



PATTONVILLE

— FIRE DISTRICT —



NEWSLETTER ♦ SUMMER 2022 EDITION

PATTONVILLE FIRE DISTRICT CONTINUES TO MAKE THE GRADE...

To establish fair insurance premiums for residential and commercial properties, insurance companies need reliable, up-to-date information about a community's fire-protection services. The Insurance Services Office's Public Protection Classification program provides that information. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates fire protection efforts in communities throughout the United States through their Public Protection Classification program.

A community's investment in fire protection is a proven and reliable predictor of future fire losses. In each community, the ISO analyzes relevant data using their Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). The Fire Suppression Rating Schedule considers four main areas of a community's fire suppression system: emergency communications; the local fire department's operating procedures and firefighter training program; the water supply available for firefighting operations; and the fire department's community risk reduction and fire prevention programs. The Fire Suppression Rating Schedule employs nationally accepted standards developed by organizations such as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the American Water Works Association, and the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International to create benchmarks and point-values for fire departments to achieve. At the conclusion of an ISO evaluation, the sum of all benchmarks achieved is calculated and a Public Protection Classification value from 1 to 10 is assigned to each fire department. Class 1 generally

represents superior fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program doesn't meet the ISO's minimum criteria.

By classifying a fire department's ability to suppress fires, the ISO helps communities evaluate their public fire protection services. The program provides an objective, countrywide standard that helps fire departments in planning for facilities, equipment, manpower, and training. Insurance companies generally offer lower premiums in communities with better protection ratings, thereby incentivizing and rewarding communities that choose to invest in their local fire department's services.

Since 2016, the Pattonville Fire Protection District is very proud to have received a Public Protection Class 1 rating by the Insurance Services Office. Our Class 1 rating was recently reaffirmed by an ISO evaluation conducted during 2021. A Class 1 Public Protection Classification is a highly sought-after accomplishment that we are proud to have achieved on behalf of our community. Pattonville Fire Protection District is one of only two St. Louis County fire departments and seven Missouri fire departments to earn the ISO Class 1 rating. There are only four-hundred ISO Class 1 departments nationwide. Through the support of both our residents and committed workforce, the Pattonville Fire Protection District is devoted to doing *Whatever It Takes* to ensure that you continue to receive the very best and most responsible services possible.





A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF, JIM USRY...

Greetings fellow residents! I'm very proud to serve as your Fire Chief and lead one of the most progressive Fire Districts in the State of Missouri. The hard work and dedication of our Paramedic/Firefighters have not gone unnoticed during the pandemic. The Pattonville Fire District has received multiple awards for going above and beyond the call of duty. Our Paramedic/Firefighters, Chief Officers, Staff, and Board of Directors have worked extremely hard in meeting the needs of our community. We strive to be part of the solution and identify areas that we can improve and provide better emergency services.

The Pattonville Fire District was recently surveyed by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluating the quality of the fire protection service we provide to our community. I'm pleased to announce that the Fire District once again received a Class 1 fire protection rating! The Pattonville Fire District is 1 of only 428 fire departments in the United States to receive a Class 1 rating. The Class 1 rating provides information to the insurance industry and has a direct impact on lowering your insurance premiums. The evaluation is completed by a third-party reviewer and is based on a rating system from 1-10. The lower the rating, the greater the level of fire protection services provided by the local fire department. These reviews are conducted every five years and scrutinize the agencies communication centers, fire department operations, and local water supply system.

The Pattonville Fire District has also been recognized by North County Inc. for our efforts in providing COVID-19 vaccine clinics to our region in 2021. North County Inc.

is a Regional Development Association for North St. Louis County Missouri. As you may recall, the Pattonville Fire District teamed up with our surrounding fire departments/districts, the Cities of Bridgeton and Maryland Heights, SSM Healthcare, the Bridgeton Kiwanis Club, local churches, and the PTA organizations from the Pattonville School District and provided the solution towards getting vaccines administered to our community.



As a growing community and fire district, your Paramedic/Firefighters want you to enjoy our community and its amenities. We have great neighborhoods and residents that take care of one another. Remember to check on your neighbors and their needs. Friendly conversation and small acts of kindness will go a long way in further strengthening our already tight knit community. Enjoy your summer activities by staying hydrated, never swimming alone, and always buckling up while traveling on our roadways.

I look forward to seeing you soon. Stay safe!

- Jim Usry, Fire Chief

If the Lights are Flashing,



Don't Try Passing!



