

### WALK THIS WAY FOR SAFETY

For the second year, East Pierce Fire & Rescue and the Sumner Police Department joined students, parents and staff from Daffodil Elementary School to celebrate International Walk to School Month by participating in a Walk to School Day Parade, October 15. The parade began at the Sumner School District Office at 10:05 a. m., proceeded from Wood Avenue, down Washington Street to Valley Avenue, then to the school.

During the walk, fire and police personnel talked to children about important safety messages such as, noticing specific pedestrian hazards (no side-walks, no crosswalk, etc.) along the route the children take to school, the importance of using traffic signals and crosswalks, and putting away electronic devices to look before crossing streets. Even the East Pierce Fire and Life Safety Clowns Backdraft, Bunkers and Highrise joined in the parade to reinforce safe pedestrian habits.

The Sumner students were among more than 250,000 children across the United States who participated in the annual event to learn safe walking skills and to encourage the creation of safe walking environments. “Our children learn by mimicking what they see. By walking with them on International Walk to School Day, we can show children how to walk safely,” says East Pierce Public Education Specialist Dina Sutherland.

According to the World Health Organization, road traffic injuries are the second-leading cause of death among children ages

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East Pierce Fire & Rescue and the Sumner Police Department joined students, parents and staff from Daffodil Elementary School in the annual Walk to School Day Parade October 15.

## Fire District Details Service Cuts After Failed Levy Vote

On November 5, voters failed to renew a Maintenance & Operations Levy that had been used to fund daily fire district operations. With the defeat of the levy, the district faced a \$3.3 million shortfall in its 2015 budget—15% of its overall operating funds. As a result, the district was forced to make significant cuts that will impact service and lengthen response times to 9-1-1 calls. The cuts come at a time of increased calls for service, compounding response efforts. “Our department has seen an 18% increase in 9-1-1 call volume over the past two years,” says East Pierce Fire Chief Jerry E. Thorson.

The levy renewal received 56% yes votes and 44% no votes—short of the 60% super majority required to pass. “It’s important to note that, in fact, a majority of voters supported the measure,” Thorson says. Unfortunately, voter turnout was low. According to the Pierce County Auditor’s Office, only 27% of eligible citizens voted. Pierce County ranked 38 out of 39 counties for voter turnout.

Without the revenue necessary to maintain current fire and EMS services, difficult decisions had to be made to determine what to cut. “Every effort was made to preserve



Without the revenue from the levy to maintain current services, difficult decisions had to be made to determine what services to cut. As a result, there will be fewer firefighters, engines and medic units responding to emergencies.

essential services. We still have an essential public safety service to deliver and we want to provide the best service possible with the funds the public has authorized,” Thorson says.

The decisions came after lengthy

discussions with the command staff, the firefighter’s union and fire commissioners. Consideration regarding consequences and impacts on personnel and public safety for each

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## Operation Santa Launches in December

Santa Claus is a busy man, but he’s making time to stop by each of the East Pierce Fire and Rescue fire stations to join the firefighters in wishing the community a happy holiday. Instead of escorting Santa around the neighborhoods, the firefighters will host the jolly fellow at the various fire stations throughout the district.

The firefighters are excited to have guests at their stations. “You can have your picture taken with Santa and take a tour of your local fire station,” says East Pierce Firefighter James Parke. “We will have hot cocoa, apple cider and coffee, plus candy canes, of course.”

Parke says that the firefighters will be accepting donations of canned foods for the local food banks.

Santa, accompanied by his firefighter elves, will still be participating in area parades and making his annual rounds to area assisted living centers in December. ■

### OPERATION SANTA

Come to our house and see Santa!

