volunteer 32
- Damian Ervin- Volunteer 36
- Carter Burns- Resident
- Francisco Anaya- Resident



## From the Deputy Chief Cont.

Department Activities and Events– Our department prides itself on fostering camaraderie and a sense of belonging among our members. To promote teamwork and cohesion, we have planned various department activities and social events in the upcoming months. These occasions provide an excellent opportunity for you to bond with your fellow firefighters, build relationships, and strengthen our sense of community within the department.

Your active involvement in these initiatives will not only benefit our department but also contribute to your personal and professional growth. By actively participating, you will gain valuable experience, enhance your skill set, and make a positive impact on our community.

I urge you to take full advantage of these upcoming opportunities and be an active participant in our department's activities and events. Your commitment and engagement will play a vital role in our continued success and the betterment of our community.

If you have any questions or require further information about any of the upcoming events, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or the designated point of contact for each activity. Events range from 4th of July activities, family BBQ, and community events.

Thank you for your dedication, passion, and commitment to our department and the invaluable service you provide to our community. Together, let's make the next two months a period of growth, unity, and achievement.

Deputy Chief Durfee

## **2 Month Training Outlook**

Hello everyone, thank you for all your participation in the recent drills we have had. In May, we finished up the required wildland training with the field exercise at the Gun Club. I'd like to say thank you to all the instructors that helped make the field day possible. Keep in mind that in June we will be doing search and rescue at the training center and the live burn will be at the end of the month and families are invited for dinner. We will have instructor sign ups out soon. In July, there will be parades in George, Sunland, and Crescent Bar as well as fireworks. We will have sign ups for staffing rigs in the parades. We will also be doing LDH deployments mid-July and drafting/pumper tender shuttle towards the end of the month. In August we have National Night Out and the block parties. To continue our focus of structural drills, we will be doing 90-second drills as well as ground and aerial ladder training. Thank you all for your continued dedication to the fire district, responding to calls and coming to training.

FF Cox

## **District Training Information**

Please scan with phone to get details on upcoming training





## Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

Raise your hand if you own a device that has a lithium-ion battery. You may want to set your phone down to do this. Lithium-ion batteries are found in smoke alarms, laptops, toys, e-bikes, e-cigarettes, just to name a few. The problem with these batteries is that they store a large amount of energy in a small space. The problems occur when they are not used in the right manner. For instance, using a battery from another device, other than the one it came with, or charging your device with an aftermarket off brand charging cable. This can cause overheating, fire and may even cause the battery to explode.

Here are some safety tips to consider and share with others:

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory, i.e., UL.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device or purchase a new cord from the manufacturer.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on your couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F or above 105°F.

How do you know a battery is suspect? If there are any changes in odor, color change, too much heat, change in shape, leaking or odd noises; move the device away from anything that can catch fire until it cools down. Do not throw batteries in the trash, they need to be recycled. And do not put discarded batteries in a pile.

Be safe,  
LT/FM Talley





### About the Levy:

Grant County Fire Protection District No. 3 provides its citizens emergency fire protection and emergency medical services. The maximum regular levy rate for Washington fire districts is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Due to the statutory 1% limitation on property tax increases, the Fire District's current levy rate has dropped to \$.65 per thousand. The District previously levied at the rate of \$1.10 per thousand in 2013.

If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to establish its regular real property tax levy rate at \$1.30 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2023 for collection in 2024 and will allow the District to keep pace with inflation by authorizing a six percent limit factor for the following five years. The dollar amount levied in the final year shall serve as the District's future tax levy base.

The Board of Commissioners has determined that the tax levy and the revenue it will produce is necessary to maintain and improve the current level of services, firefighter staffing, equipment, and facilities and to purchase updated apparatus to continue to provide services for the protection of life and property in the growing District and to enhance public safety.

### Why Support the Levy?

#### Safety and Emergency Response:

The levy is crucial for maintaining a highly trained and adequately staffed fire district, enabling prompt emergency response to protect lives, property, and the environment.

#### Equipment and Technology Upgrades:

The levy funds will be used to acquire and maintain state-of-the-art firefighting equipment, vehicles, communication systems, and other necessary technologies.

#### Training and Education:

The levy ensures that our firefighters receive ongoing training and education to stay updated on the latest firefighting techniques, safety protocols, and emergency medical services and enhance their ability to serve the community effectively.

#### Fire Prevention and Public Education:

The levy will support fire prevention programs, including smoke detector installations, fire safety education in schools, community outreach initiatives, and fire inspections to mitigate potential risks and promote public safety.

#### Facility Maintenance and Upgrades:

The levy will provide resources to maintain and upgrade fire stations, ensuring a safe and efficient work environment for firefighters and preserving our community's valuable infrastructure.

### Accountability and Transparency:

**Oversight:** The utilization of levy funds will be subject to strict financial oversight and accountability measures, ensuring that the resources are used as intended.

**Reporting:** The Fire District will provide regular reports on the allocation and expenditure of levy funds, offering transparency to the community regarding how their tax dollars are being utilized.

**Independent Audit:** An independent audit of the Fire District's finances will be conducted periodically to ensure adherence to financial regulations and proper management of funds.

### Your Support Matters:

**Voting:** Remember to vote in the upcoming election. Encourage your friends, family, and neighbors to do the same.

**Volunteer:** Consider volunteering your time and skills to support the Fire District's community outreach programs, events, or fundraising activities.

**Spread Awareness:** Share this fact sheet with others, discuss the importance of the levy with your community, and encourage informed decision-making regarding the levy.

By supporting the Fire District, you contribute to the safety and well-being of our community. Together, we can ensure our Fire District remains adequately equipped and prepared to serve and protect us in times of need.

For more information, please contact:

Deputy Chief Durfee

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