

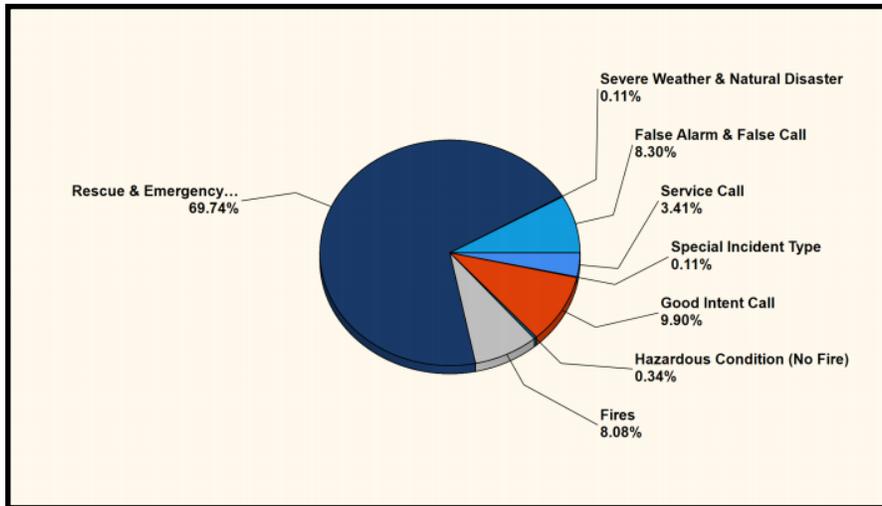
FIRE FLASH



A community newsletter brought to you by Lewis County Fire District Six

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2 JULY—DECEMBER 2016

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW



Fire District 6 had a busy year; and we want to thank our citizens for the continued support as we strive to provide the best fire and emergency medical services to our community.

The Fire District saw a slight call volume increase in 2016, with a total of 879 calls for service. Nearly 70% of those calls were for rescue and emergency medical service needs, with about 8% being fire calls. Nearly 20% of our call volume was comprised of “good intent” and false alarm-type calls.

In 2016 cutting response times was a priority, which continues into 2017. We also have worked with neighboring agencies and Lewis County Communications to improve how we respond and what resources we send, to provide better service and a better response time.

Throughout 2016, we brought on multiple recruits who are at various stages of their training process. Once complete, these individuals will be added to the response ranks to help get volunteer responders to you sooner, especially in the more rural areas of our fire district.

We’ve also been hard at work to improve communications to our citizens. In addition to this bi-annual newsletter, we have been diligent to keep our Facebook and Twitter feeds updated, especially when incidents impact travel within our fire district, or when we are helping neighboring departments with large incidents. We encourage our citizens to “like” and “follow” our social media feeds to receive information and updates as large events happen and how it will affect you.

We value the input from our citizens. If you have questions, concerns, or feedback for our staff, you can contact our headquarters or visit us online at www.lcfd6.org to fill out a contact form. Thank you again for your support, and we wish you and your family all the best going into 2017!

- Your Fire District 6 Staff

IN THIS ISSUE

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW 1

FIRE SAFETY & PREVENTION 2

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY 3

UPCOMING EMS LEVY 3

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 4



@lcfd6



@Lewis6PIO



www.lcfd6.org

IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?

Nobody wants to think about their house catching on fire. But if it did, are you and your family prepared? We want you to take steps to prevent fire, but certainly want you to be prepared for the unthinkable. Here are a few tips for preventing fire:

- ◆ If you have a chimney, ensure it receives proper maintenance;
- ◆ If you smoke, ensure cigarette butts are completely extinguished when not attended or when their use is finished;
- ◆ Conduct routine maintenance checks of household appliances including your fridge, stove, microwave, furnace, etc.;
- ◆ Do not leave candles and other open flame unattended or placed close to flammable objects;
- ◆ Use the “Things that Heat Need Three Feet” rule. This means keeping all objects at least three feet from any appliance or object that puts off heat including heaters, woodstoves, etc.

According to a 2010 report published by the Washington State Patrol, between 2006 and 2010, 4 occupants died in a structure fire. Unfortunately in Lewis County, these numbers have climbed exponentially, specifically since the beginning of 2016. Since January 2016, that number has more than doubled in Lewis County, in just one year! In a 2015 report from the Washington State Patrol, 38% of fatality fires had an undetermined cause, followed by 19% as a result of smoking. What can you do for you and your family to ensure quick evacuation during a fire event?

- ◆ Ensure your home has working smoke detectors. We recommend one on every floor of the home, one in every bedroom, and one outside bedrooms in the hallway. If you are low income, contact the Fire District and inquire about our smoke detector program. We may be able to provide smoke detectors or replace batteries at no charge.
- ◆ Evacuate your home **immediately** upon activation of a smoke detector and call 911. Generally occupants have about three minutes to evacuate a house fire as fire doubles in size every minute. If you have a fire alarm system monitored by an alarm company which has activated, call 911. Even though they may have already received the alarm from your alarm company, you can provide vital information and dispatchers can upgrade the alarm to ensure adequate resources are dispatched.
- ◆ Practice a fire escape plan with your family. Have a meeting point where everyone from the household will meet after evacuation where everyone can be accounted for.
- ◆ Have a working fire extinguisher on every floor of the home, and ensure each person in the house knows how to use it. You can contact Fire District 6 for one of our staff to teach your family how to use a fire extinguisher for free.
- ◆ If you are preparing to build a new home or remodel your current home, consider having a residential sprinkler system installed. A residential fire sprinkler system can stop a fire in most cases in about 1.5 minutes. Costs of a residential sprinkler system average about \$2,700 for a 2,000 sq. ft. home.
- ◆ Purchase fire escape ladders for bedrooms on the upper levels of your home.