DRIVE SAFELY IN SCHOOL ZONES

- In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection
- Never pass a school bus stopped for pedestrians
- Take extra pre-caution to look for children in school zones and near playgrounds
- Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign



Source: National Safety Council



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

As we reflect on 2021 and the beginning of 2022, we are reminded of the great strides that we have made as a community amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

We contracted with the Department of Health to ensure that the COVID-19 vaccine was made available as quickly as possible to our residents and those in our surrounding communities. We partnered with the City of Bridgeton, the City of Maryland Heights as well as surrounding Fire Districts/Departments to administer initial vaccinations and booster shots to those that wished to receive the vaccination.

We have taken delivery of the new Industrial Pumper (4894) and Ladder Tower (4835). Placing these units in use required additional training for all of our Paramedic/Firefighters.

A sense of “normal” is gradually returning to our daily operations. Last fall, we were able to return to the schools for Fire Prevention Week to provide lifesaving information to the children within our community. Our annual Christmas Toy Drive culminated with the return of our Breakfast with Santa event in December, and our longstanding Christmas tradition of bringing Santa to visit the neighborhoods in our community continued without missing a beat. This spring, we were able to complete our annual door to door smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector checks. In addition to daily training and responding to emergencies, our Paramedic/Firefighters have been back in the community, teaching fire prevention and safety principles, doing equipment displays, installing child safety seats, hosting engine house tours, teaching fire extinguisher classes, and teaching CPR at Pattonville High School and multiple other businesses within our community.

The beginning of the new year also came with the bittersweet celebration of success and accomplishment. In January, we said goodbye to Captain Robert “Bobby” Murray commensurate with his retirement. Bobby served the Pattonville community for 36 years. His hard work and dedication to our community was second to none. Whether it be on a call or in a nonemergency setting, Captain Murray was always the model of professionalism for our next generation of Paramedic/Firefighters. Bobby’s retirement left behind very large boots to fill, but his lasting impact on the men and women of Pattonville has ensured that our community remains in highly skilled, capable hands. Please join us in congratulating Captain Murray on his well deserved retirement!



We also welcomed two new Paramedic/Firefighters into our workforce in early January. Matthew Colombo came to us from the Webster Groves Fire Department, and Julia Lee from the Maplewood Fire Department. We are happy to welcome both Matthew and Julia to the Pattonville community and family!

We are happy to have our doors open to the public and look forward to spending time with you again! As always, our crews are here if you need them, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

*Your Pattonville Fire District Board of Directors -
Chairman Bill Esterline, Treasurer Bob Soutier &
Secretary Bob Biondo*

**STOP THE
DROWNINGS!**



Wear a life jacket when around natural waterways.

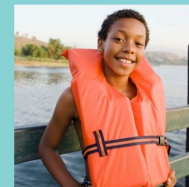
#STLWaterSafety



**A tragic trip to the
water can be
prevented.**

Wear a lifejacket!

**STOP THE
DROWNINGS!**



Wear a life jacket when around natural waterways.

#STLWaterSafety





WELCOME TO THE PATTONVILLE FAMILY & COMMUNITY...

Pattonville Fire Protection District recently hosted a swearing-in and pinning ceremony for our two newest employees. Paramedic-Firefighters Matt Columbo and Julia Lee joined the Pattonville Fire District in January 2022. In the days since, they have proven themselves to be highly valuable members of our team!



PARAMEDIC-FIREFIGHTER MATT COLUMBO

Matt Columbo graduated from the St. Louis County Fire Academy in 2017 and has been a Paramedic-Firefighter since 2018. Matt served with the City of Berkeley Fire Department and the City of Webster Groves Fire Department prior to joining the Pattonville Fire District earlier this year.



PARAMEDIC-FIREFIGHTER JULIA LEE

Julia Lee entered the fire service as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Eureka Fire Protection District in 2014. Julia graduated from the St. Louis County Fire Academy in 2015 and served with the City of Maplewood Fire Department from 2016 until she joined the Pattonville Fire District earlier this year.

Paramedic-Firefighters Columbo and Lee are committed to doing *Whatever It Takes* to protect your family and our community. Please join us in welcoming them to the Pattonville Fire Protection District!

FROM THE DESK OF DEPUTY CHIEF - FIRE MARSHAL LAURIE LICAVOLI...

It's a busy time in the Pattonville Fire District Fire Prevention Bureau for new businesses and building renovations. So far this year, thirty-five new businesses have applied for business occupancy within our community! Whenever a new business selects the Pattonville Fire District community as its place to open up shop, the space must be inspected before it is allowed to begin operating. This ensures that buildings are safe for the business's workers, members of the public, and our Paramedic/Firefighters in the event of an emergency.

When a business requires construction or renovation prior to moving in commercial construction plans and permit applications are submitted and reviewed by the Fire Marshal. As of June 1, eighty-six construction permit applications have been reviewed by the Fire Prevention Bureau so far in 2022. Construction-based permits are issued for everything from a new building to the modification of an existing fire sprinkler system.