SATURDAY   DEC. 6	SATURDAY   DEC. 6
LAKE TAPPS 3206 W. Tapps Dr. E.	LAKE TAPPS 1605 210th Ave. E.
1-3PM	3-5PM
SATURDAY   DEC. 13	SATURDAY   DEC. 13
SUMNER 800 Harrison St.	BONNEY LAKE 18421 Veterans Memorial Drive. E.
1-3PM	3-5PM
SUNDAY   DEC. 14	SUNDAY   DEC. 14
PRAIRIE RIDGE 12006 214th Ave. E.	BUCKLEY 10515 234th Ave. E.
1-3PM	3-5PM
FRIDAY   DEC. 19	SATURDAY   DEC. 20
SOUTH PRAIRIE 350 SR 162 E.	EDGEWOOD 10105 24th St. E.
6PM	1-3PM
SATURDAY   DEC. 20	
MILTON 1000 Laurel St.	
3-5PM	



If you have a question, Santa’s email is [santaiaff3520@gmail.com](mailto:santaiaff3520@gmail.com)

Postal Customer  
ECR/WS



## FIRE LIEUTENANT LES EHLE RETIRES

For a quarter century, Lieutenant Les Ehle has been saving lives and protecting property in the Lake Tapps area. At the end of June, he hung up his helmet for the last time.

Born in Seattle and raised in Auburn, Ehle decided to become a firefighter after a few of his high school buddies got hired in Auburn. “It sounded like a cool job—not going to an office,” he says. He began testing for a position at Auburn, but his family moved to Lake Tapps in the late 1980s. The fire station there had posted a sign asking for volunteers, so Ehle decided to join. He served as a volunteer firefighter for two years before being hired in 1991.

Ehle says that he always liked being a firefighter. He spent most of his career working out of station 14, located at the north end of Lake Tapps. “That was home for me,” he says. It was hard work, but he treasures the friends he made on the job. Together they celebrated life’s milestones—marriages, children, graduations—and spent their days off together playing golf or going hunting.

During those first few years after he was hired, he began to notice the special responsibility firefighters have to the citizens they serve. “I began realizing how the public looks at you—the expectations they have of you.” Expectations were especially high in 2000 when East Pierce Fire & Rescue was created by merging three fire departments— Lake Tapps Fire, the City of Bonney Lake, and Pierce County Fire District 24. Although there were trying times, he appreciated the late Fire Chief Dan Packer’s philosophy. “We were turned loose into the district to do good,” Ehle says. “If we saw a disabled car along the road, we were told to give them a gallon of gas or a ride home. It was awesome because you were really out there helping people.”

Ehle never lost his enthusiasm for the job. “I loved the excitement of going on calls. Even after 25 years, it was still fun. I still enjoyed that,” he says. But he and his wife of 33 years decided it was time to start a new chapter of their lives. Today, he spends his time working on building projects at home and at the family cabin in Eastern Washington. “I’ve always got to be building something,” he says. “That’s fun.”

East Pierce Fire thanks Lt. Ehle for his valuable contribution to his community. We will miss your quick smile and upbeat perspective on life. Happy retirement, Les.■



Always quick with a smile, East Pierce Lt. Les Ehle retired in June.

# Celebrating a Swim Safe (and Drown-Free) Summer

For the second consecutive year, the Lake Tapps community is celebrating a drown-free summer! East Pierce Fire and Rescue participates in a multi-layered, drowning prevention campaign known as Swimsafe, which was launched in May 2013 with a goal of keeping swimmers afloat. The collaborative efforts and drowning prevention expertise and teaching strategies of the campaign sponsors has had significant impact throughout our communities.

Through community gatherings, school assemblies and water safety events, this year’s Swimsafe campaign focused on key messages during outreach efforts over the past summer, including:

- Free drowning prevention events that focused on open-water safety through engaging and fun activities hosted by East Pierce Fire, Bonney Lake Police Department, Pierce County Sheriff’s Department and Sumner-Bonney Lake Aquatics Center.
- Water safety assemblies delivered to all elementary school children throughout the Sumner and Dieringer

School Districts by East Pierce Fire and the Bonney Lake Police. More than 100 life jackets were sold and fitted during the 17 assemblies.

