



The Hotline

Vol. 1, No. 1

A quarterly publication of the Milpitas Fire Department

July 2012

"Dedicated to providing quality and responsive service for the community."

FIREFIIGHTERS CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR "RELAY FOR LIFE"

by Johnathan Bankston, Fire Engineer

The Milpitas firefighters (Local 1699), in cooperation with the Milpitas Fire Department, provided meals and donations to the Relay for Life event held on June 23, 2012 at the City Sports Center. The Fire team helped raise \$500 on the day of the event through dinner donations, and another \$500 through the Relay for Life website.

On-duty and off-duty personnel, as well as the new recruits and Fire Explorers helped with the set-up, cooking and serving of food. Two of the firefighters' spouses, Breana Bankston and Erica Bruce, also helped during the event.

All proceeds of the event were given to the Cancer Society to help with research, treatment, and assistance to cancer patients. Thank you to all who helped make this event a success.



Businesses, employee groups, and non-profit organizations set up their booths to support the event.



From the Chief's Office

*by Brian Sturdivant,
Fire Chief*

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Milpitas Fire Department (MFD) "Hotline," the internal departmental newsletter. Our intent is to utilize this forum as an additional communication device, to be delivered on a quarterly basis for the organization. There will be community news, City of Milpitas news, departmental news and updates along with human interest stories on our members. There will be ample opportunity to submit articles and/or news of interest for inclusion into the Hotline. Anything that pertains to our members, organization, or City is welcome for inclusion in our newsletter.

There has been significant progress within the organization over the last 18-24 months. First of all, let me congratulate all those who were promoted during our recent and past promotional processes. We've promoted 11 members within the past year (1 Battalion Chief, 5 Captains, and 5 Engineers). I'd also like to congratulate our recent hires (11 firefighters, 5 currently in the Academy). This new level of leadership and entry level firefighter will energize the organization and infuse the department with new ideas, perspectives and professionalism. This is an exciting time to be a MFD member.

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From the Chief's Office

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We are planning a badge-pinning ceremony to celebrate the success of these members and our organization. Tentatively planned for mid-September in the Council Chambers, this ceremony will allow for family and friends to join us as we continue to proudly invoke what the MFD is all about – “Dedicated to Providing Quality and Responsive Service for the Community.” Please look for additional information regarding this ceremony to be disseminated soon.

As we embark into this new fiscal year, strategic planning will be a focus for both the Fire Department and City organization. I will be making regularly scheduled station visits to provide an opportunity for dialog related to what's important to our most important resource – YOU! I'd like to hear your thoughts on what's working, what's not working and where there may be opportunity for improvements and/or enhancements. This initiative will be critical to the success of our organization as we move forward. We will look to break our objectives down to short, mid, and long term plans. We'll look to develop “operational plans” to track and monitor our progress. As you are aware, strategic planning documentation will become the “rudder” on our ship to successfully navigate us into the future.

In closing I'd like to leave you all with this quote from John C. Maxwell: “Leaders don't focus on themselves and their own individual success. They think about the success of the

EMS/TRAINING UPDATES

by Rick Frawley, Battalion Chief

- A new patient care report system will be in place in September 2012. The Field Bridge project, which is a collaborative Santa Clara County EMS responder data management and recording system, will allow for enhanced patient care record tracking and integration with transport ambulances. Training for the paramedics is ongoing. Look for further updates in August.
- The annual CPR refresher training will take place in September. Please remember to check your schedule to ensure that you can attend one of the sessions provided on shift. Please see the Training Chief for more information.
- The Santa Clara County Training Officers Association Fire Officers Academy will start in August. This course is highly desirable for those interested in promoting to the rank of Captain. For ease of attendance, the course is offered on shift. This is a great class for the building knowledge of best practices as a Company Officer.
- The Milpitas Fire Department will be hosting CSFM Driver Operator 1B - “Pumping Hydraulics” on October 29 through November 2, 2012. This training supports the Acting Engineer Program. The cost of the class will be determined by the total number of students. There will be no overtime or compensation for attendance in this class.

organization and other people. They have an ‘other-people mind-set.’ To develop others, you must teach them to think in terms of how they can promote others, develop others, and take along others.”

Think about it . . .

“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read or write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.” - Toffler

Customer Service . . . Above and Beyond

by Chief Brian Sturdivant

While on a recent June vacation to Hawaii, Captain Brian Stelling was involved in a shoreline water rescue off of Black Rock near the Sheraton Hotel in Lahaina.

