



# Fireline

Dedicated to the Community We Serve

A Publication of King County Fire Protection District #40

Fall 2013

## Fireline Chatter

### Special Meeting to be Held November 12, 5 p.m.

The King County Fire Protection District 40 Board of Commissioners will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, at 5 p.m. The special meeting will be held at Fire Station 17, located at 14810 SE Petrovitsky Rd, Renton 98058 (location change for this special meeting only). The purpose of the meeting is to pass the 2014 property tax levy resolution, pass the 2014 fire benefit charge amount resolution, and determine the need for the first regular meeting of November.



### New Response Vehicle for Battalion Chief

The Renton Fire Department has a new Battalion Chief's response vehicle purchased jointly by Fire District 40 and the City of Renton. Its first day in service was documented at the Fairwood Crest HOA meeting at the Sheriff's storefront office in August. This new 2013 Tahoe vehicle will be used for emergency response and is a mobile command unit. The vehicle responds from Fire Station 13 at 18002 108th Av SE (across from Fred Meyer). The acquisition will allow the Fire Department to surplus a year 2000 vehicle.

## Medic One: Voters to Decide

Voters will have the opportunity November 5 to reauthorize funding for Medic One, the regional system of paramedic and fire department basic life support services provided by King County. The levy is a six-year Medic One and Emergency Medical Services levy on the November general election ballot.

Founded in 1970 as a Seattle Fire Department program, Medic One was an innovator in bringing physician-level assistance to cardiac victims at the scene of a heart attack. Medic One was expanded in 1979 into a countywide levy-funded program that serves all of King County.

The Medic One/EMS system uses a tiered response model to help provide patients with medical care by the most appropriate care provider. The

system relies heavily upon coordinated partnerships with fire departments, paramedic agencies, dispatch centers and hospitals to deliver services.

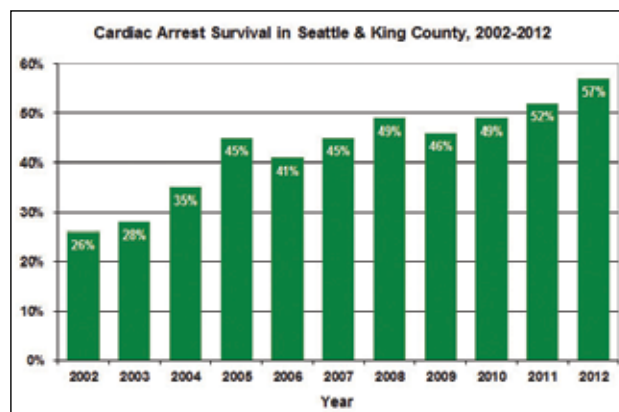
If adopted, the measure would assess a levy of up to 33.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. That is the rate recommended in the Medic One/EMS 2014-2019 Strategic Plan developed by a 19-member EMS Advisory Task Force and over 100 stakeholders representing all parts of the regional system—paramedic providers, fire agencies, hospitals, emergency doctors, communications centers, and labor.

If approved, the levy would cost the owner of a \$320,000 home approximately \$107 a year. For more information visit [kingcounty.gov](http://kingcounty.gov).

## Survival Rates Reach All Time High

The survival rate from cardiac arrest in King County has reached an all-time high of 57 percent, according to a report released by King County Executive Dow Constantine. Most other parts of the nation have survival rates that hover around 10 percent.

“People are alive today in King County who would not have survived in most other places in the country,” said Executive Constantine. “Our EMS/Medic One



system delivers rapid, high-quality critical care wherever you are.”

See SURVIVAL, Page 3



Fire District 40 Commissioners are elected officials who represent the concerns and interests of you, the citizens of the community.

The Commissioners oversee finances, equipment, capital improvements, and general fire department operations.

The Commissioners meet at 5 p.m. on the second and last Thursday of each month at Station 13, located at 18002 108th Ave SE.