- The Lake Tapps Incident Locator project launched by East Pierce Fire. Signs displaying unique numbers on docks and the shoreline enable witnesses to identify where they are on the lake when reporting on an emergency. Dispatchers can then communicate a more precise incident location to emergency responders.

Other programs are in the works. Inspired by a research project by a group of North Tapps Middle school students, East Pierce Fire and the Bonney Lake Police are in the final planning stages of a program that will use innovative technology to measure the temperature of Lake Tapps in real-time and display it at the Pierce County North Tapps Park and Allan Yorke Park. The special on-shore display will also include educational messaging about the debilitating effects of cold water. In addition, the lake temperature will be broadcast via social media, email and websites. ■



East Pierce firefighters taught important water safety lessons at the annual April Pools Day in Sumner.

To learn more about our plans for next year’s Swim Safe efforts and how you can help, visit [www.eastpiercefirer.org](http://www.eastpiercefirer.org).

## East Pierce Fire Foundation Donations Buy Life-saving AEDs

In September, members of the East Pierce Fire and Rescue Foundation presented Fire Chief Jerry E. Thorson with a \$3,250 check to purchase automated external defibrillators (AEDs) as part of the fire department’s Law Enforcement AED program. Using grants and donations, the fire district has now provided these life-saving devices to all five law enforcement departments within its 151-square-mile jurisdiction.

Earlier this year, East Pierce supplied AEDs to 28 Bonney Lake patrol officers and sergeants, as well as the department’s marine unit. East Pierce has already equipped police officers in Edgewood, Milton and Sumner with AEDs. As part of the program, the fire department provides the officers with annual CPR training and refresher courses, plus medical direction and case reviews when the AEDs are deployed. The money donated by the Foundation was used to purchase AEDs for the Pierce County Sheriffs Deputies assigned to the Foothills Division.

According to East Pierce Assistant Chief Russ McCallion, other fire departments have similar AED programs with law enforcement, but East Pierce is the only

one in Washington State to equip 100 percent of law enforcement officers with the devices. “We wish to thank the Foundation for helping us complete this important program,” he says.

AEDs are used to provide a “shock” to patients who are in cardiac arrest. “Since law officers are out patrolling the neighborhoods, they often arrive on scene before we do,” says East Pierce Medical Services Officer, Battalion Chief Jeff Moore. “The AED gives them the opportunity to start life-saving measures right away. Providing officers with an AED saves minutes when minutes are critical.”

In 2013, East Pierce Fire & Rescue received a national Heart Safe Community Award recognizing its efforts to improve cardiac arrest survivability. Over the last four years, 41% of all patients in a shockable heart rhythm have been discharged from the hospital alive. The annual award recognizes organizations with creative approaches to implementing and maintaining systems to prevent and treat cardiac-related diseases within their communities.

The East Pierce Fire Foundation was launched in 2013 as a non-profit organization to improve

the lives of the citizens in the East Pierce service area through compassionate outreach services and access to public safety education programs. “In partnership with the fire department, it’s our mission to help create a safer community,” said Foundation Treasurer Duane Bratvold when he presented the check to Thorson.

To date, the Foundation has donated more than \$6,500 to the fire department as part of its Healthy Hearts Initiative, which includes the AEDs and helping to offset the hard costs of the citizen CPR classes taught by the firefighters. Other initiatives include providing smoke alarms for East Pierce firefighters to install in high-risk homes free of charge and funding the Sentimental Journey Program, a cooperative effort with the Foundation, the fire department and MultiCare/Good Samaritan Home Health and Hospice to provide one last ride somewhere special to hospice patients.

For information about how to purchase an AED for a business, church or organization, contact Moore or McCallion at 253-863-1800 during business hours. ■

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five to 14 worldwide. More than 61 children are injured every day, some severely enough to seek medical attention. Nearly 500 children are killed every year.

In the week leading up to the walk, Daffodil Valley Elementary teachers delivered discussion-based pedestrian safety activities in each classroom with a goal of preparing the students to be aware of their surroundings;

learn the risks associated with crossing the street while distracted; and to identify safety resources (signs, signals and laws) present while they are walking.

