

The Leawood Fire Department presents

“From The Fire House”

4th Quarter 2014



Hands Only CPR

is a new initiative being pushed around the world. *“Most people who experience cardiac arrest at home, at work, or in a public location die because they don’t receive immediate CPR from someone on the scene. As a bystander, don’t be afraid. Your actions can only help.” -American Heart Association.*

The City of Leawood Fire Department and many other organizations in the metropolitan area have begun teaching Hands-Only CPR to citizens whenever possible. In Johnson County, first responders have changed CPR, and the results have shown an enormous increase in the number of cardiac arrest patients saved in the county. Yet the county still ranks very low in the bystander CPR compared to the rest of the nation. The hands-only CPR initiative is designed to change those numbers. Hands-only CPR can be taught in a variety of methods, ranging from 5 to 45 minutes. This will hopefully change the way citizens think about learning and giving CPR. Please contact the Leawood Fire Department to have a representative come to an event, your work place, or even your home to teach this very simple class. Let us prepare you to potentially save a life.

Visit www.leawood.org/fire for more information.



Seasonal Tip: Use extreme caution with the dry conditions; fires can easily be started by flying embers from a back porch burn pit or chiminea.



Johnson County EMS

shows again how our emergency responders are at the forefront of pre-hospital medical care. If you’ve ever been in a car wreck or suffered an injury causing pain in your back and/or neck, you’ve likely been placed on a hard plastic board. Everyone has seen an athlete carried off a field on one of these devices. That board was used by emergency responders for many years. It was the accepted practice to prevent further injury to a patient’s back and/or neck by strapping the patient down on a flat hard surface, keeping them immobilized until an emergency physician deemed it acceptable to remove it. That meant the patient could be on the board for hours.

Discomfort and pain from this practice along with a lack of positive outcome evidence led to studies of the effectiveness of the board and current immobilization techniques. The results were compiled and showed that excellent spine care can be accomplished more easily and more comfortably using special techniques where the spine board is utilized only for patient movement. A cervical collar and the padded ambulance cot does the rest. The new technique is already improving patient care. Other agencies around the country are quickly adopting the change.

“This is an exciting change in EMS that challenges the current dogma,” states Dr. Ryan Jacobsen, Johnson County EMS System Medical Director. “We feel that this will be an improvement in our care of trauma patients and have received tremendous support from all of the stakeholders, locally, regionally and even at the national level.”



www.leawood.org/fire



Pre-planning before an emergency is necessary for us in the fire service. It is important that the Leawood Fire Department stay abreast of the latest equipment and techniques utilized in fire suppression. This year, the Leawood Fire Department purchased new equipment specifically designed for Hi-Rise/multi-story commercial buildings, and standpipe operations. The new equipment will replace the outdated equipment in the department’s current “Hi-Rise” packs. Hi-Rise packs, also referred to as hotel packs or standpipe kits, consist of several sections of lightweight hose, nozzles, and tool bags containing various hardware. The new hose is larger diameter, and more lightweight. The new hose combined with the new nozzles will be able to provide a larger volume of water to extinguish the fire. These packs are carried to the involved floor, then assembled and deployed by teams of firefighters to extinguish a fire. The

packs work by connecting to standpipes in the structure. Standpipes are pipes within buildings that supply water for fire suppression hose lines, usually located in a stairwell. Fire trucks are able to pump directly into these standpipes. Each fire apparatus in the city carries a hi-rise pack, and they can be interconnected to make a longer hose line if necessary. This new equipment is especially important with the increase in construction of larger structures within the city. Thankfully, these buildings are all protected by sprinkler systems which keep the fire in check until the fire department arrives. The hi-rise packs are then utilized to complete the extinguishment. The new hi-rise packs can also be deployed inside parking garages to extinguish vehicle fires where fire trucks simply don’t fit. These types of fires present some difficulty in firefighting operations, including difficulties of access, the complexity of construction, and the number of occupants in the structure. The Leawood Fire Department trains regularly on these types of incidents in order to be prepared at any time.



