

The

Summer 2017

COMMUNIQUE

A Publication of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association



2017 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

Be prepared!

Fire Service News from the Capitol

SB 378 Sails Through Legislature

Urban Renewal

Can it be a "Win-Win"?

The COMMUNIQUÉ

A Publication of the
Oregon Fire District
Directors Association

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MISSION

To serve and strengthen through the provision and coordination of timely information, education, and legislation.

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2017 Oregon Fire Service Conference

Hosted by Oregon Fire District Directors Association

October 26-28, 2017

Ashland Hills Hotel and Suites | Ashland, Oregon

Registration for the 2017 Oregon Fire Service Conference is anticipated to open in early August—watch the OFDDA website (www.ofdda.com) for more details. Scholarship information will also be available there.

With a theme of “Honoring the Past as We Shape the Future”, potential sessions at this year’s conference may include:

- Managing Chaos: How to Chair a Meeting
- Boards as Bosses: Supervising Your Chief
- Know Your Roles: Ten Board Member Duties
- Volunteer Recruitment and Retention
- Stress First-Aid
- Emergency Preparedness
- The Charleston 9
- Ethics

Lodging

Lodging is currently available at the Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites; call the hotel directly at 541-482-8310 or online at www.ashlandhillshotel.com to book your rooms today. Negotiated room rates range from \$110 to \$115 per night (tax not included). Breakfast buffet is included with your room reservation. Be sure to mention the Oregon Fire District Directors Association to ensure that you get the negotiated rate or use the online group number 100696.

Elections, Recognition, & Awards

The conference schedule includes OFDDA’s Annual Business Meetings. Nominations and elections for open OFDDA Board Member positions are conducted at the business meetings. This year, three director seats* will be open for election. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please visit the OFDDA website to download an application form or contact the OFDDA office for additional information.

Proposed changes to the OFDDA by-laws will be submitted for approval at the conference.

The conference also serves as a forum for the Association’s memorial service to honor any member of the fire service (personnel, administrative staff, and elected officials) who have passed during the year. Please visit the OFDDA website to download the fire service memorial form.

District Director service awards and the District of the Year award are presented at the conference. Nomination forms for these awards are available for download at the OFDDA website.

We hope you will join us Ashland!

* Article IV, Section A-2 mandates that Director Position two and three shall be elected in even numbered years for a two-year term. Position four, five and six shall be elected in odd numbered years for a two-year term.

OFDDA President’s Message



By: Don Thompson
OFDDA President

OFDDA has been busy with the legislative session, planning for the Fire Service conference

this October, providing training opportunities, and supporting District Directors in many ways.

We can finally celebrate the passage of the tax checkoff bill for the OVFA. Congratulations! It has been many years of hard work to make this opportunity for training support and hardship assistance a reality. We have been fully supportive of OVFA’s efforts and applaud this monumental accomplishment.

As we come into the summer season, OFDDA is putting the final planning effort into the fall conference. Please remember when you receive your registration information, send in the completed form and reserve your rooms as soon as possible.

OFDDA and SDAO/SDIS are providing various board training opportunities throughout the state. Be sure to take advantage of the trainings nearest you.

Stay safe during the upcoming wildland fire season.

Don Thompson



The Roles of OSFM & Local Agencies

Oregon Revised Statute 480.111-480.165 grants authority to specific entities to conduct certain activities. Under these ORSs the OSFM is mandated to issue fireworks permits for the use of Pest Control (Agricultural) fireworks, the display of non-consumer fireworks, and the sale of both display and consumer fireworks. The OSFM Regulatory Services Unit also provides information regarding the fireworks statutes and rules; helps facilitate assistance from OSP when appropriate; provides guidance and information to local law enforcement agencies regarding seizure, storage, and pick up of fireworks; and help facilitate the destruction of seized fireworks.

The fireworks statutes provide for local authorities to control fireworks in their communities.

- ORS 480.140 places the supervision of fireworks displays under the local fire and police agency or in unprotected areas, the county court.
- ORS 480.160 has provisions for local regulation of fireworks.
- OAR 837-012-0860 (9-11) requires displays to be postponed or discontinued by the local authority if there are adverse conditions, lack of crowd control, or significant weather conditions that affect safety recognized by the local fire or law enforcement authority.
- ORS 480.120 (2) requires law enforcement agencies of the state, county, or municipality to enforce the provisions of ORS 480.111-480.165.