East Pierce Fire and Rescue, Sumner Police and Safe Kids Pierce County are working together to raise awareness, promote pedestrian safety, create safer routes for walking and bicycling and emphasize the impor-

tance of increasing physical activity among children. “Walking to school is a great way for kids to get exercise and reduce traffic congestion near schools. We are making every effort to raise awareness of pedestrian hazards and provide leadership and resources to keep kids safe and improve the quality of life in our communities,” says East Pierce Fire Chief Jerry E. Thorson. ■



# HEALTH WATCH: Heart Facts Every Woman (and Those Who Love Them) Should Know

By Teresa McCallion

Mom was lucky when she had her heart attack. She and Dad were visiting my sister north of Seattle, instead of at home in Eastern Oregon, 40 minutes from a major hospital. While many things went right that night, it could have gone horribly wrong because Mom didn't know a few key facts about women and heart attacks.

First, she thought that the discomfort she was feeling was indigestion. Because it wasn't the crushing chest pain she'd seen portrayed on TV, she decided she wasn't having a heart attack. That was her first mistake.

She didn't know that most women experience heart attacks differently than men. The most common symptoms for women include shortness of breath, sweating, nausea, lightheadedness and uncomfortable pressure in the chest—although one third of women experience no chest pressure or pain at all. Some women, like my Mom, report being tired prior to their heart attack. The problem is that these symptoms are often confused with the flu—or the excitement of the holidays.

Since my husband East Pierce Assistant Chief Russ McCallion, and I were visiting his family in California, we weren't there to insist that Mom call 9-1-1. She refused my family's attempts to call for help, saying that she "didn't want to bother the nice firefighters on Christmas Eve"—her second mistake.

After several hours, my sister convinced Mom that she needed to go to the hospital. They still didn't call 9-1-1, but drove to the local hospital. Mistake number three. The doctors confirmed that Mom had a heart attack. She required immediate treatment, but they would need to transport her to a different hospital for appropriate cardiac care.

## Quick Action Can Save Your Life: Call 9-1-1

"Unfortunately, many people—men and women—don't recognize the symptoms of a heart attack and fail to call 9-1-1," says East Pierce Lieutenant Jason Sanders. "Going by car to the hospital puts loved ones in a horrible position if the person goes into cardiac arrest. Driving yourself puts everyone on the road at risk."

As my Mom found out, getting to the right hospital is also important. Not all hospitals offer the same services.

Calling 9-1-1 is the first step in activating a comprehensive system of care. "In our area, we've worked hard with other agencies, including Good Samaritan Hospital, to develop a system of care" says Assistant Chief McCallion. "We can wirelessly transmit your EKG to the cardiologists and confer with them. If you need to go to the hospital, we will take you. If not, no harm done. Our motto is: 'When in doubt, check it out.'"

Residents who live within the East Pierce Fire and Rescue service area pay no out-of-pocket expenses for ambulance transport. The fire department will bill private insurance companies and Medicare and Medicaid to reimburse costs.

Fortunately for my family, my Mom is doing well. We encourage everyone to learn about cardiac health and women (Go Red for Women at [www.goredforwomen.org](http://www.goredforwomen.org) is a great resource) and then learn what to do if someone goes into cardiac arrest by taking a free, one-hour Hands-only CPR class at East Pierce Fire and Rescue. Go to [www.eastpiercefire.org](http://www.eastpiercefire.org) for class times and locations.

Oh, and don't be afraid to call 9-1-1. Those nice firefighters are waiting for your call. ■

## AM I HAVING A HEART ATTACK?

### Common Symptoms for Women

Heart disease is the number one killer of women. In fact, more women in the U.S. die from heart disease every year than all cancers combined. Recognizing the symptoms of a heart attack and calling 9-1-1 immediately are critical to survival. The most common symptoms of a heart attack for women include:

- shortness of breath;
- weakness;
- unusual fatigue;
- cold sweat,
- lightheadedness;
- nausea; and/or
- uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the center of your chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or goes away and comes back.

