

IN CASE OF FIRE, GET OUT, THEN CALL 911

STAY SAFE WHILE COOKING FOR THE HOLIDAYS *(continued from page 3)*

If you have a grease fire

- Call 911 no matter how small the fire is.
- If you are unsure you can control the fire, get out and stay out.
- If the fire is small, slide a lid over the pan or pot that's on fire and turn off the burner. Let it sit until cool.
- Do not use water on a grease fire – this will spread the fire and you will likely get burned.
- Do not use flour on a fire – this could spread the fire or cause an explosion.
- Do not try to move the burning pan or pot – this will spread the fire and you will likely get burned.

Using a turkey deep fryer?

- Always follow the fryer manufacturer's instructions.
- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors a safe distance from buildings and any other flammable materials.
- Never use turkey fryers in a garage or on a wooden deck.
- Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended. Most units do not have thermostat controls. If you do not watch the fryer carefully, the oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.
- Never let children or pets near the fryer even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot hours after use.
- To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
- Use well-insulated potholders or oven mitts when touching pot or lid handles. If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water do not mix, and water causes oil to spill over causing a fire or even an explosion hazard.
- The National Turkey Federation (NTF) recommends thawing the turkey in the refrigerator approximately 24 hours for every five pounds in weight.
- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby, and know how and when to use it.



Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

In Emergency,
Call 9-1-1
All other inquiries,
call (314) 514-0900

Visit Our Website
www.monarchfpd.org

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Facebook.com/MonarchFPD



13725 Olive Blvd.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
Phone: 314-514-0900
Fax: 314-514-0696



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13725 Olive Blvd.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
Phone: 314-514-0900
Fax: 314-514-0696



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FALL 2016

MONARCH

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

INTEGRITY • ACCOUNTABILITY • RESPONSIBILITY

ADDRESSING DISTRICT NEEDS BY USING RESOURCES WISELY

You have likely driven by Monarch and neighboring fire districts' stations and noticed that fire trucks, ambulances and other related equipment are usually in the stations or sitting on the driveways waiting to respond to emergency calls. That means that *most of the time*, the closest station will be able to respond to you, if you make a 911 call for help. But when personnel and equipment from a station are dispatched out for one call, they are not available for another call until the first is completed. That creates the difference between *most of the time* and *all of the time*. That also creates the need for extensive planning and alert changes on the fly and that is the responsibility of Monarch's chief officers along with support of the Board of Directors.

The Board recently received a request from the chief officers to reconfigure a response pattern in the far western reaches of the District in order to provide significantly more water to fight fires in an area that has no fire hydrants. This change was the subject of much debate and discussion in two public budget work sessions as the change itself necessitates the purchase of a larger water tanker and a new pumper truck along with the sale of a current truck owned by the District. The Board challenged the chief officers to consider all of the ramifications of changing this response pattern in terms of safety to residents and firefighters and property loss prevention. As with many important decisions, consideration was given to several alternative decisions before the Board accepted the chief officers' recommendations.

This decision is one of many made annually by the Board of Directors as it considers the best way to assure that all needs are covered in the best way possible. This includes staffing and equipping our first line of defense, the Fire Prevention Bureau, with what it needs to make sure buildings are structurally safe, regularly inspected and adults and children are educated about preventing fires.

It includes the number and locations of stations and how they are staffed and equipped as well. While the Board would like to have a station on every corner with redundant first responders using multiple firetrucks and ambulances, the fact of the matter is, we are limited by our means. And our means translates to tax dollars. We are pleased to have, once again, passed a responsible budget that includes no increases in the overall tax rates. The alternative is to raise taxes and reach into your pockets but we have listened to the loud and clear messages that residents are looking for lower, not increased taxes.

Addressing unlimited needs with limited resources is challenging and your Board of Directors takes this task seriously. You may be assured, Monarch maintains the highest levels of safety and service. We will continue to work diligently to achieve an excellent balance of using your tax dollars as productively as possible.

PILOT RESCUED AFTER EXTENSIVE SEARCH

Monarch Fire Protection District crews and assist crews from Metro-West and Cottleville were dispatched and responded to a report of an aircraft crash just after 8:00 PM on Sunday, September 18. The Spirit Airport tower reported the crash to Central County 911 and information about the crash location was vague. There were conflicting reports that the crash was near the airport, near the Premium Outlet Mall and just off Howell Island on the Missouri River. This created a very large search area from the Missouri River to the west end of Spirit Airport made even more difficult by the fact it was dark at the time of the crash. Air support was requested, but it took some time to activate and deploy Metro Air Support and ARCH helicopters. Monarch ground units searched in the area of the runway, water rescue launched and prepared to search the Missouri River west of Howell Island.

