

FIRELINE



*a DAY in
the LIFE of a
SHORELINE
FIREFIGHTER*

It's 9:00 a.m. Firefighters started their shift an hour ago. In the next 24 hours on duty, they will fight a fire, save a kitty, practice extricating a car from under a bus, and treat a trauma victim before an Airlift Northwest transport to Harborview. All that, plus visit a preschool

and teach children about fire safety!

Firefighters have work details and housekeeping chores at the firehouse, they must take classes, and fulfill stringent training requirements. They also exercise, buy and cook

their own meals, and clean house every night. You won't find them sitting around the station, playing basketball, or watching TV like you see in the media. It is a busy day – averaging 25 emergency calls per shift.

FIRE SAFETY CENTER OPENS AT STATION 62



After many hours of labor, and incredible support from the community, the Shoreline Fire Safety Center opens soon at the old firehouse in Richmond Beach known as Station 62.

Currently targeted for children under the age of 6, the Safety Center features a vintage era fire engine to explore, a real fire pole to slide down, and child-sized bunker gear to play "let's pretend" in. Get those cameras ready!

Every visitor to the Center is also treated to a short fire safety presentation, featuring home fire safety lessons that children ages 3 to 6 should know and remember.

Research shows that young children are most "at risk" for injury or death in a house fire. Part of the reason is that they don't recognize the sound of a smoke detector, and have not practiced escaping from the house. The Fire Safety Center curriculum will reinforce these messages, with children and their parents and caregivers. Children will learn by doing, and having fun!

Your group of Shoreline preschoolers is welcome to visit the Safety Center. Group size is limited to 20 children. Call our Community Education Specialist to schedule your visit!

"The brave men and women who serve as EMS providers are first on the scene of disasters, motor vehicle crashes and fires. It's important that we take the time to honor front line medical responders for often going above and beyond the call of duty to save lives, while risking their own."

~ Dr. Frederick Blum
American College of Emergency Physicians

EMS: Serving on Health Care's Front Line

Emergency Medical Services or EMS, is what Shoreline Fire does most in our community. Over 85% of our 9-1-1 calls are for medical emergencies or traumatic injuries.

We deliver! – bringing state-of-the art medical equipment and training directly to the scene. We also maintain a multiple casualty incident vehicle loaded with medical supplies and rescue equipment – ready for deployment in the event of a major disaster in our area.



For every medical emergency – whether it is a heart attack, a car crash, a stroke, or imminent birth – we are prepared to respond in six minutes or less. Firefighter/EMT's and Shoreline Medic One firefighter/paramedics deliver high tech medical help right to your door 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

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COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



In March, Marcus Kragness became Shoreline's Fire Chief. Along with new leadership came the opportunity to re-evaluate and update the goals and objectives of the department and an effort to make sure we are accomplishing our mission using tax dollars efficiently and wisely. The Board of Commissioners

and the Department leadership held a two day workshop aimed at identifying challenges, and brainstorming ways to meet those challenges. You may not realize how much effort is put into evaluating

ourselves and our service to the public. Having a progressive and functional strategic plan is part of that process – much as it is in the private sector. What does this mean for the citizens we serve? It means we will be continuing to ask you for input. Whether you meet us during an emergency, or during a tour, or an inspection – we want to know how we can improve our service to you. Making the best possible use of our people and resources is what strategic planning is about. Of course, our priorities are always going to be responding to emergency calls – fire and emergency medical. But we also know that our employees need solid direction, a comprehensive strategy to work from, and informed and flexible leaders who can adapt to all kinds of conditions. Emergency planning and crisis communication are at the top of our priority list as well. You can help us serve you by letting us know if you have ideas or suggestions about what you expect from your fire department. In the weeks and months to come, we will seek citizen input in the form of focus groups and surveys. As we formulate our strategic plan for the next decade – we will always put fire and life safety at the top of the list. Where we can add value, and guarantee efficiency and cost-savings, we will do that.

King County Fire District #4
Shoreline Fire Department

Elected Board of Commissioners
Scott Keeny
Jon Kennison
Jim Fisher

All are Shoreline residents who oversee Fire Department finances and provide input to the Department leadership. Commissioners serve a six year term.