If you think you or a loved one is having a heart attack, call 9-1-1. It's not a bother (even on Christmas Eve).

# Annual Fill the Boot a Success



The annual Fill the Boot campaign, sponsored by the East Pierce International Association of Firefighters Local 3520, collected \$10,301 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). The campaign raises money to assist families affected by muscular dystrophy in the Sumner, Lake Tapps, Edgewood, Milton, South Prairie and Bonney Lake communities. The firefighters thank all those who helped make the event a success.

## SERVICE CUTS, cont. from pg 1

cut had to be assessed. Ultimately, the 2015 budget was approved by the East Pierce Board of Fire Commissioners. "We're cutting services the public expects and considers normal," says Fire Commissioner Chair Dale Mitchell. "Some people are not going to like it, but we must do what we can to balance the budget. We have no choice." Some of the cuts include:

- reductions in the daily number of firefighters and paramedics staffing fire engines and medic units;
- elimination of special event staffing for football games, youth sporting events and community events;
- deferred purchases of fire engines, medic units and medical equipment in spite of the fact a number are breaking down and should be replaced;
- administrative staff reductions;
- significant cuts in overtime;
- reductions of specially-trained water rescue divers, wildland firefighters hazmat and technical rescue responders;
- a freeze on filling vacant fire fighter positions;
- the suspension of a planned recruitment of 10 new volunteers at a cost-savings of \$100,000 the first year for training, equipment and deployment;
- dramatic reduction in funding for fire and EMS training; and
- deferred and reduced maintenance of fire stations, fire engines and medic units.

"Our staffing level reduction will save money, however it means that we will frequently have to close an engine or medic unit for the day. In some instances, an entire station will be closed for a 24-hour period. Called "rolling brownouts", these will definitely have an effect on our entire response plan and will result in slower response times for emergencies," says East Pierce Assistant Chief Ed Goodlet. He promises that every effort will be made to ensure that no single area of the district is impacted more than another.

The fire district also cut a number of public education programs, including the Life and Safety Program that teaches annual fire safety lessons to more than 5,600 children at 18 area schools. Changes were also made in the annual CPR training program for nearly 2,000 middle and high school students.

In addition, the fees for adult citizen CPR and first aid classes have been increased and the number of classes has been reduced.

In the upcoming months, the fire district plans to meet with citizens at the neighborhood fire stations to help determine the desired level of service.

"The East Pierce firefighters and paramedics are dedicated to providing the best service possible. But the failure of the levy will impact their ability to respond quickly with enough resources and equipment to handle every emergency. That's just the sad fact," Thorson says. ■

# FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The East Pierce firefighters would like to offer these 12 fire safety tips to help keep your holiday from turning into a tragedy.

**Tip #1: Keep your tree watered.** If you bring a natural tree into your home, water it and keep it watered! To help keep a tree from drying out, do not place it close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent.

**Tip #2: Inspect holiday lights.** Before putting up the lights, inspect them for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets and excessive kinking or wear. Replace damaged strings.

**Tip #3: Use approved lights.** Make sure your lighting is listed by an approved testing laboratory.

**Tip #4: Do not link more than three light strands,** unless the directions indicate it's safe. Most instructions say to connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.

**Tip #5: Hanging lights is a two-person job.** When hanging exterior lights, secure the ladder on a level surface. Always have someone hold or secure your ladder. Never put a ladder on one level of the roof to reach another level of the roof.

**Tip #6: Don't block the exit.** Always make sure that trees and other holiday decorations do not block an exit. In the event of a fire, time is of the essence. A blocked exit puts you and your family at risk.

**Tip #7: Don't cover house numbers with decorations.** Santa may be able to find your house without a problem, but the firefighters need to be able to see your address!

**Tip #8: Use battery-operated candles.**

**Tip #9: Location is everything.** If you use lit candles, never place them near walls, drapes or holiday decorations. Make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked down – especially by a curious pet.