Monarch Command was informed the downed pilot contacted his wife and also his employer from his cell phone. The Civil Air Patrol was also searching, and began getting signals from the downed aircraft's emergency locator transmitter. Using location technologies the search zone was significantly narrowed to an area just west of the runway near the intersection of Spirit Valley West Drive and Spirit Valley Central Drive. A helicopter was sent to the area, spotlighted the downed aircraft, and directed ground crews to the location. The aircraft wreckage was hidden in a field of tall weeds.

(Continued on page 2)

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2017 BUDGET

General Fund	Revenues	\$11,223,444.00
	Expenditures	\$ (11,072,759.00)
Ambulance Fund	Revenues	\$6,927,710.00
	Expenditures	\$ (7,077,332.00)
Dispatch Fund	Revenues	\$1,006,268.00
	Expenditures	\$ (1,006,268.00)
Pension Fund	Revenues	\$1,952,219.00
	Expenditures	\$ (1,952,219.00)
		\$1,063.00

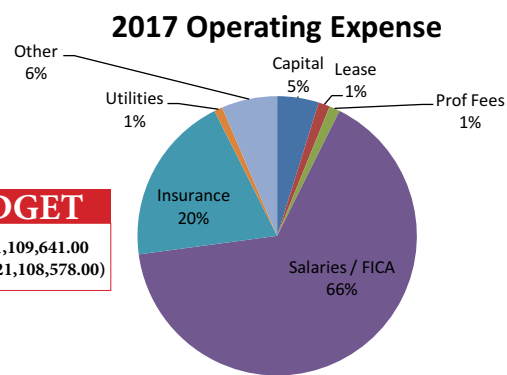
The 2017 information represents a balanced budget. The 2017 operating budget presents revenues of \$18,151,154, and expenditures of \$18,150,091.00; this reflects revenues exceeding expenditures by \$1,063.00.

Below are the 2015 certified residential rates in comparison to the 2016 approved rates.

	Residential 2015 Certified Rate	Residential 2016 Approved Rate
General Fund	0.4330	0.4200
Ambulance Fund	0.2720	0.2640
Dispatch Fund	0.0430	0.0420
Pension Fund	0.0810	0.0790

2017 BUDGET

Revenues \$21,109,641.00
Expenditures \$ (21,108,578.00)



The Operating budget reflects expenditures for the General and Ambulance Fund combined. The total expenditures shown in the pie chart above is \$18,150,091.00. The District employs 123 people and the majority of the Monarch Fire Protection operating expenditures are wage and benefit related. The 2017 budget reflects capital spending of 5%, which includes, but is not limited to the purchase of staffing vehicles, apparatus, turnout gear, extraction washers and upgrades to facilities such as a multipurpose media room and LED lighting.

We encourage everyone to visit our webpage www.monarchfpd.org and link to the 'Full Transparency Portal'. The Transparency Portal provides financial data relating to the purchases of goods and services by the Monarch Fire Protection District. As you browse this site, you will be able to view payment information for all District expenditures.

DEPUTY CHIEF LES CREWS



The Fire District Board of Directors, Staff, and employees are pleased to highlight Deputy Chief Les Crews. Chief Crews has been with the Monarch Fire Protection District for over 37 years. He currently serves as a Command Staff Officer, Special Operations. Chief Crews is nationally recognized as a respected and knowledgeable disaster scene manager. He serves with Missouri Task Force 1 as a Task Force Leader and with FEMA as an Incident Support Team Urban Search and Rescue Specialist.

Chief Crews was deployed to the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 and was at Ground Zero within less than 24 hours of the collapse of the twin towers. He was deployed to the national assistance teams and helped manage the aftermaths of Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ike, Irene, and Isaac. Chief Crews responded to the Oso, Washington mudslide and the tornadoes in Vilonia, Arkansas and Joplin, Missouri. Most recently, and closer to home, Chief Crews managed a successful swift water rescue of a Monarch Fire District resident.

Deputy Chief Crews has been recognized with a 'Life Saving Medal of Valor' for swift water rescue and by the Missouri Highway Patrol for rescuing a victim trapped in a burning automobile. Les has previously been honored as University of Missouri 'Instructor of the Year' and was presented the St. Louis County 'Top Instructor Award'.

Deputy Chief Crews was recently appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Missouri Extension Fire Rescue Training Institute Advisor Council. Chief Crews has been asked to be a keynote and guest speaker on many occasions, most recently the Chesterfield Rotary and he was the guest speaker at the '911 COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY' in Fenton Missouri.

The Monarch Fire Protection District is proud to highlight Deputy Chief Les Crews and invite you to visit our web page at www.monarchfpd.org or stop by our Administration Office at 13725 Olive Boulevard.