Leawood F.D. Water Rescue

Flood conditions are generally created by heavy rainfall in a short period of time. Historically these flood conditions come and go very quickly, but can create an extremely hazardous situation. Six inches of water is enough to reach the bottom of most cars. 12 inches of moving water is often all it takes to cause a vehicle to float and be carried downstream.

Illustrated to the right is a map showing locations of water rescues or water assists that the Leawood Fire Dept. has performed over the last six years. Inside of the boxes indicates the number of people rescued or assisted at the identified location.



Left is a picture of a vehicle on Tomahawk Creek Parkway at 114th street. Crews were able to help the person from the vehicle and close the road to prevent other drivers from driving into the flood waters. It is often hard to judge depth and movement in flood waters and many drivers make the mistake of entering these areas.



Open House!

The Leawood Police & Fire Departments

are having our annual Open House on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Come see the new Leawood Justice center and enjoy some of many activities that will be available!!!

There will be demonstrations and activities including personal safety, fire safety, hands-only CPR, and even a crime scene re-enactment!



Leawood Fire Department Activities: Jan. 1, 2014 through July 1, 2014			
Number of emergency calls:	1,489	Number of hours spent giving public education:	150
Number of crew training hours:	20,467	Number of people receiving tours/activities:	127
Certified CPR & 1st Aid Students:	106	Number of child safety seats installed:	73
Hands-only CPR Students:	116		



A Dalmatian in a parade escorting a historical fire apparatus

The Dalmatian

The Dalmatian was first used in the fire service when most fire companies were volunteer or privately operated. At the time there was often competition for services. Some of the firefighters were actually recruited not only for their strength in fighting fire but for their fighting abilities to protect the company and its equipment. Insurance companies paid the fire company that put out the fire, so the one that made it to the scene, hooked up to a hydrant and completed the task, got paid. The dogs worked well at this task of protecting not only the horses, but the equipment in the stations and on the fire ground as well.

Early firefighters took tremendous pride in their companies. They would turn out and parade through the city at almost any occasion. Great care was taken in making your rig fancier than the next one. Polished brass, brilliant paint jobs, and gleaming leather were always maintained. It was only natural these beautiful and talented dogs were coveted. Dalmatians became an accepted part of fire companies and they had the expected impact. People pointed and stared. They were that extra piece of fancywork that every “jake” wanted on his rig. The Dalmatian did the job proudly but they had some drawbacks. They were rare and many of them were genetically predisposed to deafness and other physical ailments.

Today the Dalmatian is seen as a fire house mascot, but back in the days of horse drawn fire carts, they provided a valuable service. Dalmatians and horses are very compatible. Dalmatians have an amazing calming effect on the horses. The dogs were easily trained to run in front of the engines to help clear a path and guide the horses and the firefighters to the fires quickly. Free roaming “wild” dogs would sometimes dash out at passing teams of horses. They would nip at the legs of the horses and generally harass the equines. The Dalmatian, or coach dog, would fend off these marauding dogs. It was a very common sight to see the Dalmatian running out in front of the horses. Once on the scene of a call, they took over as guard dog, making sure nothing was stolen from the apparatus.

Today, it is rare to see Dalmatians in fire stations as modern public laws and requirements see the dogs as a potential liability. However, they are still chosen by many fire fighters as pets in honor of their service in the past.

Water stops: If you’ve been by station one or station two, you’ve probably seen the water stops outside the fire stations. We strive to provide cold water on hot summer days in case someone needs a break from their walk, jog, or bike ride. Your furry friends are not forgotten either!



Are you planning a block party or neighborhood event this summer? We would love to visit and show off our fire trucks and spray some water!

City Phone Numbers	
Emergency Fire-Police-Ambulance.....	911
City Of Leawood.....	(913) 339-6700
Leawood Fire Dept.....	(913) 681-6788
Administration.....	Ext. 10
Station One.....	Ext. 21
Station Two.....	Ext. 24
Station Three.....	Ext. 72
Leawood Police Dept.....	(913) 642-5555
Leawood Public Works.....	(913) 681-6902
Water One.....	(913) 895-1800
Kansas Gas (Emergency).....	1(888) 794-4780
KCPL.....	(816) 471-5275