



Alarm Alert

Bill Nelson: State Fire Marshal, Treasurer, and Insurance Commissioner

Fall, 2000

Fire Service Calendar

NFPA Fall Education Conference 2000

November 11 - 15, 2000
Wyndham Palace Resort,
Orlando. Contact:
800/344-3555

FEPA/DEM Annual Conference

January 15 - 19, 2001
Marriott Golf & Yaught Club,
Panama City. Contact:
www.fepa.org

Fire Rescue East

February 1 - 4, 2001, Prime
Osborne Center, Jacksonville.
Contact: FFCA
904-676-2744

Firefighters Standards and Training Council Meeting

February 1, 2001, Prime
Osborne Center, Jacksonville
Contact: FSFC 352.732.1330

Emergency Vehicle Technician Symposium,

March 12-16, 2001, Orlando.
Contact: FFCA 904.676.2744



Heroes honored

As dawn breaks, the bronze statue overlooking the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial solemnly peers out across the banners and chairs. Saddened by the tragedies that led us to this great event, and yet still proud to be a member, the "Firefighter at Rest" is the center of attraction today. Sounds of bagpipes, trumpets and cadence break the silence as our firefighters, our comrades, our fallen brothers and sisters are remembered and honored.

Each October, Florida remembers its fallen firefighters in a ceremony held during Fire Prevention Week.

Rich in tradition, this ceremony celebrates the service of these brave men and women, and what they meant to their communities.

The Florida Division of State Fire Marshal and the Florida Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Services again hosted the annual Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service held on the campus of the Florida State Fire College on October 14, 2000, remembering those who gave their lives in the line of duty.

Over 250 fire service members and civilians from all over Florida attended the event this year, joined by over 75 Honor Guard members from departments across the state in a united show

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of respect to their fallen comrades and their families.

This year's ceremony began with a Prayer Breakfast, followed by a Memorial Service for David T. Nall who died in 1999, and five other firefighters who recently came to our attention from past years: William Runyon, 1981; Sidney Voorhees, 1949; Ben Stubble, 1929; John Thompson, 1913; and Jonny Johnson, 1908. Also remembered were those 105 previously recognized firefighters whose names are engraved on the Florida Fallen Firefighter Monument.

The Florida Fallen Firefighter Monument was originally proposed by Fire Chief John Wright, now retired from the DeLand Fire Department, to be dedicated to those Florida firefighters who had made the supreme sacrifice. Within two years, over fifty thousand dollars had been collected from donors who came from all walks of life, including career and volunteer firefighters of every rank, civilians, and fire service organizations. Virtually every firefighter in Florida contributed to the memorial.

Artist Don Murray of Gainesville, Florida, whose father was a firefighter, was commissioned to create the statue that has become the focal point of the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial. The life size bronze statue of a firefighter does not depict the type of heroic pose we often see, but is instead modeled in a pose that is in keeping with the purpose and meaning of the memorial, that being a "Firefighter at Rest". The base of the memorial was designed by Fire College staff, and was constructed by them with assistance from professional masons.

The Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial was dedicated on January 11, 1992, and occupies a place of honor at the center of the Florida State Fire College campus. The Florida Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Services and the staff of the FSFC maintain the memorial in perpetuity.

In Honor and Remembrance

1885 <i>Henry J. Bradley</i>	1943 <i>William E. Holloway</i> <i>Henry C. Mandel</i> <i>Wayon Villia</i>	1956 <i>L. D. Blanton</i> <i>O. W. Dennis</i> <i>Earl Roundtree</i>
1908 <i>Jonny Johnson</i>	1944 <i>Raymond W. Corum</i>	1957 <i>Hubert R. Daffron</i> <i>James B. Libby</i> <i>W. W. Young</i>
1913 <i>John A. Thompson</i>	1948 <i>W. K. Walker</i>	1958 <i>Albert G. Philips</i> <i>A. H. Sulli</i>
1927 <i>Sam L. Varnes</i>	1949 <i>Sidney Voorhees</i>	1960 <i>Albert H. Newton</i>
1929 <i>W. M. Mathews</i> <i>Ben H. Stubble</i>	1951 <i>Benjamin F. Holland</i>	1962 <i>Lester W. Boss</i> <i>Vista Lowe</i>
1933 <i>Harry L. Graves</i>	1954 <i>Abner L. Daughtry</i>	
1934 <i>Herman J. Williams</i>	1955 <i>A. C. Wooten</i>	
1941 <i>Joseph H. Juergen</i>		