Below is a matrix that summarizes the roles of OSFM and local authorities relating to the retail sales of consumer fireworks, fireworks displays, and enforcement activities.

May 2017

Consumer Fireworks Sales, Displays, & Enforcement Activities Matrix

Fireworks Activity	Local Role		Office of State Fire Marshal	
	Protected Areas	Unprotected Areas	OSFM Deputy Role	OSFM Role
Retail sales of consumer fireworks (includes storage of consumer fireworks)	Local fire approval signature on application; (does not include private fire departments)	None	Fire authority approval signature on application in unprotected areas only	Issues the permit
Display of fireworks	Local fire (does not include private fire departments) and law enforcement approval signatures on application	Approval signature on application by County court or their designee	Can provide technical assistance to the court or designee	Issues the permit
Enforcement/seizure-small quantities of illegal fireworks	Local law enforcement	Local law enforcement	None	None
Enforcement/seizure-large quantity of illegal fireworks	Local law enforcement or OSP Explosives Unit	Local law enforcement or OSP Explosives Unit	None	Can help facilitate OSP assistance when appropriate
Improvised devices handling and seizure	Local law enforcement/explosives unit or OSP Explosives Unit	Local law enforcement/explosives unit or OSP Explosives Unit	None	Can help facilitate OSP assistance when appropriate

Senate Bill 378 Sails Through Legislature

After nearly a decade of work, the OFDDA and the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association have succeeded in clearing the way to allow OVFA to receive voluntary contributions from taxpayers who receive a tax refund. Senate Bill 378 was amended at the suggestion of the Oregon Fire Fighters Council to dedicate contributions to training and hardship assistance, which is in keeping with how funds have traditionally been spent.

By being added to the tax return checkoff list, anyone receiving an Oregon state tax refund will have the opportunity to donate their return, all or a portion, to the association. Contributions, anticipated to be approximately \$25,000, will be dedicated to the direct costs of firefighter training or to the assistance of a firefighter, or a firefighter's immediately family, who has experienced hardship resulting from the injury, illness, or death of the firefighter.

There was a strong showing of volunteer and fire service supporters at the June 6, 2017, public hearing before the House Rules Committee at the Oregon State Capitol. We are pleased to announce the bill reported out with the -3 amendments following testimony by Sen. Bill Hansell, Rep. Deborah Boone, OFDDA/OVFA Lobbyist Genoa Ingram, and OVFA Immediate Past President Dave Sellers. OFDDA 2nd Vice President John Dunn was present to lend support from Oregon Fire District Directors.

The bill was made a Special Order of Business in the House of Representatives on June 13, where it passed unanimously. On June 15, the Senate concurred in the amendments, and the bill has now been sent to the Governor's desk.

The final step in the process will be to fulfill a mandate to collect 10,000 valid signatures from registered Oregon voters and submit them, along with OVFA's application, before June 1, 2018. Once signatures have been collected and verified by state officials, OVFA's application should be approved and the Association will be listed in the tax instruction booklet.

Thanks to everyone who has played a role in this monumental achievement. To participate in the effort to collect signatures, contact OVFA at 503-378-0896 or genoa@ovfa.org.



Celebrating Hard-Earned Success (left to right): Greg Musil, Rex Parks, Dave Sellers, Genoa Ingram, Cody Sellers, Rep. Deborah Boone, John Dunn, Jerry Kearney, and Dan Doyle.

2017 Fire Service Day AT THE OREGON STATE CAPITOL



On April 25, 2017, OFCA and OFDDA members met for the 2017 Fire Service Day at the Oregon State Capitol. Participants took part in committee meetings, received legislative briefings, and spent time with legislators emphasizing important bills for the fire service.

Several legislators addressed the group including Rep. Andy Olson who sponsored HB 2595, the House version of SB 378 (the tax check-off bill for OVFA), and Rep. Bill Post, a strong supporter of the fire service.

House and Senate opening ceremonies were performed by members of Clackamas Pipe & Drum, Tualatin Valley Pipe & Drum, Salem Pipe & Drum, Philomath Fire & Rescue, and Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard/Portland Fire Honor Guard.

