



Three Alarm News

Volume VII, Issue I

Spring 2007

Executive Committee Officers:

- Chief—Gerald Burnett
- President—Andrea Blackmon
- Vice President—Greg Cross
- Secretary—Matt Sharp
- Treasurer—David Dibello

Fireground Officers:

- Fire Chief—Gerald Burnett
- Asst. Chief—Greg Janda
- Asst. Chief—Jason Ware
- Captain—Cary Roccaforte
- Captain—Steven Kehlenbrink
- Captain—Jerry Merker
- Captain—Trey Smith
- Lieutenant—Andrea Blackmon
- Lieutenant—Greg Cross

Incident Run Totals

2006

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| FIRE | 243 |
| EMS | 152 |
| TOTAL | 395 |

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New Fire Station on Roans Chapel Road

The Brazos County Precinct 3 VFD will be constructing a new Fire Station. The Station will be located on Roans Chapel Road, just off of Hwy 30, and will be designated as Station 3.

It will feature a 40 foot by 60 foot building, which will have

three vehicle bays and a storage area. Station 3 will eventually house a Fire Engine, Wildland (Grass fire) Unit, and a Water Tender.

Construction of this facility was made possible, thanks to the donation of the land by Jerry and Dawn

Merker of Brazos County. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Merkers for their very generous donation.

This new station will result in improved response times and service in the Hwy 30 corridor area.

Precinct 3 Celebrating 30 Years of Service

The Brazos County Precinct 3 volunteer Fire Department was established on March 1, 1977. Over the past 30 years, we have seen a lot of growth in the area and within our department. We have all come a long way.

In Celebration of our 30th Anniversary, we will host an Open House at Station 2 (5725 Elmo Weedon Road) on Saturday, March 3rd.

Please make plans to help us celebrate from

1 to 4 pm. There will be displays featuring the department's growth over the past 30 years and refreshments will be served.

We are looking forward to seeing you on March 3rd.

BRAZOS COUNTY PRECINCT 3 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fighting fires and saving lives, since 1977.



OPEN HOUSE

Station 2

5725 Elmo Weedon Road

Saturday, March 3rd, 1pm to 4 pm

Department of Homeland Security Awards Assistance to Firefighters Grant to Precinct 3

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program award to the Brazos County Precinct 3 VFD. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program is a cost share program based on the population served by the fire department. In our case, The Brazos County Precinct 3 VFD will pay 5% of the cost (approximately \$3,450) and the Department of Homeland Security will pay the other 95% (approximately \$65,550).

Nationally, the AFG awards, which will be distributed in phases, will ultimately provide approximately \$485 million to roughly 4500 fire-related organizations.

Through the AFG program, the department awards grants to firefighters, emergency response personnel and first re-

sponders throughout the country to enhance response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public, with respect to fire and other hazards. The grants provide resources for local fire departments and emergency medical services programs to purchase or receive training, conduct first responder health and safety programs, and buy equipment and response vehicles.

Due to the highly competitive nature of the AFG, more than 18,000 applications, totaling close to \$2.5 billion in grant requests, were received for FY2006. Since 2001, the AFG has provided over \$2.4 billion in grants to fire departments and first responder organizations to purchase response equipment, personal protective equipment, vehicles and fire prevention activities.

AFG awards are very specific in nature. The funds can only be used to purchase specified equipment, in order to accomplish specified goals. The funds awarded to us will be used to:

1. Purchase a thermal imaging camera
2. Replace outdated self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)
3. Purchase new structural firefighting gear
4. Purchase new wildland coveralls

As a result of this grant, all of our active firefighters will have the necessary protective gear and equipment to provide the highest quality service to the citizens of Precinct 3.



2006 FIREFIGHTER AND FIRST RESPONDER OF THE YEAR

2006 Firefighter of the Year - Greg Cross

2006 First Responder of the Year - Chad LaPrelle

Debris Burning Safety

Careless trash and debris burning ignites a tremendous number of wildfires every year in Texas, accounting for more than three-fourths of all wildfires in some regions of the state. Most people never intend to start a wildfire, but even the best of intentions can produce disastrous results when safety precautions aren't

taken. Texans owe it to themselves and their neighbors to help prevent accidental wildfires from occurring.

Safe disposal of household trash, leaves, brush piles, and construction debris will eliminate a major wildfire threat. If you must burn debris, do it safely. Observe the fire safety

tips outlined below. Get more information from your local fire department or the Texas Forest Service. Fire safety tips can also be found on the Internet. Two Texas websites offering fire safety information and links to other sites are: <http://texasforests.tamu.edu> and <http://www.tamu.edu/ticc>.

General Safety Tips For All Outdoor Fires

- ◆ **Consider alternatives to burning.**
- ◆ **Don't burn outdoors during dry, windy weather when vegetation in the vicinity is dry and fire-prone**
- ◆ **Before you burn, contact Brazos County Fire Dispatch to let them know of your plans (979) 361-3888.** You can find out if it is safe to burn outdoors and, in the event your fire should escape, firefighters will already have an idea of where the fire is located. Outdoor burning is allowed only when a Burn Ban is not in effect and only from 1 hour after sunrise to 1 hour before sunset.
- ◆ **Stay with your fire.** Should your fire escape, you may be able to stop its spread before it becomes large enough to require additional personnel and equipment to contain it.
- ◆ **Burn trash in a covered receptacle in a cleared area well away from overhead branches and wires.** The metal grid or wire cover will help contain burning trash, and the cleared firebreak around the receptacle will further minimize the chances of a burning ember igniting a wildfire.
- ◆ **Avoid burning trash containing aerosol cans.** Heated cans will explode, and flying metal could cause an injury. The explosion may also scatter burning trash and cause a wildfire.
- ◆ **Avoid accumulating trash for several days in the burn receptacle and then igniting**
- ◆ **Establish wide firebreaks around piles of leaves and brush to be burned.**
- ◆ **Keep debris piles small, gradually adding to the fires as they burn down.**
- ◆ **Select burn locations away from overhanging branches and utility lines.**
- ◆ **Keep water and equipment handy.**

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.PCT3VFD.COM FOR CONTROLLED BURNING GUIDELINES AND THE CURRENT BURN BAN STATUS FOR BRAZOS COUNTY



Brazos County Precinct 3
Volunteer Fire Department
P.O. Box 5453
Bryan, TX 77805

Visit our website at www.pct3vfd.com for information regarding membership, current burn bans, and other details about our department.

NAME _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____

I would like to make a donation of \$_____. Please make checks payable to Brazos County Precinct 3 VFD. **We greatly appreciate your donation!**

I would like to receive information about becoming a member of Precinct 3 VFD.

I would like to purchase a reflective address placard to assist emergency vehicles in locating my residence. I would like a quantity of _____ @ \$15.00 each for a total cost of \$_____.

Please make checks payable to Brazos County Precinct 3 VFD.

Please send this form to the Brazos County Precinct 3 VFD, P.O. Box 5453, Bryan, TX, 77805.