It is always exciting to see new businesses select the Pattonville Fire District for their home, and when existing businesses choose to renovate their current space and reinvest in our community. We consider it an honor and privilege to partner with business owners and employees to maintain safe buildings for our community.

The list of new businesses in Pattonville is long but here are a few. Please stop by and show your support by shopping local!

- ✿ Sole Behavior Shoetique at 11977 St Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton.
- ✿ Main Stay and Comfort Inn at 11225 Lone Eagle Drive in Bridgeton
- ✿ Flex Training, LLC at 4132 Shoreline Drive in Earth City.
- ✿ Range USA (coming soon!) at 11808 St Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton.
- ✿ BB Nail at 12244 St Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton.
- ✿ Ari's Massage & Spa at 3430 McKelvey Road in Bridgeton.

Pattonville's Paramedic/Firefighters conduct annual fire safety inspections on the businesses within our community. If you notice a fire safety concern in a business, or have a fire safety question, please contact Deputy Chief Fire Marshal Laurie Licavoli at LLicavoli@pattonvillefd.com or call 314-739-3118 extension 4803.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: CAPTAIN ROBERT ‘BOBBY’ MURRAY...

In this newsletter we shine the employee spotlight on Captain Robert “Bobby” Murray. Captain Murray was born and raised in North St. Louis County where he graduated McCluer High School in 1981. He then attended the St. Louis County Fire Academy and graduated in 1985 as part of the 11th Recruit Class. Soon thereafter he was hired by the Pattonville Fire District where he has proudly served our community for the past thirty-six years.

Over the course of his career, Captain Murray has served in the ranks of Firefighter, Acting Engineer, Captain and Battalion Chief. Throughout our district and our region, Bobby is known as a firefighter’s firefighter. His work ethic and dedication are second to none, and create an example that many of us attempt to emulate.

When asked what drew Captain Murray to the fire service he said it was two of his uncles that were firefighters in Jennings, Missouri. He saw their passion for the job and the enjoyment they found in helping the community. Bobby said that he wanted to be part of that, so he joined the fire service wanting to be part of something bigger than himself. While Bobby is too modest to tell all the details, he said that the highest honor or award that he has received over the years has been in saving the lives of many people.

We asked Captain Murray what have been the largest advancements that he has seen while in the fire service. Bobby said that the availability of high quality training and the increased qualifications required of Pattonville Fire District members (such as Paramedic licensure, Hazardous Material Technician certification, Swift Water Rescue and Boat Rescue Technician training, and Ice Rescue Technician training) are all positive indicators of a bright future for the fire service and this community.

If Captain Murray had to give any advice to the new generation of Paramedic/Firefighters, he says the one thing that cannot be sacrificed is the passion for the job, the passion for your community, your family, and for your brother and sister Paramedic/Firefighters. The passion that Captain Murray describes is something he has definitely never lacked. Bobby is also a strong proponent of staying both physically and mentally fit. Doing so

ensures that you are ready to care for the community, your crew, and yourself. He says the demands of this profession require attention to both your mind and body. The situations that we regularly respond to are physically and emotionally demanding. Many of these situations are more traumatic than the average person will ever experience. As Paramedic/Firefighters, we need to find healthy ways to cope so as to ensure that we are ready for the next call for help.



When Bobby is away from Pattonville he spends his time with his two children, high-schoolers Thomas and Caroline; his dog Luca; as well as other members of his family and friends.

Captain Murray has amassed an incredible amount of experience throughout his career, and he is always willing to share it with others. It is Bobby’s quiet confidence, unparalleled leadership, and his unparalleled example of what it is to be a firefighter at Pattonville Fire Protection District that will leave our community and our department in a better place.

Captain Murray says that, until his retirement in early 2022, he will continue to walk through the firehouse door for the start of every shift knowing that, whatever happens that day, it is our responsibility to take care of those that we serve.

Please join us in wishing Captain Murray a happy and healthy retirement. Thank you, Bobby, for your dedication and service to the Pattonville Fire Protection District over the past thirty-six years! Congratulations and enjoy your well-deserved retirement!



A DAY IN THE LIFE: PATTONVILLE'S PARAMEDIC/FIREFIGHTERS...

Pattonville's firehouse kitchens start filling up at 7:00 AM each morning as members begin arriving for work and preparing for the official shift change at 8:00 AM. There are typically several conversations going at once, exchanging pleasantries and talking about family or the big game the night before. As the clock ticks closer to 8:00 AM, the off-going crew of Paramedic/Firefighters give a verbal report to the on-coming crew of the calls they ran and equipment that was used during their shift, and anything damaged or missing from the trucks or in the engine house.

