

Special Points of

Interest:

- New Equipment
- District Development
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Space Heater Safety

Robertson Fire Protection District Board of Directors Approves Putting Two Issues on Ballot For April 8, 2008 Election

Voters will decide on two important issues. The first issue, Proposition A, is a fifteen cent tax increase for the Ambulance Fund. If passed, the funds would be used for the operation of the Robertson Fire Protection District's Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services. The last Fire and Ambulance operations tax increase in the Robertson Fire Protection District was twelve years ago in 1996.

The second issue, Proposition F, is asking voter approval for a ten-million-dollar bond issue. If passed, the bonds would be sold as needed to replace our fleet of a ladder truck, pumper, and ambulance over the next several years. Fire-fighting turnout gear, equipment, tools, and medical equipment would also be purchased as needed for use by our firefighters and paramedics. The district would also like to purchase land in the immediate area of the Robertson Fire Protection District at today's prices for a future engine house as the area develops. If the bond issue is approved by the voters, the district would also consider the purchase of the property next to Station 2 to build a specially equipped training center to better train our firefighters.

In 1999 voters approved a bond issue to help build a new Fire Station Two on Taussig Road. The new station was needed to replace the old Fire house 2 on Gist road due to the Lambert Airport expansion project. Funds from the 1999 bond issue sale were also used for the much needed remodeling of our Fire House One and to purchase fire and ambulance vehicles and equipment over the last several years.



This is Rescue Pumper 5014 stationed at 12641 Missouri Bottom Road.

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Mobile Fire Prevention Training Trailer

In November of '07, the Robertson Fire Protection District added a smoke trailer from the Burn Recovery Support Group. It is less than 10 years old, manufactured by Scotty, and is in excellent condition. It is an excellent educational tool for kids as well as adults. The inside of the trailer is sectioned off into three rooms which consist of a kitchen, a living room, and a bedroom. When we take the trailer to events with our residents or to the elementary schools, we have a fire fighter stationed in each room to teach home safety tips that the kids hopefully will take home with them to share with their families. In the bedroom section, with the help of a smoke machine installed, we teach kids how to get out if they wake up to smoke. We look forward to showcasing the new smoke trailer soon.



Meet The New Firefighter

We welcome Andrew Kerckhoff to the Robertson Fire Protection District. "Drew" was hired by Chief Tilley and the Board of Directors on November 23, 2007. He is currently working under Battalion Chief Dave Gansman and Captain Todd Phillips. He brings quite a bit of experience to the district that will benefit the residents as well as his fellow firefighters. He recently worked as a firefighter/paramedic at University City Fire Department for seven months before coming here. Prior to that he worked at the City of Clayton Fire Department as a firefighter /paramedic for six years. He is a married man of five years to Nancy Kerckhoff and they have a 2 year old daughter. As a paramedic, Drew is certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support, and CPR. As a firefighter he is state certified in Firefighter I & II, Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations, Apparatus Driver/Pump Operator, Fire Instructor I, Fire Officer I & II. He is currently part of the St. Louis County Heavy Rescue Task Force Strike Team 3 with certifications to technician levels in Introduction to Rescue Technician., rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench collapse rescue, and heavy structural building collapse rescue.

Welcome aboard!

*Keep children and
pets away from
space heaters.*

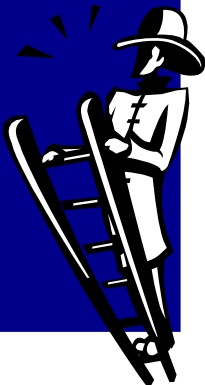
Space Heater Safety

The definition of a space heater is a self-contained, free-standing heating appliance intended for installation in the space being heated and not intended for duct connection. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that more than 25,000 residential fires every year are associated with the use of space heaters. The CPSC offers the following general safety suggestions for the selection, safe use, and maintenance of various types of space heaters. Select a space heater with a guard frame around the flame or heating element. When selecting a space heater, choose one that has been tested by a nationally recognized laboratory. Choose the correct size space heater for the area you want heated. Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions. Keep children and pets away from space heaters. Keep doors open to the rest of the house if your using an unvented, fuel burning heater. Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep or leave the room. Never store flammable liquids around a space heater. Only electric or vented fuel-fired heaters should be used in mobile homes. Place heaters at least three feet away from objects such as bedding, furniture, or drapes. If you have any heater concerns, contact us at (314) 291-6180.

We Are "At Your Service"

A firefighter's main job is to answer 911 calls and to be an excellent public servant. In addition to this, we offer many other services to our residents. We will check or install smoke detectors upon the resident's request. We have several certified car seat-technicians on the department who can assist you in installing a child safety seat properly according to the law. We have several CPR instructors who can teach classes to our residents upon request. We are part of the "Phones For Life program" in which you bring your old phones and chargers to our engine houses and the phones are then given to the elderly for emergency phones. Last year we enrolled in the "Safe Kids" program of the Youth In Need organization. Kids who are in danger or in need of guidance can come to the engine house and we will provide a safe house and get them assistance. If you need help and are unsure where to turn, call us and we will assist you any way we can.

