



Livermore Fire Protection District

Livermore Fire Protection District Open House 2010

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Saturday, July 3, 2010, Livermore Fire Protection District (LFPD) held its annual Open House/fundraiser. This event helps LFPD raise funds to purchase apparatus, equipment, pay for operating costs and station expansion. Firefighters cleaned the apparatus and station in preparation for this event, pulling all the rigs out so the public could check them out.

Members barbeque'd hot

dogs and burgers and held a "silent auction" of donated artwork, jewelry and even expertise of time spent with a master gardener and local vintner! The "Boot surprise" had outdated and mismatched firefighter boots stuffed with prizes in exchange for a donation. Firefighters were available to meet with the public, talk about the station expansion, distribute volunteer information and fire information, and held a boot drive, handing

out water to drivers passing by the station and accepting donations.

If you would like to donate to Livermore Fire Protection District, a 501C3 non profit organization, your donation is fully tax deductible.



Danika shows off her future fire engine driving abilities during the LFPD Open House.



Color copies of the LFPD newsletter are available on the Community Information page of the LFPD website:

www.livermorefire.com

A Firefighter's wish...I Wish You Could Know

The brotherhood and self-satisfaction of helping save a life or preserving someone's property, of being there in times of crisis, or creating order from total CHAOS.

Livermore Logistics Team

Livermore Fire Protection District (LFPD) recently expanded membership to include Logistics support. Current Logistics members provide newsletter, administrative, supply, cleaning, rehab and special project support for LFPD. With 3 Logistics members currently on the roster and 2 more scheduled to join, LFPD is excited about the support this group provides to the responders. Logistics members provide support

in the form of: base radio operations during a call; logging incidents into the activity log; rehab for responders; station cleaning, maintenance and supplies; cleaning and restocking apparatus immediately after a call; apparatus maintenance; special projects such as public relations, fund raising, mapping, special events; cleaning and rolling fire hose after a call; communications; equipment and gear inventory; reports,

phones and filing; newsletter and website. Logistics members that are interested may assist responders from the station during a call, or provide support at times convenient for them at a minimum of 3 hours a month. If you are interested in helping LFPD either as a responder or as a member of Logistics, or just looking for more information, please contact Chief Payne at ChiefPayne@yahoo.com.

Volunteers Needed For LFPD

You: I want to volunteer...but I'm not sure I have the skills...or how much time it will take...or what I have to do...

You: I really would like to know what to do in an emergency to help my family and neighbors...

You: I've never done anything like this before... I have no idea how I could help...

Ever wonder what would happen if it took a half hour or longer for someone to respond to your 911 call coming from town? Support Livermore Fire. We are your 911. We are the first response team that responds to calls for help in our district.

We need your help! Your family, your neighbors, your community need your help. For as little as 3 hours a month, you can assist us with maintenance, cleaning, administrative, public relations, supplies, operations,

fund raising, recruiting. These are vital, on-going activities that would help us in our daily operations.

We are you – your community, your friends, your neighbors. If you are interested in volunteering, we will train you.

Each one of us on the department started off as someone just wanting to help. Each one of us has a family, other responsibilities, jobs, friends, activities, hobbies. And each one of us took the step to become part of a team that responds to

calls for help.

Volunteering for Livermore Protection District as a responder (EMT, Firefighter) or as a logistics member is vital for our community and it will add to your life in feelings of teamwork, responsibility, gratitude, achievement, accomplishment, contribution and so much more.

We need you. Please help.

Contact :

ChiefPayne@yahoo.com

“You’re Doing What???” ... By Firefighter Joel Funk

“So, what’s it like?” That’s the question I get asked most often, right after “You’re doing WHAT?!?” In midlife, I decided it wasn’t too late to grow up to be a firefighter. That isn’t unusual in our department, but strikes a lot of other people as odd.

