

# **Keizer Fire District**

**Protecting Lives, Property and the Environment** 

# **2014 Annual Report**

fire district.



**DEDICATED TO SERVICE** 

www.keizerfire.com

661 Chemawa Road NE · Keizer, Oregon 97303 · 503-390-9111

## From the Fire Chief

On behalf of your Keizer Fire District, we are pleased to provide you with a report on our activities in 2014 and to keep you updated on our growth over the last several years. The year marked big changes for the Keizer Fire District. The fire district was awarded a 2013 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant for hiring two firefighter positions for a period of two years. The process was not completed until early 2014.

- A levy of \$0.59 cents per thousand was passed in November of 2013 allowing the District to become more financially sound and to allow the hiring of two more Firefighter/paramedics in 2014.
- With the hiring of the four new positions, our Public Education Specialist was able to move back into her full time role and classroom and community education resumed.
- Our staff now consists of 27 career, 39 volunteers, 9 explorers, 3 college students and 5 Board of Directors for a total of 83 members who are "Committed to Excellence and Dedicated to Service".

In 2014 we arrived to your emergency in six minutes or less 93.7% of the time. We believe this to be the most important example of our service. The year also brought a 5.7% increase in calls for the fire district.

We are proud to serve the citizens of our Fire District. If you have any questions regarding Keizer Fire District, I am available to you. I am honored and grateful to serve as your Fire Chief.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff Cowan

Keizer Fire Chief

# From the Board of Directors

Dear Members of the Keizer Fire District,

Your Keizer Fire District Board of Directors wishes to thank you for your support of our Local Option Levy in 2013. In November of 2014 the District began receiving the revenue from that levy so we want to convey our appreciation.

Due to the success of the levy election the District was able to hire two additional Firefighter/Paramedics in the spring of 2014. At approximately that same time the District was notified that it had been awarded a Federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant which allowed for the hiring of two additional Firefighter/Paramedics thereby increasing the District's staffing by four positions. This increase in staffing has been highly beneficial due to the fact that the District's call volume increased by 5.7% in 2014 and continues to increase today.

During 2014 the Board has continued to work on the District's strategic plan and has activated the Personnel Staffing Committee and the Equipment Replacement Committee to address upcoming needs. As Keizer continues to grow the Board of Directors and Staff of the District will continue to address future needs and will seek community input and support.

Thank you,

Joe Van Meter

**Board President** 

# In the Community

- Blood Pressure Checks
- Breakfast with Santa
- Candy Cane Day
- Car Seat Clinics/Checks
- Carbon Monoxide Alarm Installations
- Career Days at Local Schools
- CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)
- Fire Prevention Open House
- Fire Safety Education
- Fire Station Tours
- Firework Permits
- Iris Festival
- McNary Blue Day
- Mother's Day Breakfast
- National Night Out
- New Construction Plan Review
- Parades
- RIVER fair
- Smoke Alarm Installations
- Striking Out Substance Abuse

# 9/11 Remembrance

The Keizer Fire District holds a ceremony each September 11th to remember the tragic events and those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania on Sept. 11, 2001. We were honored to have Keizer Police Department Honor Guard post the colors, while Salem Professional Firefighters Pipes and Drums provided music. Oregon State Fire Marshal Jim Walker and Keizer Fire Chief Jeff Cowan gave remarks and the memorial wreath was placed at the Keizer Fire memorial.



# **McNary Blue Day**



Blue Day is McNary High School's community day to kick-off the school year. The day began with scrimmage matches between Keizer's Pop Warner football teams, followed by a performance from the McNary band, then the Celtic teams took the field for scrimmages.

McNary Blue Day is an opportunity for families to meet and form connections that will keep them coming back each week to support the community athletic programs. Keizer Fire believes in community relationships and supporting youth in their academic and athletic journey.

# **Outstanding Efforts**



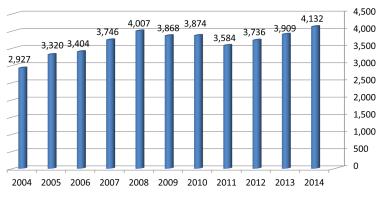
**Jason Perkins** received **Firefighter of the Year** for his dedication to the fire district and the fire service. Jason completed his basic firefighter academy then tackled his EMT-Basic course and assisted with community events for the fire district.

**Anne-Marie Storms** was awarded **Employee of the Year** for her ability to be flexible in her multiple rolls with the fire district, her dedication to teaching fire safety to school age children and her passion for public education.

**Rachel Brozovich** was awarded **Emergency Medical Technician of the Year** for her hard work in EMS. Rachel has served as a paramedic preceptor, she assists with the Ambulance Specification Committee, provides quality training for EMT's and Paramedics, and serves on the District's Quality Improvement Committee.

**Jarhed Ascencio** received **Recruit of the Year** due to his positive attitude and commitment to the fire district. Jarhed is currently attending Chemeketa Community College and is working to make the fire service his career path.

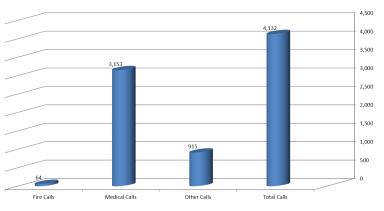
# **Call Volume History**







# **Calls for Service**



# **Upcoming Events for 2015**

June 10-14—Big Toy Build at Keizer Rapids Park

June 16th—Keizer Police Dept. BLAST Camp

June 20th—Bark for Life

June 23rd—Keizer Public Safety Fair

July 31st—Striking Out Substance Abuse

August 4th—National Night Out

August 8th—River Fair

September 11th—9/11 Remembrance

September 17th-20th—Oktoberfest

September 20th—Serve Fest

September 27th—Portland Firefighter Stair Climb

October 5th—Fire Prevention Open House

December 13th- Santa Breakfast

December 19th—Candy Cane Day







# **District History**

The Keizer Fire District was organized on May 4, 1948 with 27 volunteer firefighters. They started with a 1948 Ford Pumper, equipped with the latest type high pressure pump, at a cost of less than \$10,000. The fire engine was housed under a lean-to shed at the Keizer Food Lockers. The Fire District answered its first alarm during the month of February 1949, which involved McDermott's Variety Store. That year they answered less than 30 calls, all fire calls.

In 2014, Keizer Firefighters responded to 4,132 calls for service, only 64 were for fires. In the 66 years that Keizer Fire Fighters have been serving the citizens of Keizer there has been a slow, but constant shift in the type of calls that firefighters respond to. The District responded to 3,153 medical emergency requests. This category of call covers people who are injured in accidents or suffering from medical conditions such as heart attacks. The remaining 915 calls were for motor vehicle crashes, lift assists, odor investigations and other types of calls for service.

KEIZER FIRE DISTRICT 661 Chemawa Road NE

**Keizer, OR 97303** 

Tel: 503-390-9111

www.keizerfire.com

# **About your Fire District**

#### Fire Service Area

10.5 Square miles

### **Property Value Protected**

\$1,959,950,325

### **Population of Fire District**

37,064 residents

### Number of Personnel

Paid—27

Volunteer—39

Explorers-9

### 2013-2014 Budget

\$6,098,287



# **Ambulance Transports for 2014**

Transports provided to Keizer Residents: 2,276

Transports provided to MCFD #1 Residents: 59

Transports provided to Salem Residents: 49

Transports provided to other agencies: 11

**Total Ambulance Transports 2,395**