The Commissioners are always interested in what you have to say, so please feel free to attend the meetings to learn more about what is going on in your fire department. There is an opportunity at the end of the meeting to ask questions or share your ideas and concerns. If you are unable to attend, feel free to e-mail or write to us.

**Fire District 40**  
**18002 108 Ave SE**  
**Renton, WA 98055**  
**(425) 255-0931**  
**firedistrict40@gmail.com**  
**Visit fd40.com for more information.**

## A Note From Chief Peterson

As I sit here writing you, sheets of water are running down my window. If the storms we have seen in September are any indication, we are in for an interesting fall and winter season. This is a good time to remind you of being prepared for the upcoming storm season. Make sure you have a plan and practice it. Also, build a kit with basic supplies for 7 to 10 days. There is a wealth of information at [kingcounty.gov](http://kingcounty.gov) to assist you with planning, responding and recovering from disasters within our community.

On Thursday, October 3, I joined King County Executive Dow Constantine and Renton Mayor Denis Law in bestowing awards to an individual and an organization with deep roots in the Fire District 40 community. Former Fire District 40 Fire Chief Doug Gibbs and the Renton Emergency Communication Service (RECS) received the King County Executive Community Preparedness Award. Chief Gibbs and the men and women of RECS have devoted countless hours of volunteer service to Fire District 40 and the greater Renton area. It is my sincere pleasure to be a part of honoring them for their many contributions.

## New Non-Emergency Numbers

For years, residents of Fire District 40 have been asked to call 9-1-1 for all fire department responses, regardless of whether an emergency existed.

As of September 16 all emergency service providers throughout King County who are dispatched through Valley Communications, which includes Fire District 40 and King County Sheriff, have new numbers for reporting non-emergencies.

The population in the region has grown over the years and, particularly with the proliferation of cell phones, the complexity of our 9-1-1 system has increased dramatically. Diverting non-emergency calls from 9-1-1 to the new ten-digit non-emergency numbers will

In the November election you'll be asked to reauthorize the King County EMS



levy. On June 3, 2013, the King County Council passed an ordinance to place a 6-year, 33.5 cents/\$1,000 assessed valuation Medic One/EMS levy before the voters in November 2013. This levy supports the programmatic and fiscal proposals as

contained in the Medic One/EMS 2014-2019 Strategic Plan which the County Council has approved and adopted. For more information visit [kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/ems](http://kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/ems).

Please join me in congratulating our new commissioner Cheryl Nichelson on her appointment to the Board. She replaces Mike Warfel who left the district for out-of-state employment opportunities. Mike served the district in different capacities for 10 years; the last 4 ½ as a commissioner. I look forward to working with Commissioner Nichelson and the rest of the board in providing you with the best fire and emergency services you have come to expect.

Sincerely,  
 Chief Mark Peterson  
 Fire District 40/Renton Fire Dept.  
 Emergency Services Administrator

**FD40 Fire & EMS Non-Emergency #:**

**425-235-2121**

**King County Sheriff Non-Emergency #:**

**206-296-3311**

free up emergency lines for critical calls for help.

Fire District 40's new non-emergency number, 425-235-2121, is for non-emergency situations where the fire department is needed but the situation is not an emergency that requires immediate assistance. For non-emergency police calls please use 206-296-3311. If you are not sure if your situation is an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

# Get to Know Your Firefighters: Patrick Stalnaker

## Firefighter Patrick Stalnaker

### How long have you been in fire services and where did you begin your career?

I got started in the fire service in 2002 with KCFD 20. After two years of volunteering in Skyway, I was hired by District 40 in January of 2004.

### What did you do prior to joining fire services?

After graduating college I kept moving west. I worked for Target stores for over 10 years, starting out as a stock person and finishing as an assistant store manager.

### What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

My wife and I love to take our boys to Mariner games and visit many of the outdoor festivals and farmers' markets in our backyard of the



Snoqualmie Valley. In my spare time these days I enjoy shooting league pool and snowboarding, but I mostly just love spending time with family and playing outside with my boys.

### Education:

I went to North Dakota State University where I received a bachelor of arts degree.