Welcoming remarks for the fire service meeting were made by Mark Kreutzer, Past OFDDA President, and Chief Les Hallman, OFCA President. An OSFM update was provided by Chief Jim Walker, State Fire Marshal. Eriks Gablicks, Director of DPSST, offered comments on the DPSST budget and funding for training programs.

We hope you'll join us in 2019 at the next Fire Service Day at the Oregon State Capitol!



By: Carolyn H. Connelly
Local Government Law Group

I. A Community Divided

As urban renewal districts have become popular and powerful development tools for cities, fire districts throughout Oregon have found themselves torn between supporting community revitalization and protecting vital revenue. But the choice needn't be between improving your blighted community or life safety responses. The following highlights some opportunities to bring your community together and ensure both goals can be a priority. But first, a reminder about how Tax Increment Financing (TIF) works.

II. How Urban Renewal Works

Urban renewal allows cities to designate an area as “blighted” and to “freeze” the taxes within the urban renewal area (Area). Any gains in the Area's taxes go to the urban renewal agency (Agency)—not other taxing entities—and are used to finance the urban renewal improvements. Revitalization draws people and businesses to the Area, but other taxing entities (including fire districts) receive no additional revenue to serve the Area during the life of the urban renewal plan (Plan)—usually 20 years. And there's the rub—a thriving urban renewal district will stimulate development, which in turn demands increased emergency responses. However, your District must operate on the same revenue it received before the development occurred.

III. What to Do?

a. Participate in Process to Activate Urban Renewal Agency. Before an Agency can exercise its statutory urban renewal powers, a city council or county

commission must “activate” the Agency. If not yet activated, your District can provide early input on whether and how an Agency should be activated before this preliminary step is taken.

b. Agency's Duty to Consult and Confer. Once activated, an Agency must “consult and confer” with each affected taxing entity prior to presenting to a city council or county commission for approval. The Plan must also go to the planning commission. Each step presents your District with additional opportunities to publicly vet concerns.

Written recommendations from each taxing entity must be rejected or modified by the City or County before adopting the Plan. Be sure your District's written comments, recommendations, objections, or questions are heard.

c. Challenge the City/County's “Blighted Area” Findings. Depending upon the improvements listed in the proposed Plan, your District might be able to argue that “blighted areas” don't include currently unplatted and undeveloped areas.

d. Challenge the Urban Renewal Plan Adoption Process. Watch dog the Agency's adoption process to ensure it follows all statutorily required procedures.

e. Ask for a Seat at the Table. HB 2470 was introduced during this 2017 legislative session; it would have required Agency Boards to include one representative from each affected taxing entity. While this bill did not make it out of the House in time, your District may still request to have a representative on the Agency Board or advisory committee.

f. Include Fire and Emergency Services as a Public Improvement Project. Some Plans list upgrades to fire protection and emergency response systems as “Public Improvements.” They specify that the purchase

of new fire and emergency apparatus, replacement parts, as well as the construction and remodeling of fire stations are appropriate expenditures for urban renewal funds.

- g. Needed Infrastructure. If any infrastructure within the area impedes District responses (e.g., old bridges, narrow roads, low water pressure, etc.), add those projects to the Plan.
- h. Ask the City/County to Update Development Standards with the District's Input.
- i. Ask the Agency to Under-Levy. If the full amount of TIF is not required to pay indebtedness incurred, the Agency may limit its collections and redistribute the remainder to overlapping taxing entities. This action may be taken in a single fiscal year or permanently.
- j. Ask for a Fixed Plan Sunset Date.

IV. Other Funding Ideas

- a. Fee for Emergency Services. If lost revenues are not recaptured by the above Agency options, ask your City or County to adopt an emergency services fee, which could be collected with building permits or utility bills.
- b. District Initiated Local Option Levy or Bond.

V. 90 Day Presumption of Validity

Urban renewal plans are presumed valid for all purposes 90 days after adoption, precluding any challenge thereafter. If you believe Plan adoption or any amendment is invalid, contact your legal counsel as soon as possible to evaluate a potential challenge.

VI. Conclusion

In sum, if urban renewal is making it hard for your District to provide required emergency services, the above quid pro quo measures may level the playing field a bit.

Note: This update is informational only and is not intended as legal advice. If you have questions about any of the information in this update, please contact your legal counsel.