A tourist was snorkeling with his wife when she noticed him unconscious. She managed to get him to shore. Captain Stelling and another Paramedic from California began CPR prior to the arrival of rescue crews. After the patient was placed in the ambulance, he regained consciousness. Fire officials say the man was awake, but confused when they were ready to transport him to the hospital.

This is just another example of the "world-class" service delivery exemplified by the Milpitas Fire Department. Kudos goes out to Captain Stelling for placing "service above self."

Thank you Brian; keep up the great work!

Guess Who?

**Who was last year's
MFD Santa Claus?**



(answer on Page 7)

MFD FIRE EXPLORERS PARTICIPATE IN ACADEMY

by Rimple Paul, Office Assistant

Three Milpitas Fire Department Fire Explorers are participating in the Fire Explorer Academy Program, hosted by the Sunnyvale Explorer Program. The Academy, which runs from July 24 to August 3, 2012, include lessons on the fundamentals of firefighting techniques, team building, leadership skills and character development. The program provides technical information to allow young adults to explore the fire service as a career opportunity.

The purpose of the Explorer Program is to provide a positive environment which promotes the involvement of young adults in the communities. One of the most important aspects of the program is the level of training that the Explorers receive and the skills they develop during the academy. They will be undergoing a variety of exercises that will increase their knowledge base and develop manipulative skills. The training includes Essential Core Skills Training, Basic Engine Company Operations and Coordinated Fire Ground Operation.

Explorers will be trained and tested in both manipulative and academic skills. The Sunnyvale Fire Explorer Academy encourages enthusiastic, inquisitive and dependable young adults who are willing to commit time and energy to the program.

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Capt. Yvonne Matagulay

Rimple Paul

Batt. Chief Rick Frawley

Congratulations to our recently-promoted personnel!



Rick Frawley
Captain to
Battalion Chief



Jerry Ornellas
Engineer to Captain



Geoff Maloon
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Captain



Phil Ascarrunz
Firefighter to Captain



George Perez
Engineer to Captain



Yvonne Matagulay
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Captain



Brian Bruce
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Engineer/Paramedic



Leif Juliussen
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Engineer/Paramedic



James Queenan
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Engineer

Grant Johnson
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Engineer



Johnathan Bankston
Firefighter/Paramedic
to Engineer

Getting to know our newest additions to the MFD Family . . .

Ken is 32 years old, married with a 19-month old daughter and another baby due next month. He was born and raised in San Jose. After High School, he worked for an asphalt and aggregate company full time and went to night school also full time. Ken attended the Butte Fire Academy in 2001 and was hired by CDF Butte County for one season. His employment there was cut short so he can go to paramedic school. Shortly after completion of paramedic school, he was hired by the Stockton Fire Department and was assigned to an ambulance and then later on in suppression for a total of almost seven years. Ken says the experience he gained in Stockton was incredible, and now is very proud and privileged to be a part of the Milpitas Fire Department.



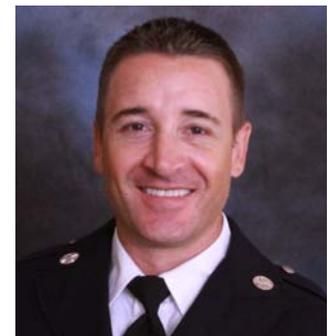
Ken Laver
Firefighter/Paramedic



Robert Kessler
Firefighter/Paramedic

Robert was born and raised in Castro Valley, CA, and attended Chabot Community College. In July 2003, he was hired by the Stockton Fire Department as a paramedic and assigned on an ambulance. Almost three years after that, he became a firefighter for the department. He spent most of his career there assigned to the USAR company. Robert just celebrated his 5th anniversary with wife Melissa, with whom he has two children, James, 4, and Jack, 2.

Ryan attended Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Forestry & Natural Resources with a concentration in Wildland Fire & Fuels Management. He worked for the USFS for three fire seasons on a Type 1 hand crew prior to being hired by the Stockton Fire Department. He spent six years in Stockton as a firefighter, with the last three years as a firefighter/paramedic. Ryan has been married for seven years to wife Katie, and is a dad to two young daughters, Natalie, 3, and Emily, 1 ½. The family lives in Oakdale. Ryan enjoys hanging out with his family, camping, floating down the river and the San Francisco Giants!