**Tip #10: Never leave the house with candles burning.**

**Tip #11: Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.**

**Tip #12: Test your smoke alarms.** Make sure they are in good working order.

For more holiday and home heating safety tips, go to our website at [www.eastpiercefire.org](http://www.eastpiercefire.org).



## Did You Know?

? Two of every five home decoration fires are started by candles.

? Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



## Who is East Pierce Fire & Rescue?

East Pierce Fire & Rescue was founded on a strong commitment to customer service. The department's Mission, Vision and Values guide the actions of the department and its employees. Exceptional customer service and a concern for the employees and their families have become hallmarks of our culture.

EPF&R was created when the City of Bonney Lake Fire Department, Lake Tapps Fire and Pierce County Fire District 24 merged in 2000 with the goal of providing a seamless response to emergency situations.

In 2006, voters in Pierce County Fire District 12 and South Prairie Fire District 20 overwhelmingly passed a special election to merge with East Pierce.

Two years later, the citizens of the City of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District 1 also voted to join the East Pierce family.

On February 9, 2010, Edgewood residents voted in favor of merging with East Pierce.

In 2011, the Milton City Council voted to contract for services with East Pierce, bringing expanded fire, rescue and emergency medical services to their city.

Today, East Pierce serves a population of approximately 88,400 residents living in and around Bonney Lake, Sumner, Lake Tapps, the Ridge Communities, South Prairie, Edgewood and Milton. The district covers approximately 151 square miles and protects residents from 11 stations – six staffed and four volunteer, and one facility on Lake Tapps for the marine rescue unit.

All full-time firefighters are cross-trained as either emergency medical technicians (EMTs) or paramedics and are able to respond to both medical emergencies and fires.

An independently-elected board of citizens governs the agency. ■

## Commisioners

Dale Mitchell, Chair  
Rick Kuss  
Edward Egan  
Karlyne McGinnis  
Kevin Garling  
Ron Scholz  
Mike Cathey

## Staffed Stations

Station 11	(Headquarters Station) 18421 Veterans Memorial Drive East Bonney Lake, 98391 253.863.1800 www.east.piercefirer.org
Station 12	12006 - 214th Ave. E., Bonney Lake
Station 13	800 Harrison Street, Sumner
Station 14	3206 W. Tapps Drive E., Bonney Lake
Station 16	10515 - 234th Ave. E., Buckley
Station 18	10105 24th Street East, Edgewood

# BREAKFAST AT OUR HOUSE

## Firefighters host annual Pancake Feed at the Sumner Fire Station

Stop by our fire station in Sumner for the 19th annual Pancake Feed, sponsored by the East Pierce Fire and Rescue International Association of Firefighters Local 3520, from 7 a.m. to noon, Saturday, December 6, at the Sumner Fire Station, located at 800 Harrison Street. The cost is a \$3 donation. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Firefighters and fire commissioners will be flipping flapjacks and serving ham, coffee and orange juice. The Victor Falls choir will be singing from 9 to 10 a.m. A silent auction, featuring items donated by local businesses, will be available during the event. We even hear that Santa will make an appearance!

The money raised benefits several charitable organizations, including the Sumner Family Center, a local program that provides support and services to families living within the Sumner School District, including Bonney Lake, South Prairie and the city of Sumner. In 2013, the firefighters were able to purchase gifts for 600 needy children identified by the Sumner Family Center.



Join the firefighters from 7 a.m. to noon, Saturday, December 6, at the East Pierce Fire and Rescue fire station in Sumner, located at 800 Harrison Street.

The firefighters will also be collecting nonperishable food items for distribution to local food banks.

Have breakfast with the firefighters and support a great cause. ■

## Free Tree Lighting Celebrations

**Bonney Lake Tree Lighting and Food Drive**

The annual Bonney Lake Tree Lighting, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Bonney Lake, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, December 6 at the East Pierce Fire and Rescue headquarters station, at 18421 Veteran's Memorial Drive East. The festivities also include cookies, hot apple cider provided by the Kiwanis of Bonney Lake. Holiday music will be performed by area school children.