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1963
James R. Rometry

1964
A. Miranda

1966
George W. Ludwig

1967
Dilliard D. Pinkston

1968
Walter W. Flowers
Arthur W. Hutt
Cecil F. Irey

1969
O. E. Calderon
John Lewkowicz
Robert F. Parker

1970
N. E. Johnson

1971
Richard Hernandez

1972
G. Calvin Bookhardt
James G. Bourbeau
Bill Curry
Allan Davis
Sanford Hathaway
James J. Ridge, Sr.

1973
Atha R. Richards

1974
William Albright
Ralph E. Bond
R. L. Ryals
William H. Stowell
Roger H. Werner

1975
David H. Evans
Leon J. King

Glen A. Miley

1976
Ralph C. Dash
Ronald H. Jones
Normand L. Rondeau
Michael J. Signorelli

1979
Edgar A. Buck
Robert J. Harachiewicz
William L. Price
Joseph F. Stichway

1980
Marlin K. Bennett
Marvin Butler
Donald F. Gaughan

1981
Robert C. Lamme
I. Royal
William C. Runyon
Franz G. Warner
William Ziegler

1982
William O. Davis

1983
Athniel K. (App) Appleberg
Robert L. Baltimore
Eddie Jackson
Ellis A. Williams

1984
Michael T. McCarthy
Jack L. Pratt, Sr.

1985
Randall O. Garrett
Marco A. Miranda
Shawn F. O'Dare

1986
William E. Albritton, Jr.
Edgar A. Cowart

1987
Karl J. Carman, Jr.
Peter A. Codella
Frank E. Schilsky

1988
Jeffrey W. Holt

1989
Todd Aldridge
Joseph J. Atwell
Mark A. Benge
Wayne Ervin Fort
Clifford J. Leathers
Paul J. Reid
William H. Sconiers

1990
Kaye F. Anderson
Karl J. Drews
James C. Winters

1991
Ronald W. Russell
James D. Sapp
Mark A. Wilkes

1993
G. Scott Moore
Everett C. Pierce
Keith (Puff) A. Walker

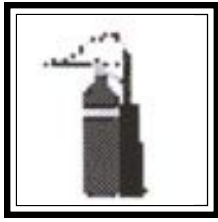
1994
Dewey F. Henry
Ann F. Sheppard

1995
Lyle Garlinghouse

1997
Malcolm A. Rovero, III
David S. Williams

1998
Richard K. Rice

1999
David T. Nall



Inspection Report

News from the Bureau of Fire Prevention

Telecom hotels in demand

*Jim Goodloe
Bureau Chief*

Bureau of Fire Prevention

The proliferation of telecom hotels has begun to get a grip on Florida. Driven by increased demand for telecommunication switching stations, long distance services, computer and internet signals, these properties are springing up in urban centers. While some cities have initiated actions to limit their development, the rent is estimated at least 20% higher than normal Class A office space.

From an economic perspective, these buildings are frequently located in a city's urban core and lack large numbers of people. This market once filled by vacant and obsolete buildings, is now reaching into landmark skyscrapers in the middle of the central business districts. Florida's fire service has an interest in this industry's growth because of the State Law requiring all new buildings that are three stories or more to be equipped with a fire sprinkler system.

During the 2000 session, a proposed bill would have eliminated the sprinkler requirement in telecommunications buildings. The industry is now working with the Division of State Fire Marshal and the Florida Building Commission to find alternative approaches to fire suppression systems

in such buildings. While the buildings are heavily equipped with communications electronics, the probability of fire does exist. In the unfortunate event of a fire, the local fire service must be prepared to attack and suppress any fire that is beyond the capabilities of any built-in systems.

Many alternatives are being considered for use in Florida including a clear definition of what a telecommunications building is. Some of the options under consideration include the use of air sampling systems, fire separations and provisions eliminating any permitted alternatives in a mixed-use occupancy. Florida's fire service must pay close attention to this segment of the telecommunications industry as it continues to grow.

Legislature passes Chapter 2000-372

*Terry Hawkins, Program Manager
Regulatory Licensing Section*

Bureau of Fire Prevention

The 2000 Florida Legislature passed Chapter 2000-372, Laws of Florida with an effective date of July 1, 2000. This Law has revised Section 633.021, Florida Statutes, defining the term "lay out." This means the lay out of risers, cross mains, branch lines, sprinkler heads, sizing of pipe, hanger locations and hydraulic calculations are in accordance with the design concepts established by the engineer of record and the limitations spelled

out in Section 553.79(6)(c), Florida Statutes. Detailed drawings depicting these components of a fire protection system are often referred to as shop drawings.

The State Fire Marshal through its testing and licensing process, certifies fire protection contractors to lay out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair and service engineered fire protection systems. Section 633.021, Florida Statutes, defines the scope of work for each fire protection system contractor certification issued by the State Fire Marshal.