Fire District 6 stresses the importance of calling 911 at the first sign of fire problem at your home. Even if you believe the problem can be managed independently, we would rather be cancelled while responding, than to get dispatched after it's too late and the fire is out of control. For more information on how to prepare your family for a fire event, or how you can protect your home from a fire event, contact Fire District 6.

**FIRE SAFETY
AND PREVENTION**



LEWIS COUNTY HIGHLY CAPABLE PROGRAM

On December 12th, Fire District 6 hosted students from the Highly Capable Program, coordinated by Marcy Scheuber, an educator at Adna Elementary School.

All local, rural schools test students for the Highly Capable Program. Schools look for and test students with a capacity to learn with unusual depth of understanding and complexity of learning earlier than their peers. Each school district has approximately 10-15 Highly Capable eligible students, which all work to coordinate enhanced learning opportunities for these students.

On the 12th, local Highly Capable students met at Station 62 in Adna for an egg drop challenge and mystery break out. Each student tested their egg protector devices that they had made. Students used the fire truck and the loft in the truck bay to test their inventions. Once students finished the egg drop, they met in the training room and found clues to unlock a locked box. The box had five different locks that required the children to solve puzzles and clues in order to open. ***Great job Highly Capable students!***



CHEHALIS CHRISTMAS PARADE

Each year, Fire District 6 participates in the Chehalis Christmas Parade the first Saturday in December. This year, multiple Fire District volunteers participated, decorating Tender 64 from Newaukum Hill in festive holiday décor as well as passing out candy along the parade route, donated by local businesses. ***Thank you to the City of Chehalis for another fun year!***



SHOP WITH A FIREFIGHTER

Fire District 6 crews participated in a “Shop with a Firefighter” event at Walmart in Chehalis. This event was coordinated by the Chehalis Fire Department. Kids got to shop for Christmas presents for their families with firefighters from local fire jurisdictions. Pictured below is Fire District 6 Captain Johnston with her young shopper.



EMS LEVY RENEWAL COMING THIS NOVEMBER

Fire District 6 will be attempting to renew their EMS levy which was last voted on in November of 2012. The Fire District’s EMS levy provides funding for ambulance maintenance, emergency medical equipment supplies, wages to ensure 24/7 paramedic coverage district-wide, and to continually train our personnel in emergency medical services.

The Fire District will be publishing informational documents in the coming months about the rate of the levy, what the levy has done for you over the last five years, and what the levy will do for you in the future, if approved. The Fire District encourages our citizens to learn about this levy and what it means for you and your family in order to make the best informed decision.

The Fire District thanks the community for continually supporting us, and enabling us to provide the best service possible.



**LEWIS COUNTY FIRE
DISTRICT SIX**

2123 Jackson Hwy.
Chehalis, WA 98532
Phone: (360) 748-6019

Timothy Kinder; Chief
Patrick Smith; Assistant Chief

Board of Fire Commissioners

Jeri Lux; Chair
Kirk Johnston
James Martin

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.LCFD6.ORG

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
CHEHALIS WA
PERMIT NO 102

Vision Statement

Our vision for the future growth and development of the organization is through adherence to our values. This will allow us to live out our Mission and be viewed as leaders in the service and protection of our patrons.

Mission Statement

Dedicated to the protection of life, property, and the environment through professional service to the patrons of our community.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Fire District 6 is a combination fire district, meaning it employs career firefighters as well as volunteer firefighters. With five stations spread across 145 square miles, nearly 8,000 citizens, and over 800 calls for service annually, the Fire District is actively seeking volunteers. Our stations include:

- **Station 61:** Jackson Highway—Staffed with a minimum of two career firefighters 24/7
- **Station 62:** Dieckman Road—Volunteer station with the ability for volunteers to be placed on shifts or respond from home
- **Station 63:** Logan Hill Road—Volunteer station with the ability for volunteers to work shifts during the day or respond from home
- **Station 64:** Galaxie Road—Volunteer station where volunteers respond from home
- **Station 65:** North Fork Road—Volunteer station where volunteers respond from home

Volunteers obtain training and experience in the fire service that can be applied to career employment opportunities in the future, while also having the ability to serve their communities. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter or volunteer firefighter/EMT, apply today. Applications are available online at www.lcf6.org or at Fire District 6 headquarters on Jackson Highway. Applicants must be 18 years old to apply.

Lewis County Fire District Six is an equal-opportunity employer and complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, color, national origin, sexual orientation/gender identity, or disability.