



Countryside Fire Protection District
 600 North Deerpath Drive
 Vernon Hills, IL 60061
 847-367-5511 • www.countrysidefire.com

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 VERNON HILLS, IL
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Lights Sirens Action



News from the Countryside Fire Protection District

Serving Hawthorn Woods, Indian Creek, Kildeer, Long Grove, Vernon Hills, and Lake County since 1939

FALL 2008

- Open House is October 5
- CFPD Helps Louisiana
- Pink Fire Truck to Visit
- Ten Safety Tips
- CFPD Earns Accreditation

CONTACT US

Emergencies: 9 - 1 - 1

Station #2 (headquarters)

600 North Deerpath Drive
 Vernon Hills, IL 60061 • 847-367-5511

Station #1

801 South Midlothian Road
 Mundelein, IL 60060 • 847-918-6151

District Trustee Meeting

7:30 p.m. on 3rd Thursday of each month
 at Headquarters

Commissioners' Meeting

8:30 a.m. on 4th Monday of each
 month at Headquarters (as needed)

Fall 2008

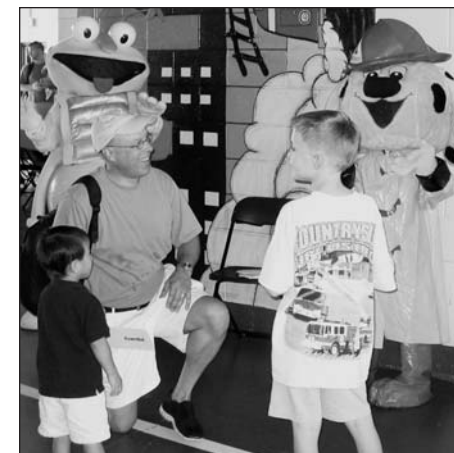
- CFPD Helps Louisiana
- Pink Fire Truck to Visit
- 10 Safety Tips
- CFPD Earns Accreditation
- Welcome, Father Eduardo
- New Recruits Start Training
- YouTube Safety Contest

You're Invited...

Enjoy Open House & Pancakes on Sunday, October 5

It's that time of year again — time to stop by Countryside Fire for our annual Open House. The CFPD station on Deerpath Road in Vernon Hills will be open for tours from 8 a.m. to noon with a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, fruit and more served throughout the morning. Cost for breakfast is \$5 per person or \$15 per family, with proceeds benefiting Countryside's education and outreach efforts. Station #1, located at 801 S. Midlothia Rd., Mundelein, will also have Open House from 8 a.m. to Noon.

As always, CFPD has plenty of special attractions in store for visitors. In addition to getting an up-close look at all of the emergency equipment, attendees can learn about the Illinois and Wisconsin Search and Rescue Dogs, Metra Commuter Train safety and NICOR Gas Company. The Northern Illinois Fire Inspectors will be on hand to demonstrate the effectiveness of fire sprinklers. Plus, we'll have plenty of give-aways. For more information, call the station at 847-367-5511 or visit www.countrysidefire.com.



The Northern Illinois Public Education Team of the Lake County Fire Chief's Association is sponsoring a...

FOR FIRE SAFETY
 AND BURN
 PREVENTION

Visit
www.lakecountymfirechiefs.org
 for details

- Make a safety video
- Open to all Lake County high school students
- Guidelines at www.lakecountymfirechiefs.org — no real fire!
- Submit entries by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19 to Countryside's Tony Rodkey, 600 Deerpath Drive, Vernon Hills, IL 60061
- Grand prize is a digital video camera for the school, plus members of the winning team share \$500 in gift cards from Westfield Hawthorn Center (courtesy of Westfield Hawthorn and Baxter Credit Union)
- Second place earns \$300 in Westfield Hawthorn gift cards (courtesy Northern Illinois Public Education Team)
- Third place wins \$200 in Westfield Hawthorn gift cards (courtesy of Lake County Fire Chief's Association)

Thanks to to our fire safety partners for supporting this contest, including...

Westfield Hawthorn, Baxter Credit Union, Autumn Leaves, DaVita Village Health, The Park of Vernon Hills, Condell Medical Center, Rust-oleum, AAA Chicago, Buffalo Wild Wings, Flader Plumbing & Heating, Countryside Fire Department Corporation, Libertyville Fireman's Association, and Northern Illinois Fire Inspectors Association



CFPD Deploys Emergency Workers to Louisiana

Just after Hurricane Gustav passed through the gulf region, Illinois emergency personnel received a request for additional personnel to aid efforts in Louisiana. In the early morning hours of September 3, CFPD Chief Jeff Steingart and Firemedic Rob Elkins headed for Louisiana. CFPD joins with emergency agencies across the nation as part of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), a congressionally ratified organization that provides a framework for delivering interstate mutual aid. Through EMAC, more than 3000 personnel were deployed to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Gustav.