The Legal Beagle

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PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

Association by-laws will be voted on at the conference. The proposed changes to Article V. Section A can be viewed on the home page of the OFDDA website at ofdda.com.

Enacted by the 2016 Oregon Legislature, Senate Bill 1532 established a series of annual minimum wage rate increases between July 1, 2016, and July 1, 2022.

Effective **July 1, 2017**, the Oregon minimum wage will increase to:

- **\$10.25** in standard counties;
- **\$11.25** in the Portland Metro area; and
- **\$10.00** in nonurban counties.

For learn more about Oregon minimum wage rates by county, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/boli/WHD/OMW/Pages/Minimum-Wage-Rate-Summary.aspx>.

The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour.



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The Great American Eclipse, which takes place Monday, August 21, will hit Oregon first before it sweeps the United States and disappears over the Atlantic Ocean. This eclipse is predicted to be the most-viewed ever, and areas within the path of totality are expected to be a hotbed of activity. This influx of people along major transportation routes has the potential to create a number of challenges.

PREPARING FOR TOURISTS

The Office of State Fire Marshal and State Police are working with counties to have ready-response stations at strategic traffic points along the path of totality and major routes. More dispatchers and medics will be on staff for a brief period leading up to and following the event.

Business owners and entities that provide public services are encouraged to talk to suppliers and order goods well in advance of the eclipse. Prepare for more cash purchases and potential challenges with credit/debit card transactions. Schedule additional staff, and make sure employees know your policy on dealing with customers who are primarily interested in using rest rooms or asking to use your telephone.

If there are any events planned at your facilities, have an exit plan or plans to keep viewers at their location after the event to eliminate high levels of traffic.

Residents should ensure their first-aid and emergency kits are fully supplied, fill prescriptions well in advance, stock up on food and household supplies, and fill gas tanks before visitors begin arriving in the area. Plan for additional time needed to get through long lines at gas stations, stores, and restaurants and prolonged commutes for approximately one week before and after the eclipse.

With increased demands on sewer and water systems, some communities may need to plan ahead for potential sanitation issues.

If you speak more than one language and you are willing to help translate for a few minutes if needed and called upon, contact your local police department to let them know you're available.

Expect cell service overloads; there may be service disruptions due to the increase in visitors using networks.

MITIGATING LOSSES FOR YOUR SPECIAL DISTRICT

SDAO members need to think of safety practices to mitigate losses. The following are suggestions from SDAO:

- If your district is renting property to someone, use a facility use agreement that specifies your expectations. The SDAO Pre-Loss Department can review these. (Park and recreation and port districts)
- Ensure campers do not block fire lanes.
- Remind all employees to have patience and practice defensive driving.
- Enact fire control measures due to hot August temperatures.
- Use security guards to protect your property.
- Provide adequate lighting for people at night to reduce trip hazards.
- Use the Tenant User Liability Insurance Program (TULIP), if possible.
- Stock up on extra supplies.

Some SDAO members have considered renting out their property similar to a campground for the event. If this is the case for your district, please understand that there are only two types of special districts authorized to operate a campground – park and recreation and port. If your district is not either of these two types, you may not have coverage under the SDIS Liability Coverage Document.

PERSONAL SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations from the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, Oregon State Police, and Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal include:

- Get to your viewing spot early and do not trespass on private property.
- Be prepared for crowds, lines, and traffic. Be patient.
- Travel with extra food and water for each family member and your pets.
- Have your medications and first-aid supplies on hand.
- Wear appropriate solar eclipse glasses. *See below.*
- Do not view the eclipse while driving.
- Become aware of the beauty, splendor, and hazards that are all part of Oregon. Know what to do and where to go in the event of severe heat, wildfires, earthquakes, and other natural disasters.
- Have an emergency kit and an emergency plan; make sure family members or friends back home know your schedule, when you are expected to return, and your plan if something happens.
- Charge your cell phone before heading out and remember your charger(s).
- Follow wildfire prevention basics. *See "Wildfire Prevention Basics" on page 11.*

YOUR EYES ARE IMPORTANT. PROTECT THEM!

The only safe time to look at an eclipse with the naked eye is during the total phase of a total eclipse. You must wear eye protection any time any piece of the sun's disk is visible. Looking at the sun without protection when any part of its bright disk is visible will result in damage to your eyes. Please take all proper precautions and wear special eye protection to look at the sun. Make sure your eclipse glasses – as well as solar lenses for cameras, binoculars, and telescopes – meet ISO 12312-2 international standards.