Bonney Lake Mayor Neil Johnson will light the tree around 6:30 p.m. to signal the official start of the holiday season, followed by the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus aboard a fire engine. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for photos.

Food donations will be accepted all day from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Bonney Lake Food Bank (next door to the fire station) and during the event.

**Edgewood Tree Lighting**

Everyone is invited to the fourth annual Edgewood Tree Lighting from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Friday, November 28 at the City Hall/Civic Center, located at 2224 104th Avenue East. Santa will be

there, escorted by the firefighters and the motorcycle group Old Coots on Scoots. At 6 p.m., the Connelly Family will light the tree to officially start the celebrations.

Enjoy refreshments and holiday treats while listening to a performance by the Edgemont Junior High School band and choir and the Edgewood Community Chorus.

Non-perishable foods and new toys will be collected for the Edgewood Community Food Bank.

For more information, contact city hall at 253-952-3299.

**Milton Tree Lighting**

Kick off the holiday season with your neighbors from 3 to 8 p.m., Saturday, December 6 at the Milton Activity Center, 1000 Laurel Street. There will be holiday crafts, music, food and beverages from 3 to 5 p.m. Santa will arrive at the Activity Center at 5 p.m. and we will light the tree at 5:30. Visit with Santa for photos and gift from 6 to 8 p.m. and enjoy the festive music and refreshments.

For more information, go to [www.cityofmilton.net](http://www.cityofmilton.net). ■

**WE'RE ALL EQUIPPED WITH LIFE SAVING DEVICES**

**HANDS-ONLY CPR**

**REGISTER FOR OUR FREE, ONE HOUR CPR CLASS.**

Visit [www.eastpiercefirer.org](http://www.eastpiercefirer.org) for more information.

## East Pierce Classes & Public Education

**FREE!** TO EAST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE CITIZENS

**LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM**  
Wearer must be present for fitting | Headquarters Station  
18421 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Bonney Lake

**CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSPECTIONS**  
District residents can call 253.863.1800 for appointment. Our certified child passenger safety technicians will check to make sure your child is in the right seat, your seat is installed correctly and your child is placed in the seat correctly.

**STATION TOURS** Call to arrange a tour of any of our fire stations.

**SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATIONS** Includes smoke alarm with 10-year batteries. Call 253.863.1800 for appointment

**BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS** Stop by any station during regular business hours. (Subject to staff availability)

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING** Learn how to use a fire extinguisher in case of a residential or commercial emergency. Call 253.863.1800 to schedule

**HANDS-ONLY CPR CLASS - FREE**  
Non-certification class for adult CPR, from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (1 hour) Jan. 22 | March 16 | May 12 | July 23 | Sept. 24 | Nov. 16

**SERVICES OFFERED**

**CPR 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | BASIC FIRST AID 1:00–4:30 p.m.**  
Fire Headquarters Station 18421 Veterans Memorial Dr. E., Bonney Lake  
Dec. 13 | Jan. 31 | Feb. 13 | Mar. 18 or 28

The cost for citizens residing within the jurisdiction of East Pierce Fire & Rescue, including Sumner, Bonney Lake, Lake Tapps, South Prairie, Milton and Edgewood, is \$20 for either a CPR or First Aid class, or \$30 for both. The cost for non-residents is \$35 for each class, or \$60 for both.

To register, call 253-863-1800 during regular business hours or register online at [www.eastpiercefirer.org](http://www.eastpiercefirer.org).

**HELMET SALES AND FITTING\*** Wearer must be present for custom fitting. Bike helmets sold for \$7 each. Mult-Sport helmets sold for \$10 each.

**LIFE JACKET SALES AND FITTING\*** Wearer must be present for custom fitting. Life jackets are sold for \$14 each. Exact change is appreciated.

\* Sponsored by East Pierce Professional Firefighters Local 3520