Ryan Peters
Firefighter/Paramedic



Kenju Suzuki
Firefighter/Paramedic

Kenju was born in Yokosuka, Japan, and migrated to the United States when he was three years old. He was raised and lived in North San Jose until two years ago when he and his family moved to Mountain House. He graduated from San Jose State University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After college, Ken worked as a Senior Financial Analyst in corporate finance for eight years until he was hired by the Stockton Fire Department where he worked for five years. He is married to wife Amapola, and have two boys Seth, 15, and Kyle, 11.

Getting to know our newest additions to the MFD family . . .

(Continued)



David Hendrickson
Firefighter/Paramedic

Dave grew up in Concord, CA, and joined the U.S. Army after High School where he served as an Infantryman in the 10th Mountain Division for six years. After returning home from the military, he went to college while at the same time working for Netscape Communications as a Network Engineer. He earned his Fire Science degree from Chabot College and eventually attended paramedic school. He then worked for American Ambulance as a private transport paramedic in Fresno for two years, after which he worked for the Stockton Fire Department for about seven years. Dave is married with three kids – sons, 16 and 9, and a daughter, 7. His family lives in Acampo, just outside of Lodi. Dave feels blessed to be a part of the Milpitas Fire Department and looks forward to a long and distinguished career here.

Eric was born in Vallejo and raised in Fairfield, CA. He attended Solano Community College for Fire Science and Santa Rosa Junior College for Paramedic School. Eric has nine years of fire experience from Bodega Bay Fire District to the Port of Seattle Fire Department in Washington State. He's been married to wife Leonna for six years and they have two daughters.



Eric Conklin
Firefighter/Paramedic



Damon Prins
Firefighter

Damon was born in Medford, Oregon. He has been married to wife Monica, for eight years, and they have two boys, 2 ½ and 9 months. The family currently lives in Oakdale. Damon says that his hobbies have shifted from power sports to things that can be done pushing a stroller. He affirms that his family is the most important thing in his life. He is excited about the opportunity to continue his career in the Fire Service with the Milpitas Fire Department.

Gabriel is married to Angela and they have two children. He lived in Truckee for 12 years prior to moving to the Bay Area to pursue a firefighting career. He grew up playing sports, going camping, and riding dirt bikes. Gabriel enjoys doing home improvement projects and learning new things. He looks forward to getting to know a new group of people and becoming a part of the Milpitas Fire Department.



Gabriel Borland
Firefighter

Getting to know our newest additions to the MFD family . . .

(Continued)



Heather was born and raised in Milpitas, CA. She recently graduated with a Bachelors Degree from CSU, Chico, and also holds an Associate of Arts Degree in Fire Technology from Chabot College. She has previously volunteered as a Milpitas Fire Aide and now currently volunteers with the Northstar Ski Patrol. She is supported by her mom (Judy), father (Jim), and brother (David).

Heather Fisher, Firefighter

Courtney was born in Texas where he lived for seven years before moving to the Bay Area. He grew up in Richmond, CA, with two brothers and a sister. He loves being around his family (wife Terina and their children - Hassan, Courtney Jr., Cameron and Chandler). Courtney is proud that he's a father and that he is in his children's' lives, and aims to be a role model to them. He wants to make his mother proud of him, having raised four children all by herself, working two jobs and never missing one of his games. Courtney enjoys working out, taking the kids to the park, and watching and going to sporting events. He is happy to have joined the Milpitas Fire Department and aims to make a difference and have a positive impact here and the community.



**Courtney Anderson
Firefighter**



Jerrell was born in Oakland, CA, and holds two degrees - Bachelor of Science in Public Relations and an Associates of Arts in Fire Technology. He attend Acts Full Gospel Church in Oakland. He is a father of three kids - Aynya, Jerimai, and Jayshaun. Because his youngest son, Jerimai, was diagnosed with autism, Jerrell supports autism programs and research.

Jerrell Hardy, Firefighter

*Answer to **Guess Who?** (Page 3) Last year's Santa Claus was Dave Hendrickson.*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to providing quality and responsive service for the community.

- Our purpose is to serve and protect the community of Milpitas. Preservation of life, property and the environment within this community is the reason for our existence.
- We will diligently work to maintain a high level of public trust and confidence.
- We are dedicated to providing courteous, competent and responsive services.
- It is also belief that we are judged by the public's view of our attitudes, conduct and standards.