Shoreline Fire Commission meetings are held at 5:00 pm on the first and third Thursdays of every month.

For meeting agenda and minutes log-on to www.shorelinefire.com

Scott Keeny
Chair, Shoreline Fire Board of Commissioners



ARE YOU READY FOR ANYTHING?

Shoreline Fire wants to assist you in preparing for all types of disasters. In the event of a major disaster, our crews could be overwhelmed with requests for help – and you and your family could be on your own for awhile.

Of course, having essential supplies to survive for 3 - 5 days is at the top of list. Need help compiling that emergency kit? We suggest the Family Emergency Preparedness Plan, downloadable from the Washington Military Department of Emergency Management web site at <http://emd.wa.gov>.

This comprehensive web site also includes emergency kit checklists in 17 different languages!!

GOT BRAINS? WEAR A HELMET!

Head injuries are a leading cause of injury and serious disability among children. Many of those injuries are completely avoidable. Whenever a child is "on wheels", riding skateboards, rollerblades, bicycles, or scooters – they should be protected! Skiing, snowboarding and horseback riding are "at risk" activities, too.

Shoreline Fire sells low-cost safety helmets year round at the Headquarters and Training Center, 17525 Aurora Avenue North. Call 206-533-6564 for a fitting appointment. Helmets (as shown) are \$7.00 each – a great bargain!



- 1 CERT graduates from May 2006.
- 2 CERT team organizing their mock response during the class final drill.
- 3 Extricating a manikin trapped under a car.
- 4 CERT team members treating mock patient after triage.

To register for a CERT class call 206/533-6564 or log-on to www.shorelinefire.com

The next class begins in September. Call Now!

CERT

Did you know that your neighbor could be a highly trained rescuer? That's what CERT, Community Emergency Response Team, volunteers are! Shoreline Fire, in cooperation with the City of Shoreline's Emergency Management department, has trained over 200 Shoreline residents over the last three years. They are ready to assist in their neighborhoods when a major disaster strikes – and when fire and police crews are overwhelmed. CERT volunteers take seven weeks of classes – focusing on light search and rescue, first aid, triage, team organization, fire suppression and emotional responses to crises.

COMMUNITY KUDOS

Shoreline Fire would like to thank organizations and citizens who have supported us with funding, volunteer assistance, or good deeds that help us serve our community.

- The Gratia Ainslie Foundation
- Campbell Cox Flooring
- All CERT volunteers
- The Donor Closet
- Shoreline Rotary Clubs
- Shoreline Kiwanis Club

- Shoreline School District
- Shoreline Top Foods
- Hill's Fine Dining
- Bruce Johnson Design
- Skyline Windows
- Tanks by Dallas

- Hi-Tech Interiors
- North City Lumber
- Pat Cashman
- John Phipps

CHANGING FACES

In 2006, we are bidding farewell to four long-time firefighters, including Chief Ron Mehlert. They are familiar faces to the residents of Shoreline, not only for their work as firefighters but because they have been residents here, and have many friends and family members who are part of this community. These employees gave many years of distinguished service to Shoreline Fire – and we thank them and honor them here.



Chief Ron Mehlert
31 years of service



Battalion Chief Dave Andrews
28 years of service



Captain Tom Agnew
19 years of service



Lieutenant Mike Cooper
26 years of service



Fire Chief Marcus Kragness

In March, Deputy Fire Chief Marcus Kragness became Fire Chief of Shoreline.

Marcus was hired in 2003 as Deputy Chief after many years in Bothell, including seven years as Chief there. Marcus is a committed advocate of fire and life safety education and prevention programs, and has strong ties to our community.

WELCOME NEW FIREFIGHTERS!

Welcome to six new employees hired in May! They are all experienced firefighter/EMT's who have joined our ranks from hometowns around the Puget Sound region.



From Left to Right:
Gabe DeBay, Maple Valley
Derek LaFontaine, Coupeville
Jacob Yake, Olympia
Aaron Fields, Shoreline
Rodney Harrington, Long Beach
Jason Howton, Auburn

Thank you all!



STARTING YOUNG!