### Where are you from originally?

I was born and raised in northeast Ohio where I was adopted by my parents at 2 months of age. In my youth I was constantly busy with extracurricular activities including

scouting, church groups, band, and sports year round.

### Spouse/Significant Other/Children/Pets:

My wife Wendy and I have two boys, Charlie (7), who just started second grade, and Wyatt (4), who is in preschool.

# Cheryl Nichelson Appointed to Vacant Commission Position



**Cheryl Nichelson** — Fire Commissioner Position No. 3

### Committees/Workgroups:

Capital Facilities, Special Projects

### Current Term:

2013 - 2015  
**Personal Information:** I am married and we both work for The Boeing Company,

as well as our oldest daughter. I have lived on Shady Lake in the Fairwood Community since May of 1997 when my husband and I bought our house on the lake. I have three grown children, and two of the three went to Kent Public Schools. I have three beautiful granddaughters, ages 5, 3, and 6 weeks.

I am very passionate about my community and prefer to do much of my shopping in Fairwood. My youngest

granddaughter used to attend Kindercare near the Fairwood Fire Station, and she loved seeing the fire trucks. My oldest granddaughter attends a Covington co-op pre-school and one of her favorite field trips is to the fire station each year.

Now that my children are grown and I'm not running to school activities, I feel it is time for me to be involved and give back to my community.

In addition to working for The Boeing Company, I hold the position of Boeing Management Association (BMA) South Region Board Activities Chair. BMA is no longer financially supported by Boeing but is its own non-profit organization. We provide our members with many types of activities and opportunities to give back to local communities through volunteer efforts.

## SURVIVAL, Continued from Page 1

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Medic One 2013 Annual Report highlights this achievement and other activities that place this EMS/Medic One system among the world's best.

In 2012, the EMS system in King County responded to 172,700 calls to 9-1-1, including 48,010 for Advanced Life Support (ALS), the most serious or life-threatening injuries and illnesses. The average medic unit response time stayed steady at 7.5 minutes.

“Survival from cardiac arrest is the signature of quality for any EMS/Medic One system, and we continue to set the

standard,” said Dr. David Fleming, Director and Health Officer for Public Health – Seattle & King County. King County’s cardiac survival rate has increased from an above-average 27 percent in 2002 to 57 percent today.

The King County EMS/Medic One system is managed by the Emergency Medical Services Division of Public Health – Seattle & King County, and relies on a close partnership of thousands of professionals with fire departments, paramedic agencies, EMS dispatch centers, and hospitals to provide emergency care and save lives.

The full EMS 2013 Annual Report is available at [kingcounty.gov/health/ems](http://kingcounty.gov/health/ems).



# Teach Children Fire Safety in Your Home

Each year more than 3,400 Americans die in fires and approximately 17,500 are injured. One of the major leading causes of residential building fire deaths and injuries for children under age 10 is “playing with a heat source,” which includes lighters and matches. Children under age 10 account for 93 percent of deaths and 38 percent of injuries where the cause of the residential building fire was due to “playing with a heat source.”

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) encourages parents to teach children at an early age about the dangers of fireplay in an effort to prevent child injuries, fire deaths and firesetting behavior in the future. Below are some tips to help you practice fire safety:

- Keep matches and lighters in a secured drawer or cabinet.
- Have your children tell you when they find matches and

lighters.

- Check under beds and in closets for burned matches, evidence your child may be playing with fire.
- Develop a home fire escape plan, practice it with your children and designate a meeting place outside.
- Take the mystery out of fire play by teaching children that fire is a tool, not a toy.
- Teach children not to hide from firefighters, but to get out quickly and call for help from another location.
- Show children how to crawl low on the floor, below the smoke, to get out of the house and stay out in the case of fire.
- Demonstrate how to stop, drop to the ground and roll if their clothes catch fire.
- Install smoke alarms on every level in your home and in every bedroom.

---

## Carbon Monoxide: “The Silent Killer”

Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.



- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO—only use outside.