Section 633.539, Florida Statutes, provides the requirements that fire

protection system contractors must comply with for the installation, inspection and maintenance of fire protection systems. These requirements state that the equipment installed must be:

- listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory
- in accordance with the standards of the National Fire Protection Association
- in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications

The applicable standards of the National Fire Protection Association that must be complied with are found in Florida Administrative Code 4A-46.

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Section 633.551, Florida Statutes, provides authority for a municipality or county to adopt a system of permits. The permitting system may require the approval of plans and specifications for work to be performed by fire protection contractors before the commencement of the work.

The scope of work to be performed by a fire protection system contractor

includes the “lay out” of the system. This requirement was included with the inception of the statutory mandate for a specialized license in 1975. This consumer protection provision is to ensure that all applicable codes and the manufacturer’s specifications are met by the contractor. Chapter 2000-372 has provided a clearer definition of the term “lay out”. Florida Statutes, 633, prohibits any requirements

for contractor’s shop drawings to be sealed by a professional engineer.

Additional information regarding the provisions of this change and its effect on the fire service may be obtained by contacting the Regulatory Licensing Section of the Division of State Fire Marshal at 850-413-3624.

Organizations throughout Florida participate in Fire Prevention Week

Shirley Guthrie

Fire Protection Specialist Supervisor

Bureau of Fire Prevention

October 8 - 14, 2000 was National Fire Prevention Week. The State Fire Marshal’s Office had displays set up at all 10 of Florida’s universities, prompting people to take a few minutes to give some extra thought to possible causes of fire and how to prevent them.

The emphasis this year was on fire safety in college dormitories and student housing. Included in the displays were safety brochures and a fire safety video.



Senior Safety Specialist Eric Bryant with a student at Florida A and M University

Florida Red Cross - On October 6, 2000 the implementation of the “Masters of Disaster” School Safety officially began.

Krista McGrain’s First Grade class at Sabal Palm Elementary School in Tallahassee received the first “Masters of Disaster” Kindergarten through Second Grade Curriculum Kit. With funding from the State of Florida, the Capital Area Chapter will be coordinating with American Red Cross Chapters to place an age specific Curriculum Kit in each elementary and middle school throughout Florida.



For additional information on the “Masters of Disaster” School Safety Curriculums and the Florida Implementation project please visit [http>//www.tallytown.com/redcross](http://www.tallytown.com/redcross).

The Junior Fire Marshal Program and the Florida’s Firefighter Charities sent 170,000 coloring books, badges and home safety checklists to Florida elementary schools.



Dateline: Ocala

News from the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training

Stop the tragedy

Beth Hardee, Instructor

Dennis Andrews, Instructor

*Bureau of Fire Standards
and Training*

It's 3:35 a.m. and you arrive at the scene of a fully involved house fire. There is heavy smoke and fire rolling from the building. Outside are frantic parents, the father is severely burned, both are screaming that their two children are still inside. Firefighters begin to attack the fire and search for the children, 3 and 5 years old. Both children are found inside the bedroom, one on the floor, the other in the closet. Both are motionless, they have no pulse. Firefighters begin resuscitation efforts. As soon as they clear the door paramedics outside rush the children to a hospital, where a short time later they are both pronounced dead.

If the parents had been better prepared to get themselves and their children outside sooner, the outcome would have been much different. Picture the same house, same family, and same night. Imagine hearing the smoke alarm sound, alerting the family of a fire. A family that has practiced home fire drills and escape plans knows to feel the door before opening it, to crawl low under smoke, and two ways out of every room. They also know to call 9-1-1 from a neighbor's house, and to have a meeting place outside.

Thanks to a joint effort of ALLSTATE Insurance, Florida Professional Firefighter's, and the Florida Division of State Fire Marshal, the

Florida State Fire College now has a new "teaching tool". A Surrey Fire Safety House is available to fire departments through out the State of Florida upon request and availability.

The Fire Safety House is 33 feet long, air conditioned and heated, and is ADA compliant. This unit's design is for use with students of "ALL" ages. It has a smoke generator, numerous smoke detectors, including one for hearing impaired, a practice 9-1-1 phone, and an escape ladder to simulate evacuation from a second story window. Outside, a TV with VCR is available to give a training or safety message for those waiting outside. From the control room, activities in the unit are monitored via closed circuit TV. This is also where the smoke is generated, lighting is controlled, and "the weather" is created

through a sound system and strobe lights for hurricane and tornado safety training. The unit also has a kitchen with a working microwave oven, gas stove, refrigerator, and sink.

The house can be requested through the Fire College. Non-Fire Service organizations are asked to coordinate the use of this unit through their local fire department. Transportation of the unit is the responsibility of the requesting department. A training session on the operation of the unit will be provided for assigned personnel. It is recommended to utilize a minimum of four persons to effectively operate the unit safely.