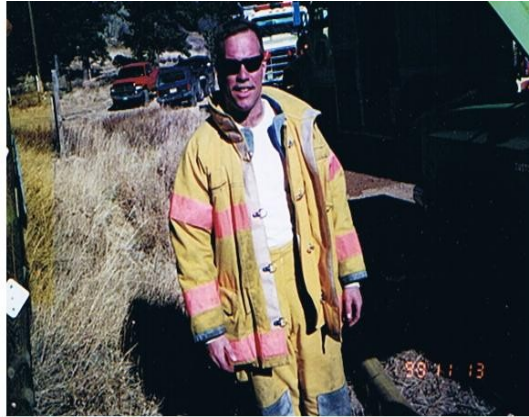
I knew I’d have a lot to learn, and I was right about that. There’s an incredible amount of information to absorb about emergency response and firefighting. We deal with wildland fires and structural fires (which don’t have much in common), vehicle accidents, illnesses, injuries and more. It would be easy to be overwhelmed by an avalanche of procedures, tactics, equipment and jargon, especially on the medical side where there seems to be at least two unusual terms for everything. I’ve had to remind myself of the old quotation: “A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.” Fortunately, those who have gone before me have done a lot of work to break this down into more manageable steps. So far, I’ve earned the first certification in wildland firefighting. Soon, I’ll be starting coursework to become an emergency medical technician.

An important lesson for me has been the huge difference between knowing *what* to do and knowing *how* to do it effectively. Experience is truly the best teacher, but it takes time to accumulate. It has been hard for me to stay patient as my abilities begin to catch up to my desire to help. We have training sessions twice a month, and each call is another opportunity to learn and grow. More steps on the journey.

Another challenge for me has been to manage the surge of adrenaline that happens each time the pager goes off, and each time I arrive at the scene of an incident. The impulses that make you want to be an emergency responder aren’t always helpful. It is excitement, not panic. My mind tends to race through the things you need to do -- and not always in the right order. You can’t just jump right in. Every second counts, but it is far more important to do the right thing, safely, than to be fast. I have to remind myself to take a deep breath and trust that my training will serve me well.

I have a long way to go, but I’m so glad I took that first step. Along the way, the other members of our department have been incredibly patient and generous in sharing their experience, wisdom, and encouragement. We can only do what we do as a team, and I’m on a great team. These people are truly dedicated to service. I can hardly express my gratitude for their support. That alone is making the journey worthwhile.

The Livermore Fire Protection District is composed of your neighbors and friends. Meet Firefighter/EMT and Assistant Chief, Ralph Payne.



How long have you lived in this area and how many years have you been with LFPD?

I have lived in Livermore for about five years. We moved down from the mountains where we had a small ranch in the Allenspark area outside of Estes Park.

What motivated you to start firefighting?

I have lived in several mountain communities and when you move to a remote area, one of the first things you learn is that help will not come quickly and at elevation in the mountains it may not come at all. We will always have to help each other and the first person who can reach you will be a friend or neighbor. I believe that most people are good people and want to help, but most are not trained to help. What got me into firefighting was the danger of forest fires because we were completely surrounded by trees.

What keeps you participating?

when we have to respond to someone who rolled their car over and is stuck or hurt or both. I have been a firefighter for thirteen years on three different departments (two of those were in the mountains) and for the first couple of years of my career in the fire service, I just fought fire i.e. wildland and structure. But I quickly learned that 75% of our calls were trauma and medical. Fires happen from time to time, but people are always sick or hurting themselves. So I became an EMT. It is always a good feeling to help someone but helping a person in a crisis, i.e. trapped in a crushed vehicle or a hurt child, is simply priceless and a feeling I could never adequately explain. These are the calls that keep me participating.

What has been the impact on your family?

It's the middle of the night calls or the bad weather calls that are the worst and make your family worry the most.

Remember when it is snowing and blowing outside and you are cozy by your fire, that's usually the time we get paged for an emergency. Lucky for me, my wife and I usually respond together.

Tell us about an event related to the department that has had a major positive impact on you?