Have You Ever Seen a Pink Fire Truck?

The Pink Ribbon Tour coming to Vernon Hills on October 2 to raise cancer awareness.

You'll have to take our word for it, but the fire truck on the right is actually pink! And so is the turnout gear! All this is the brainchild of Arizona firefighter Dave Graybill, who is working to raise awareness (and a cure) for breast cancer. Survivors and loved ones from across the country have signed this beautiful engine as it makes its way across the country. CFPD chiefs met Dave at a conference, and he accepted our enthusiastic invitation to visit Vernon Hills. The truck will be at Westfield Hawthorn Center from Noon to 4 p.m. on October 2. Watch for updates, and please come out to welcome this inspiring individual and his pink fire truck! More information is posted at www.countrysidefire.com.



10 Quick Tips

We could come up with hundreds of suggestions for keeping you and your family safer, but we've highlighted 10. For more tips, visit www.countrysidefire.com.

- 1** Make sure your smoke detectors work. Change the batteries when you change your clock. (*Set your clock back one hour on November 2.*) If your detector is more than 10 years old, replace it.
- 2** Install carbon monoxide detectors. As of January 1, 2007, they're required by law. They're inexpensive and easy to install.
- 3** Check your furnace and chimney. Hire a professional to remove chimney build-up and repair cracks. Burning chimney cleaning logs just isn't enough!

4 Make a "clear zone" around your heater, fireplace and kitchen stove. Keep at least three feet of space around any heat-producing object. No draperies, newspapers, decorations, etc. Even kids and pets should stay out of "the zone."

5 Watch what you burn. Don't burn branches, wrapping paper, construction debris or other non-firewood material in your woodstove or fireplace. They burn hotter than most chimneys can handle.

6 Put your matches and lighters out of reach. When children see you start a fire in the fireplace or light a candle, they may want to do the same. Keep "fire starters" tucked away.

7 Know how to dial 9-1-1. If you have to think about whether or not to call for help, then just do it!

8 Make an emergency plan. In case of fire, know several ways to get out of your house and where you should meet — for instance, at the mailbox or in a neighbor's driveway. In case of severe weather, know where to take shelter in your house, generally a lower level in an interior room away from windows. More information is available at www.ready.gov.

9 Invest in an emergency radio. Consider one that also charges a cell phone. What a great holiday present!

10 Learn CPR. Techniques such as CPR and basic first aid are invaluable at any age. Call Countryside at 847-367-5511 to find out about the classes we have available. We can even set up training at your place of business!

From the Command Post...

CFPD Earns Accreditation — for Third Time!

I am pleased and proud to tell you that Countryside Fire Protection District has received Accredited Agency status for the third time from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, Inc. (CFAI). This means Countryside meets or exceeds the stringent criteria established through the organization's assessment and accreditation program.

Countryside is one of only 128 fire agencies worldwide that have achieved this status. In fact, Countryside was the first fire protection district to earn this distinction back in 1998.

In August, Countryside was honored to receive our third CFAI Accreditation.

As further background, the CFAI was created by the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the International City/County Managers Association to establish consistent, internationally recognized performance evaluation standards for fire protection agencies.

The voluntary CFAI process provides an agency with an improvement model to internally assess their service delivery and performance. Applicants also work with a team of peers from other agencies to evaluate their effort. The Countryside Peer Assessment Team was comprised of Chief Officers from Kansas, Iowa, Ohio and Pennsylvania who evaluated 240 different performance criteria prior to making their

recommendation for Countryside to be re-accredited.

Earning our third consecutive re-accreditation is quite a feat. I'm proud of our team and their work toward this goal, just as I'm proud of them every day. I hope that this serves as a clear indicator of our continued commitment to providing our District residents and businesses with the best response possible.

If you have questions about Countryside and our efforts, please contact me at jsteingart@countrysidefire.com or call the station at 847-367-5511.



*Fire Chief
Jeff Steingart*



Items of Interest

Welcome, Father Eduardo:

The CFPD family is happy to welcome Father Jesus Eduardo Martinez as our new Chaplain. Father Eduardo, as he is known, was ordained into the priesthood in May 2007 and also serves the St. Mary of Vernon parish. Father Eduardo was born and raised in Mexico, and came to Chicago in 2000



to attend seminary. His interesting life experiences will undoubtedly serve him well as he provides comfort to those in need, regardless of belief or affiliation.

New Paid on Premise Firemedics in Training: On September 15, CFPD's newest group of paid on premise firemedics began training. We look forward to working with the group, which is pictured at left, and includes Danny Runions, Chad McCormick, Ryan Mastandrea, Bryan Koza, Michael Kamminga, Jessica Johnson, Brian Steen and Omar Alex Cendejuz.