OREGON FIRE DISTRICT DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION
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2017 Oregon Fire Service Conference

OCTOBER 26-28, 2017




OFSOA Update

You're Invited to Attend the OFSOA 25th Anniversary Conference

By: Julie Spor, OFSOA President, Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District

OFSOA marks a quarter century this year. The 2017 conference committee is working hard to plan our 25th Anniversary Conference October 18-20, 2017, in Lebanon at the Boulder Falls Inn. Classes will include:

- Maintaining Professionalism in the Workplace
- Protecting your Fire Department from Fraud
- The ABCs of Public Contracting
- IT and Cyber Security
- Positioning Your Fire District atop a Solid Financial Foundation
- Payroll Updates
- Where are Your District's Essential Records
- Managing District Debt
- Hot Topics in the Fire Service (presented by SDAO)

Registration information will be provided in the OFSOA newsletter and will be available online at www.ofsoa.com. Please encourage your fire district staff to attend. We offer member and non-member rates for our events.

FIRE PROGRAM/OPSA VIDEO LINKS

- DPSST Skid Avoidance for Fire Apparatus Drivers Program (SAFAD):
<https://vimeo.com/132496645>
- Vehicle Fire / Flammable Liquid and Gas Live Fire:
<https://vimeo.com/131269988>
- Basic Hose Handling & Vehicle Extrication from 2016 Winter Fire School held at OPSA:
<https://vimeo.com/159722078>
- Flammable Liquids and Gas 2016 (FLAG):
<https://vimeo.com/195914041>
- Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF):
<https://vimeo.com/195912079>
- Farm Machinery Rescue:
<https://vimeo.com/195907910>

SDIS		2017 Trainings		SDAO	
Save the dates for this year's SDAO and SDIS trainings! Session details and registration information will be distributed six weeks prior to the beginning of each training series.					
	Date	City	Location		
Board of Directors and Management Staff Training	Jul. 25	Medford	Inn at the Commons		
	Jul. 26	Cottage Grove	Village Green Resort and Gardens		
	Aug. 2	Redmond	Eagle Crest Resort		
	Aug. 29	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach		
	Aug. 31	Tigard	Oregon Medical Association		
Regional Risk Management Training	Jul. 25	Medford	Inn at the Commons		
	Jul. 26	Cottage Grove	Village Green Resort and Gardens		
	Aug. 2	Redmond	Eagle Crest Resort		
	Aug. 29	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach		
	Aug. 31	Tigard	Oregon Medical Association		
Risk Management Forum	Oct. 18	Tigard	Oregon Medical Association		
	Oct. 24	Medford	Inn at the Commons		
	Oct. 25	Cottage Grove	Village Green Resort and Gardens		
	Nov. 14	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach		
	Nov. 16	Redmond	Eagle Crest Resort		

Questions? Please contact Kaylie Bahnsen at kbahnsen@sdao.com or call 800.285.5461.



Free Online Training Program for SDIS Members

As part of SDIS's ongoing commitment to safety, compliance with regulatory requirements, and containing healthcare costs, SDIS has partnered with SafePersonnel to provide a series of free online risk management trainings. SDAO members enrolled in the SDIS Property/Casualty program can complete safety and liability trainings through the SafePersonnel online training system at no charge.

A new Oregon specific online training, **Child Abuse: Mandatory Reporting**, has been added to the SDIS member course library available through SafePersonnel. View the course library – which includes courses created for firefighters and fire service personnel – online at <http://ref.sdao.com/Education/safepersonnel.pdf>.

The trainings can be accessed using your district's personalized SafePersonnel training website; they are not accessible through the SDAO website.

If you have forgotten your district's training website address or your login information, please contact SafePersonnel at 800-434-0154.

Is your district using this free online training system? If not, contact SDAO at memberservices@sdao.com to have a personalized training website created for your district.