Like the kind of calls I mentioned before, they all impact you in some way, and I could write a book on what we call war stories and go on and on all day about both good and bad calls or "events".

Where do you hope to see LFPD in 5 years?

As the founders of Livermore Fire get older and retire, I would like to see the next generation of citizens step up and help out. That's one of the reasons I like our annual Open House. It's a community outreach and fundraiser, but there are many other reasons I look forward to it. For

one its nice to see people who are not bleeding or on fire. But its also great to see folks we have helped throughout the year. Most important is for them to see us! And to realize that we are just regular people trying to help our friends and neighbors.

Give us some highlights on your background.

I have been a professional musician my entire adult life and play drums and guitar (county & classic rock). I have weight trained since my football days and enjoy lifting four or five times a week. Two of my biggest leisure time activities I share with my wife: we both love riding our Harley Davidson (which are Firefighter special editions) motorcycles and shooting (not at the same time!).

Meet your firefighter continued on back page



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Livermore fire Protection
District
P.O.Box 28
Livermore, Co 80536

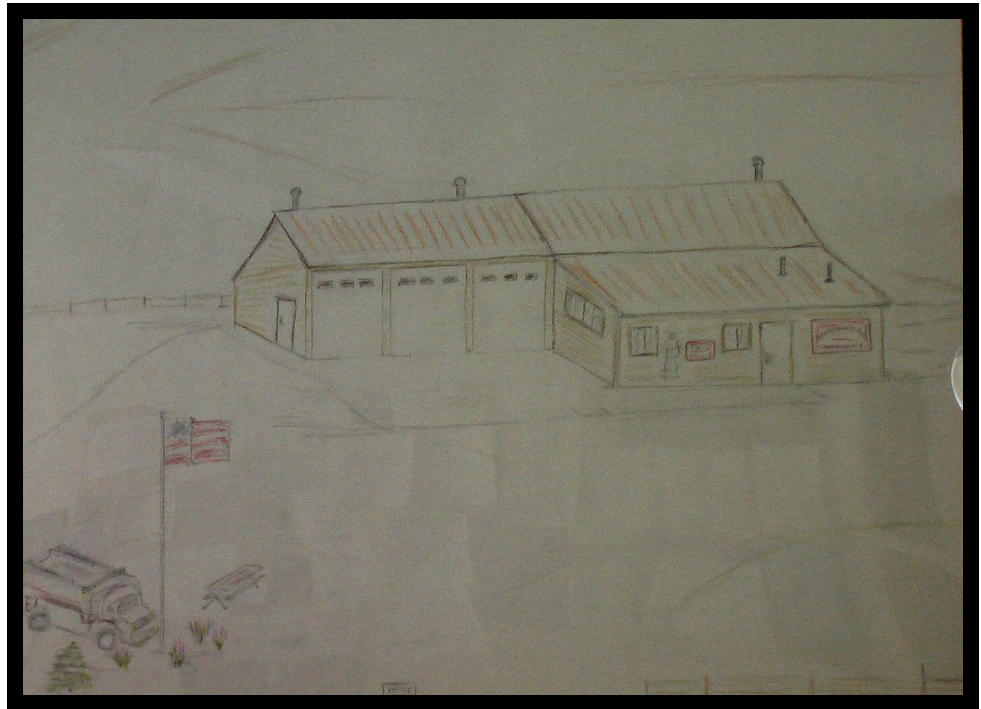
LFPD is supported by District
taxes and your donations.
If you are interested in helping,
please contact the District at
970-472-5592

Volunteer Newsletter Editor:
Caryl Schonbrun

We're on the web!
www.livermorefire.com



**BOARD
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SKETCH OF
LFPD STATION
1 EXPANSION**



Meet your firefighter cont. from page 3

What are some of your future life plans?

As long as my strength holds out, my future plans will always include fighting fire and helping the people in my little ranching community and those that pass through it (sometimes at ungodly speeds).