



CLARK COUNTY **FIRE DISTRICT** **FIRE·RESCUE·EMS** **6**

Issue 16
Winter 2009

**Proudly
serving and
protecting the
communities of:**

**Hazel Dell
Salmon Creek
Mt. Vista
Felida
Sherwood
Lakeshore
Fairgrounds**

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From Your Fire Chief

Dear Neighbor,

The holidays are a gentle reminder to be thankful for what we have and to thank those who have provided for us. What has added to my sense of nostalgia this season is reading about the rich history of our fire district.

A group of residents formed Fire District 6 in 1954 after a local home burned to the ground. People and businesses donated the supplies and equipment. Sixty-five people volunteered to serve as firefighters. The outpouring of support from the community to care for one another was heart-warming.

From these humble beginnings, Fire District 6 is now one of the best fire and emergency medical service providers in Clark County. This holiday season I would like to say a special thank you to the community members who made us what we are today.

Second, I am thankful for the men and women working at Fire District 6. Stagnant revenues and increasing expenses – particularly for health care – have impacted our budget for the worse. Their willingness to make budget cuts is the same spirit of sacrifice that started our fire district so many years ago.

Finally, we are thankful to be able to report that Fire District 6 is officially debt free as of December, just like when we started service in 1954. This is proof positive that being good stewards of your tax dollars is a priority for us.

Most importantly, I am thankful for the continued support of our community. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

Chief Jerry Green



How Are We Saving Money?

A tough economy means everyone has to cut back, and Fire District 6 is no different. While revenues from property taxes have stayed virtually the same, expenses for things, such as health insurance, have dramatically increased. Here is what we're doing to make up the projected shortfall:

- Cut all department budgets by 10 percent
- Reduced the newsletter size, and offered an electronic copy to save on postage (Email dawn.johnson@ccfd6.org to receive future editions electronically.)

- Lowered utility costs by installing energy-efficient lighting
- Partnered with other agencies to consolidate training programs and purchase supplies
- Eliminated all non-essential travel, and used credit card miles to pay for any that must happen
- Applying for grants for new equipment and public safety programs



CLARK COUNTY
FIRE DISTRICT 6
FIRE-RESCUE-EMS

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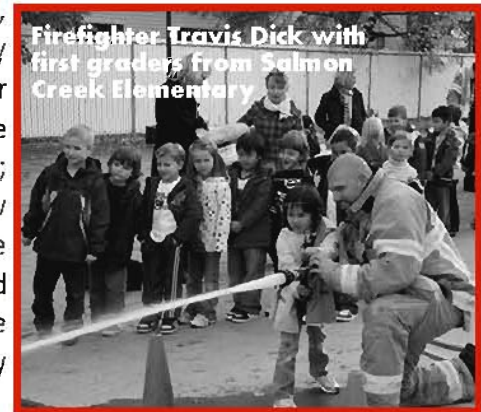
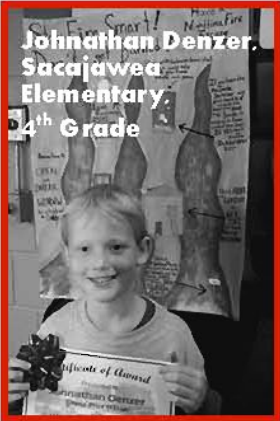
Fire Prevention Month Success!

Ten Fire District 6 students were honored October 14th for their participation in the annual fire prevention poster contest. Fire District 6 along with the Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek Business Association sponsors the contest each year. This year's poster theme was "Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned!"

The posters are submitted by 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students living in Fire District 6. This year nearly 600 posters were submitted! The Business Association had the difficult task of selecting just 10 posters to receive awards during a luncheon at the Hazel Dell Fire Station.

The poster contest is just part of

Fire District 6's annual fire prevention efforts. The District also teaches fire prevention and safety to all kindergarten and first graders during the months of October and November as well as most preschools and daycares. Every year more than 2,000 students are taught to stop, drop, and roll; don't play with matches or lighters; have a home fire escape plan; and, to crawl low in smoke. Fire District 6 works hard to prevent fire emergencies by educating the public.



Lend a Helping Hand

A tough economy and rising unemployment has more and more people seeking emergency food. You can help feed those in need on **December 5th** during the annual Walk & Knock Food Drive. For your convenience, a Walk & Knock grocery bag will be placed in the Wednesday, **December 3rd** edition of *The Columbian* for you to fill with non-perishable food. On Saturday, **December 5th**, starting at 9:00 am, volunteers will pick up bags at your front door—or you can drop it off at any Fire District 6 station.

Fire District 6 is also collecting toys and toiletries for disadvantaged families in our area. The donations will be used in holiday baskets that will be delivered to hundreds of families by Santa's Posse. Donations must be received by **December 14th**. Any Fire District 6 station will accept donations.