47th Annual
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Steam Up

Featuring Aultman-Taylor & Rumely
Educational and Fun Event
Action! Trains, trolleys, tractors, machines, threshing, steam powered sawmill
Kids! Youth Passport program (win great prizes), kid tractor pulls, tractor parade
History Comes Alive! Quilts, steam engines, twelve heritage museums, cars, trucks, equipment
Shopping! Swap meet, flea market, souvenirs
Food & Entertainment! Demonstrations, food (including ice cream made with steam power)

Powerland Heritage Park
Brooks, Oregon
July 29-30 August 5-6
7am to 6pm

New This Year

- Westfall Log Skidder
- Oregon Electric Locomotive
- Farm House Museum
- Car & Motorcycle Addition
- Truck Museum Learning Center

2nd Weekend: Oregon National Guard Appreciation Days
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These trainings are offered through a partnership between OFDDA and SDIS. Classes qualify for the 2% Property and Casualty Best Practice Credit for SDIS program participants. All board members are encouraged to attend.s



2017 Dates and Times

July 12 at 5:30 p.m.
Aug. 16 at 5:30 p.m.
Aug. 22 at 5:30 p.m.

Locations*

Crescent RFPD
Klamath County FD #1
Mohawk Valley Rural Fire

Training(s)

Risk Leadership / Board Duties
Risk Leadership
Board Duties / Risk Leadership

Risk Leadership: Successful loss reduction is a direct result of smart hiring, team building, organization, forward communication and empowerment. Effective leadership not only reduces claims, it promotes fewer injuries, creates higher retention and increases job satisfaction. Risk Leadership looks at the importance of effective leadership as a strategy for district risk management. Includes "Fundamentals of Risk Management" and "Apparatus/Vehicle Safety".

Board Duties and Responsibilities: Addresses what the law requires of District Directors as well as the liability potholes that exist and how to avoid them. When making decisions that impact the future of your District, it's important to know the labyrinth of legal ropes. These workshops are effective for enhancing the skill set of current Directors as well as providing direction for newly elected Directors. Some of our topics are ethics, open meeting requirements, public records, board orientation, conflict resolution, and more.

***RSVP** to Jane Austin at 541-284-5852 or jaustin@whainsurance.com indicating the number attending from your district. Please inquire about the training facility's address at that time.

Yard Debris Removal Safety Tips

Escaped debris burns are the leading human cause of wildfires in Oregon, particularly during periods when people think it is safe to burn.

Many outside fires in Oregon are caused by improper debris burning or sparks from equipment including lawn mowers and chain saws ignite vegetation such as grass, weeds, or bark dust.

Below are tips you can follow to help prevent wildfires:

- Chip, compost, or haul debris to a recycling center.
- Before burning yard debris, check with your local fire agency or air protection authority to learn if there are any burning restrictions and if a permit is required.
- Know the weather forecast. Never burn on dry or windy days.
- Burn only yard debris.
- Keep your burn pile small or use a burn barrel and properly prepare a safety perimeter.
- Always have water and fire tools on site.
- Stay with the fire from start to finish until it is completely out.
- Extinguish the fire by drowning the burn pile with water.
- Recheck old burn piles for several weeks to ensure they have not rekindled.

For more information, including a list of resources, visit oregon.gov/osp/SFM/Pages/debrisremoval.aspx.

WILDFIRE PREVENTION BASICS

- Know fire risks and respect fire restrictions, such as campfire bans.
- Avoid parking or driving on dry grass as your vehicle can start a wildfire.
- Vehicles are required to have a shovel and fire extinguisher or at least a gallon of water in many areas.
- Do not use candles, fireworks, tiki torches, or other open flames outdoors. Sky lanterns are illegal in Oregon airspace.
- Smoking materials:
 - Dispose of smoking materials in deep, sturdy ashtrays.
 - Make sure butts and ashes are extinguished by using water or sand.
 - Never discard butts on the ground or in vegetation.
- During a wildfire, there are three levels of evacuation:
 - Level 1 – **Ready**: Pack your valuables.
 - Level 2 – **Set**: Monitor the news reports.
 - Level 3 – **Go**: An official notice from the sheriff's office or fire agency to evacuate.

For more information on wildfire prevention and fire restrictions, visit keeporegongreen.org.

Source: <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/sfm/Pages/eclipse.aspx>

OFDDA Board Member and Retired Firefighter Spike Piersol Raises Money for Charity

Read the article by Jayati Ramakrishnan at www.hermistonherald.com/hh/local-news/20170123/hermiston-leaders-dance-raise-money-for-local-charities. Excerpt printed with permission.