The on-coming shift places their firefighting gear onto the apparatus. Then they check all the equipment and tools on the trucks to ensure that everything is accounted for and functioning properly. This ensures that we are ready to protect and serve our community no matter what the emergency needs may be.

After checking all of the emergency equipment, the crew cleans and sanitizes the engine house to ensure the station provides a clean living space and is presentable for any visitors that may stop by.

At 9:00 AM the crew begins the training classes and evolutions that are scheduled for the day. Training can cover a variety of topics. Doctors and nurses offer information on the emergency treatment of heart attacks, strokes, trauma, and other medical or pediatric emergencies. Fire and rescue based training classes might include

firefighting tactics and strategies such as practicing entering a building that is on fire to search for a victim, extinguishing the fire or performing other vital procedures that are required at a fire incident; stabilizing and cutting a vehicle apart to remove an injured person; quickly donning water rescue equipment or HazMat suits and assisting in those low frequency high risk situations. Then the crews get their lunch break. After lunch the crews are required to workout for one hour each day.

All of these tasks are performed while the fire truck and ambulance are "in service" and available for calls. If an emergency response interrupts training, it is the responsibility of the Paramedic/Firefighters to make sure that they review, study, and understand any material that they miss while on the incident.

Once all of the daily equipment checks, chores, and training are finished the crew is allowed to relax and "pursue personal interests." Typically that consists of spending time together like you would spend with your family. We commonly have a visitor or two stop by to make sure their car seat is installed correctly, are called to check a chirping smoke detector, have a resident call because there is a water leak in their house and they do not know who to call, or resolve the stereotypical cat stuck in the tree. We are here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, ready and willing to do *Whatever It Takes* no matter how big or small the emergency.





PARAMEDIC-FIREFIGHTERS FILL THE BOOT FOR THE MDA...

Each summer you may notice your Pattonville Paramedic-Firefighters standing on the corner of St. Charles Rock Road and McKelvey Road. Each of our three shifts take a turn collecting money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). It is an effort performed by firefighters nationwide that raises valuable resources for the MDA.

The partnership between MDA and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) spans 68 years. The partnership dates back to 1954 when the IAFF signed a proclamation designating MDA its charity of choice and vowing to continue raising awareness and funds until cures are found. To date, firefighters nationwide have raised \$679 million over nearly seven decades. In the past seven years, these funds have led in part to 15 new FDA-approved treatments for neuromuscular diseases, and access to treatment from day one through newborn screening in many states across the country for spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) and Pompe disease.

The partnership supports research, care, and advocacy for more than 300,000 families nationwide living with muscular dystrophy, ALS, and related neuromuscular

diseases. After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, firefighters once again will take to the streets in communities across the country with boots in hand, to ask pedestrians, motorists, and other passersby to support the mission.



It is a mission that also includes the awarding of 18 new MDA grants totaling over \$1.6 million toward neuromuscular disease research. This round of grant funding reinforces our unwavering commitment to the progress of neuromuscular disease research. The newly funded projects will aim to advance discoveries and therapy development in multiple diseases under the MDA umbrella.

When you see your Pattonville Fire fighters filling their boots this summer, rest assured we are providing valuable resources to assist local families affected by the devastation of neuromuscular diseases. Pattonville Fire Captain and IAFF 2nd District Vice President, Mark Woolbright, says "it is amazing to see the incredible break throughs due to the PFD, and firefighters nationwide, unselfish act of shaking the boot for the MDA cause."





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(314) 739-3118
WWW.PATTONVILLEFD.COM

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BOB SOUTIER ♦ TREASURER
BOB BIONDO ♦ SECRETARY

fireboard@pattonvillefd.com

PAID FOR BY THE PATTONVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT; 13900 ST. CHARLES ROCK ROAD; BRIDGETON, MO 63044
TREASURER BOB SOUTIER

PATTONVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT CITIZENS' ACADEMY...

Topic

How to Use a Fire Extinguisher

When

Tuesday, August 18th, 2022

Class Times

Morning Class: 10 AM - 11 AM
Evening Class: 5 PM - 6 PM

Where

Pattonville Fire Protection District Headquarters
13900 St. Charles Rock Road
Bridgeton, MO 63044



HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

PULL THE PIN
AIM AT THE BASE OF FIRE
SQUEEZE THE LEVER
SWEEP SIDE TO SIDE




A public safety message from the Pattonville Fire Protection District & the International Association of Fire Fighters.

All Pattonville Fire Protection District residents are welcome and encouraged to attend. There is no person too young or too old to learn this important skill!

Please call 314-740-4431 to reserve your seat(s) in the class!