PILOT RESCUED AFTER EXTENSIVE SEARCH (continued from page 1)

Ground crews arrived at the crash site, and assessed the lone occupant, the pilot, who was conscious and alert, had moderate injuries, but was trapped in the aircraft. The pilot was stabilized, extricated, treated and transported to the hospital. The scene was then turned over to the Federal Aviation Administration.

The successful search and rescue was the result of a cooperative effort from Monarch Fire Protection District, Chesterfield Police Department, Metro-West Fire Protection District, Cottleville Fire Protection District, West County EMS and Fire District, Spirit Tower, Spirit Airport Administration, St. Louis County Police, Civil Air Patrol, and ARCH Air Ambulance. Units from St. Charles County were prepared to offer water rescue support if necessary.

CHIEF'S CORNER

The summer of 2016 was a busy time for the Monarch Fire Protection District; many changes took place and I would like to share the current 'State of the Fire District'.

Our staff experienced some turnover, with a few familiar faces having retired and moved on. We thank them for their service and wish them a healthy and happy retirement. This turnover has resulted in hiring a new class of freshman Firefighter/Paramedics. The Monarch Fire Protection District is a full emergency service provider with a competitive salary and benefit package and we have successfully recruited highly qualified candidates eager to learn, train, and apply their skills serving our residents, businesses, and visitors. All of our new Firefighter/Paramedics have experience elsewhere and are fully licensed prior to coming to Monarch.

Under the leadership of our engaged and fiscally conservative Board of Directors, our fleet and equipment continue to be updated in an efficient manner. In 2016 we took delivery of 3 replacement staff vehicles. The EMS Division also put into service our newest Life Support Vehicle; it is stationed at 14898 Olive Boulevard, Chesterfield. The Suppression (firefighting) Division put a new Rescue Pumper into service and it is stationed at 18424 Wildhorse Creek Road. This provides the Monarch Fire Protection District with an ongoing reliable and technologically advanced fleet of front-line and reserve apparatus. Below is the lineup for emergency response equipment that stands ready to handle emergencies in our District:

- **House 1:** Command Staff Vehicle (2202), 105' Aerial/Pumper (2212), Life Support Vehicle (2217), Medium Duty Rescue Truck (2216), and an All-Terrain Vehicle Polaris (2218).
- **House 2:** Rescue/Pumper (2224) and an Off-Road Brush Truck (2228).
- **House 3:** 75' Aerial/Pumper (2232) and Life Support Vehicle (2237).
- **House 4:** 85' Aerial/Pumper (2242) and Life Support Vehicle (2247).
- **House 5:** Tanker/Pumper (2253), Life Support Vehicle (2253), Inflatable 30 hp Rescue Boat (2279) and Flat Bottom 150 hp Rescue Boat (2269).
- **Headquarters:** Freightliner Tractor/Trailer Heavy Rescue (2246).

The Fire District has focused much attention on "Community Risk Reduction." We have partnered with schools and businesses aimed at educating the community on the importance of risk prevention. This modest investment from the Fire Prevention Bureau has had an immediate and visible return. When coupled with our Fire Prevention Bureau code enforcement and investigation units, led by Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Herin, these programs have had positive outcomes in reducing the risk of fires and other life threatening hazards.

The Fire District has renewed and expanded the Special Operations Division led by Deputy Chief Crews and Deputy Chief Echele, who bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise and put it to good use. Disciplines include Tactical Medics, Swift Water and High Angle Rescue, Confined Space, Structural Collapse and Trench Rescue, Fire Suppression, and Emergency Medical Operations. The Special Operations Division continuously trains to assess and respond effectively to all emergency and disaster needs of the Monarch Fire Protection District. The Special Operations Division is also available to support the entire region as requested. The 2017 budget includes new fire and rescue equipment and additional innovative tools and equipment designed to improve emergency service operations.

Monarch Fire Protection District greatly appreciates the enormous ongoing community support. We invite you to visit our web page at www.monarchfpd.org or come by the Administration Offices at 13725 Olive Boulevard or any of the Firehouses. We are happy to introduce residents to Staff, our team of firefighters and paramedics, the apparatus, and buildings and equipment you have entrusted to us.

STAY SAFE WHILE COOKING FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Holidays are expected to be times of happiness, joy and good food. However, those good times can be marred when calamities such as cooking fires strike. Each year, cooking fires are more prevalent during the holiday seasons such as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukkah. In order to help prevent cooking fires, we have compiled the following information.

Watch What You Heat

- The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- Stay alert! To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won't be alert if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.

Keep Things That Can Catch Fire and Heat Sources Apart

- Keep anything that can catch fire - potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels, or curtains - away from your stovetop.
- Keep the stovetop, burners, and oven clean.
- Keep pets off cooking surfaces and nearby countertops to prevent them from knocking things onto the burner.
- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire if it comes into contact with a burner.