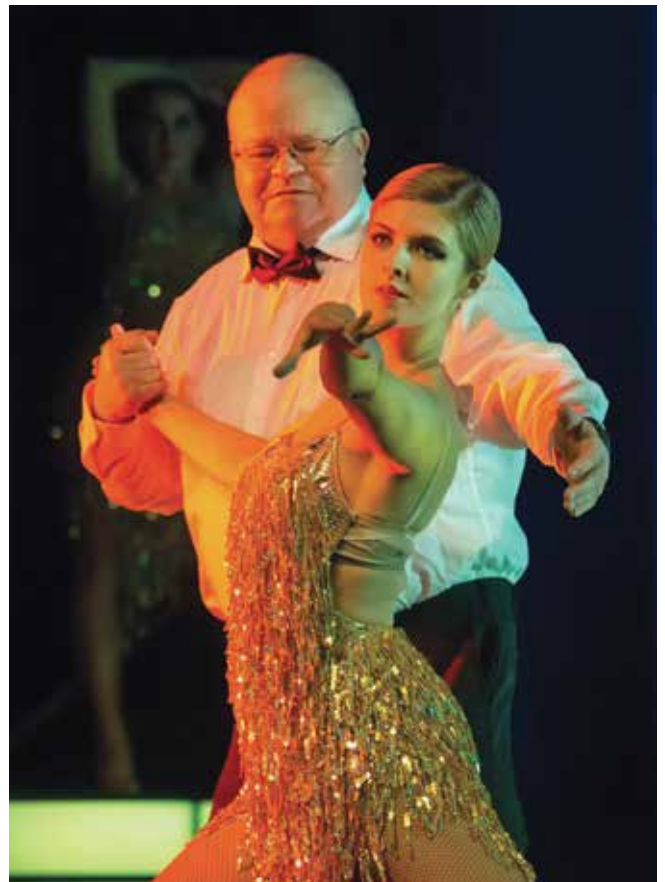
Retired firefighter Spike Piersol danced the Tango with his partner, Grace Johnson, to raise money for the First Responders Memorial in McKenzie Park during the fifth annual Dancing with the Hermiston Stars event.

Judges appreciated Piersol's intensity and passion during the dance.

"You were very light on your foot," Tyler Hansell teased the retired firefighter, who has a prosthetic leg.

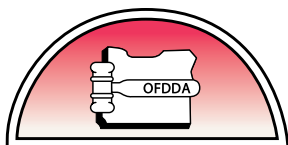
The six dance contestants raised a total of \$11,347 for their charities.

The event is organized by the Desert Arts Council, and was sponsored by the Hermiston Breakfast Kiwanis Club.



Pictured right: Spike Piersol and Grace Johnson

PHOTO BY KATHY ANEY



OREGON FIRE DISTRICT
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**2017 Oregon
Fire Service
Conference**

OCTOBER 26-28, 2017



FIREWORKS SAFETY

Tips to share with family and friends to ensure a safe and fun Independence Day!

Be Prepared

- Store sparklers and fireworks out of children's reach.
- Always read and follow label instructions.
- Have a working garden hose or bucket of water handy.
- Keep pets indoors for their safety.

Be Safe

- Only responsible, sober adults should handle fireworks.
- Use fireworks outdoors in a safe, flat area away from debris and combustibles.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Wear safety glasses when igniting fireworks.
- Never wave, point, twirl, toss, throw or run with fireworks.
- Keep spectators a safe distance away from fireworks.
- Keep sparklers at arm's length from the body. Sparklers should never be given to children age 5 and under.
- Always keep matches and lighters away from children.

Be Responsible

- Never re-light "dud" fireworks. Wait 15-20 minutes, then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Soak used sparklers and fireworks in water overnight.
- Properly dispose of used sparklers, fireworks, or debris.

Be Aware

- Use only legal fireworks. Store in a cool, dry place.
- Contact local authorities for laws specific to your area.
- Use fireworks only in legal places.
- Fireworks are prohibited on all beaches, state parks, campgrounds, and state or federal forest lands in Oregon. It's the law!

For more fire safety information contact your local fire agency.

Sources: Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (<http://oregon.gov/osp/sfm>) and American Pyrotechnics Association (americanpyro.com).