One of Shoreline School district's newest offerings, a mini-fire department academy for juniors and seniors, is graduating another class in 2006!

The school district, in partnership with Shoreline Fire, trains selected high school students in basic firefighting and EMS skills as part of the high school's career exploration program. Students get hands-on experience that can help them decide whether they are a good fit for a Fire-EMS career.

Instructor Dave Spalding, a longtime firefighter, has guided the students through the challenging drills and skills tests for the last two years.

See the student counselors at the Shorewood or Shorecrest high school career center for details!



Engine 64 leaves the station

EVEN IF YOU NEVER NEED 9-1-1...

Most of our residents never have an emergency that requires them to call us.

But we are still protecting you – through our Fire Prevention and Fire & Life Safety Education efforts.

Last year, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) released research that shows that 4,000 people died in fires in the U.S. in 2004! Over 82% of those deaths occurred in homes and an alarming number of deaths were children under the age of 8. These are facts we want to change!

What can we do to prevent such tragedies? Fire prevention and fire safety education is key. At Shoreline Fire, we focus on community education programs that engage children and families in the process of eliminating fire hazards, protecting themselves with smoke detectors, and practicing home fire safety drills. We spend time at schools, daycares, churches, businesses and community events focusing on fire and life safety.

Your child sees us at school, and hopefully comes home with new knowledge and confidence that he or she could escape a housefire. We check for smoke detectors in every house we visit on EMS calls, and we are constantly devising ways to get families to practice fire drills at home.

So, even if you never need us – we are here for you in many other ways!

If you have questions about our prevention and education services, please call or email us today!

206-533-6500

mgranfors@shorelinefire.com





Here's a quick look at some of the types of calls and incidents Shoreline Fire responded to from January 1, 2006 to May 30, 2006.

Fires	83	Good intent	227
Emergency medical and trauma	3,177	Severe weather	11
Hazardous condition	44	Miscellaneous	10
Service calls	69		
Alarms, all types	216	Total (five months)	3,837



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FIRELINE

Welcome to the first edition of Shoreline Fire's community newsletter

Let us know what you think! We would like to hear from you with questions, story suggestions, and feedback.

Call us at 206-533-6500 or email the Chief at mkragness@shorelinefire.com

Also, don't forget to visit our website for continuous updates and information about Shoreline Fire.

www.shorelinefire.com

SUMMER TIME FIREFIGHTER "MEET AND GREET"

The summer months are a great time to get to know your local firefighters. Our fire crews make regular visits to schools during the year, but family events are what we do in the summer.

Visit our fire safety exhibit at the **Shoreline Arts Festival, June 24 – 25**, at the Shoreline Center. Come talk with firefighters about your home escape plan, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and emergency preparedness – while enjoying the sights and sounds of Shoreline's summer kick-off event.

Come by and have dinner on us! **July 26**, at Cromwell Park, for the City Parks and Recreation Departments **"Swingin' Summer Eve"**. Every year, the Shoreline Firefighters' Association (our employee community service organization) provides the picnic dinner for the event. Polish dogs, chips, ice cream, cookies, and corn on the cob are just a few of the menu items. All proceeds go to our *From the Heart* charity program.

Wave to us! Every year our rigs and firefighters lead the way at the **Celebrate Shoreline Parade** and festival. **August 19**, starting at Ridgcrest Elementary School.



BE A LIFE-SAVER!

Shoreline Fire offers regular monthly CPR training that includes guidelines on using AED's or public access defibrillators, or PADs. Defibrillators are a key factor – sometimes even more important than CPR – when a person's heart stops working properly. It can happen to anyone, regardless of age, and a person with a faulty heart rhythm needs the mild electrical shock of the defibrillator within a few minutes after collapse.

A person trained in CPR and the use of an AED can give that early treatment – during the five minutes that it takes us to get to the scene.

In Shoreline, there are AEDs (automated external defibrillators) in public places such as the Shoreline Pool, the Recreation Center, police stations, and many schools. You can find them at malls, airports and fitness centers as well.

All it takes is a four hour class, and you are prepared to assist in a life-threatening situation.

Upcoming CPR Classes

Dates: July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Location: 17525 Aurora Avenue North
Fee: \$15.00