**BUILDING
ON YOUR
FUTURE**



Visit Us At These Events

There are several scheduled events in the Spring of 2008 that you can count on seeing the Robertson Fire Protection District at. Here are a few that are scheduled at this point in the year. We will be at Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex (B.M.A.C.) on March 22nd at 9:30 a.m. for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. It will be on fields 7 through 11. As always we will have our equipment on display and "goodies" for the kids. It is a safe bet that Sparky the Fire Dog will make an appearance at this event. He loves hard-boiled eggs.

Emergency Medical Services Week is May 18th through May 24th. Medical Officer Jerry Miller is the organizer of this week's events. The firefighters will be at Armstrong Elementary School on May 19th at 9:30 a.m. for a Summer safety talk and to distribute bicycle helmets as in years past. We will also be doing the same thing at Garrett School during EMS week. Medical Officer Miller is waiting on a response from school officials for the date and time. Contact the Medical Officer if you need further information on this. On May 23rd the firefighters and staff members will be at Santa Maria Apartments at 11:00 a.m. to prepare a BBQ lunch for the residents as a show of gratitude for all of their support over the years. On May 21st DePaul Hospital is sponsoring a softball tournament at B.M.A.C. beginning at 9:00 a.m. This is a one-pitch softball tournament in which area fire departments play each other for bragging rights and a traveling trophy. Last year the Pattonville Fire District won the tournament. Come out and cheer us on. We hope to see you at these events.



News From the Fire Marshall

Often times when one of the firefighters see Fire Marshal Charlie Braband, he is asked for information on what is going on in the district. As the fire marshal, he is always dealing with new development projects, fire codes, and public figures. In many ways he is the face of the Robertson Fire Protection District. He passed on some development information to me, so I will pass it on to the residents. American Automotive Association will be building a new building at Park 370. The Disney Store will be occupying a large-sized space at the St. Louis Mills mall. Hoods Towing will start construction on a building at the end of Northwest Industrial. A water park hotel is planned to start construction this year on the lot at Taussig Road near Missouri Bottom Road. It is proposed to open in 2009. The 400,000 square foot warehouse currently being built in the Old Town Robertson area is very near completion. It is always good to know what is going on in the area in which we live and work. We thank Fire Marshal Charlie Braband for his development update. If the public ever has any questions about Robertson Fire Protection District issues, feel free to contact our administrative building for answers. We are here to serve.

New Air Packs Protect Firefighters

In the final fiscal quarter of 2007, the Robertson Fire Protection District Board of Directors approved the bidding process and purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for the firefighters. SCBA's are the air packs that firefighters wear that allow them to breathe in burning buildings. Our current SCBA's are old and are due to be replaced. After investigating and testing several brands of air packs, the staff and the firefighters have agreed on the purchase of Scott's SCBA's. The firefighters are scheduled to be trained on the new SCBA's later this month and they will then replace our current air packs on all of our trucks and ambulances. The cost of purchasing this new fleet of air packs is nearly \$150,000.00. There are many advantages of using the Scott's brand of SCBA, the most important being that they are the most reliable air packs on the market and have more standard safety features than any other brand. Another huge advantage is that all of the surrounding fire departments use Scott's SCBA's as well. This enables fire scenes or disaster scenes to operate much smoother when the equipment is universal.



Scott's self-contained breathing apparatus



Robertson Fire Protection District Board of Directors

Mark Bright, President
Steve Neuner, Secretary
Joan Noel, Treasurer
Dave Tilley, Fire Chief

Administrative building (314) 291-6671
RFPD House One (314) 291-6180
RFPD House Two (314) 291-6670
Visit the website at www.rfpd.org

**To Protect and Serve is Our Business,
and Being the Best is our Passion.**

Robertson Fire Protection

Mission Statement

The primary Mission of the Robertson Fire Protection District is to protect the lives and property of our citizens from the effects of fire, emergency medical incidents, hazardous situations, and other disasters.

Through immediate response to emergency needs, rapid suppression of fire, competent application of life saving techniques, and public education, we dedicate ourselves so the quality of community life is increased by the security and peace of mind we promote by our actions.

We are committed to serving our community with professionalism, excellence, and devotion to duty by maintaining and improving the skills of our personnel. The Robertson Fire Protection District recognizes our personnel as our greatest resource and the key to our success.



Fun Facts About Robertson Fire Protection District

The size of the Robertson Fire Protection District is 16.5 square miles. Our district protects part of the City of Hazelwood and part of the City of Bridgeton. We serve a population of approximately 20,000 daytime and 6000 nighttime residents. The Robertson Fire Protection District was formed in the year 1949. Every fire department is assigned a number by their dispatching agency in which they are identified and respond to. Our number range is 5000. All district fire and EMS units have numbers assigned to them. When our dispatching agency calls for Chief Tilley, they call for 5000. Assistant chief's assigned number is 01 (5001), fire marshal is 02 (5002), and medical officer is identified by 07 (5007). When our dispatching agency wants to dispatch Robertson Fire Protection District equipment on calls, they use four numbers. The first number range is the department designation of 5000. The next number is the engine house where the equipment is stationed, The last number is the piece of equipment being dispatched. For example, if dispatch wants to send our House One rescue-pumper and House One ambulance on a call, they dispatch 5014 and 5017 to respond. Our House Two ladder truck and House Two ambulance would be 5025 and 5027. All the numbers have a purpose. Come visit us anytime.

The Robertson Report

12641 Missouri Bottom Road

Hazelwood, Mo. 63042