For further information contact: Florida State Fire College at: (352) 732-1330.



BS and MS Degree Program update

Barbara Klingensmith
Academic Instructor

*Bureau of Fire Standards
and Training*

As the Fall 2000 semester gets underway, the BS Degree program enrollment is increasing. Currently there are 30 students enrolled in classes. This unique online degree program offers the students the opportunity to study management in three major areas of emergency services - Fire, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management.

A joint project between the Florida State Fire Marshal and the University of Florida this is the only degree program in the country that offers course work in all three disciplines. Part of the attraction to this program is the flexibility offered by the online courses. This flexibility allows students to be able to do the course work anytime of the day using the Internet, World Wide Web and CD ROM. It is the perfect

design for shift workers.

The courses are designed, written, and taught by professionals with expertise in Fire, EMS, and Emergency Management. These management courses cover such areas as Fire and Emergency Services Financial Management, Basic Management Principles, Capital Equipment and Facilities, Integrated Operations, Special Operations in EMS, Multi-Agency Incident Command, Information Technology, Leadership, Disasters and more. The topical areas offered in the program are essential management courses for the fire and emergency service chiefs, managers, administrators and leaders.

For the individual who already has a BS or BA, there is the Masters Degree in Fire and Emergency Services. This advanced degree for leaders of the profession offer course work in areas such as Management, Terrorism, Research, Ethics, Public Policy, Natural Hazards, Legal Issues to mention a few. These

courses are also offered on the Internet, World Wide Web and CD ROM.

As we enter the 21st century, these Degree programs offer an opportunity for the Fire and Emergency Service to increase the level of professionalism among its leaders. The faculty of the FES program are professionals who have a broad theoretical knowledge as well as comprehensive practical experience in all content areas of the program.

If you wish more information on how your previous academic experience may be given credit in this program please contact Dr. Ronald Nutter, Director of Professional Education at 352-392-4836 ext. 313 or by e-mail at ronutter@ufl.edu. Increase your marketability and invest in not just your own future but the future of the Fire and Emergency Services Profession.

*See page 8 for a description of the
BS Degree classes.*

GFFS draws 245 students

Gene Lazarus
Instructor Supervisor

*Bureau of Fire Standards
and Training*

The 7th annual Great Florida Fire School was held in Tallahassee October 6 – 10, 2000. The Florida Division of State Fire Marshal, Tallahassee Fire Department and Tallahassee Community College hosted this year's event. The event registered 245 students that attended a variety of 38 courses. Course offerings included High Angle Rescue, Fire Chemistry, Fire Service Course Delivery, Farmedic, and Fireground Accountability, Management & Endurance (F.A.M.E.).

The steering committee that guided this successful event was chaired by Mike Randolph, Tallahassee Fire Department and included members from Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee Fire Department, State Division of Forestry, Florida State Fire College, Bureau of Fire and Arson and members of the local community.

Next year's event will be held at the Florida State Fire College the week of October 26. Registration information will be published on the Fire College's website www.fsfc.ufl.edu



Bachelor of Science degree in Fire and Emergency Services

JUNIOR YEAR

FES 3015 Principles of Fire and Emergency Services Management - Fundamentals of management underlying the solution of problems of organization and operation of Fire and Emergency Services agencies.

FES 3033 Fire and Emergency Services Labor Issues - Determinants of demand for labor and labor supply. Labor market equilibrium and changes in the equilibrium due to changes in unionization, public policies and technology.

FES 3120 Command & Control at Catastrophic Fire-Rescue Incidents - The course covers incident command at multiple-alarm incidents, stressing rapid fire ground decision making, safety, personnel accountability, and communications.

FES 3153 FES Information Technology- Communications systems used in fire and emergency services such as high frequency voice/data, Internets and Intranets, satellite communications, GPS and GIS will be the focus of this course.

FES 3284 Management of Emergency Medical Services - The course covers personnel and resource management issues in providing the EMS function. Quality Assurance and Utilization Review techniques are also covered.

FES 3285 Advanced Leadership Issues in Emergency Medical Services - The course covers organization development issues in providing the EMS function in the hospital-based, fire-based and third-service environments.

FES 3753 Fire Service Financial Management - The course addresses planning, developing, presenting, funding, and implementing a budget for a fire and emergency services agency.

FES 3823 FES Integrated Operations -The course covers the broad issues involved in comprehensive emergency management at the local level.

FES 3755 FES Capital Equipment and Facilities - Procedures for the acquisition, utilization, and disposition of fire and emergency services apparatus and station facilities will be reviewed.

FES 3803 Multi-Agency Incident Command - The course deals with managing complex incidents that may require response from fire-rescue, EMS, law enforcement, and/or other public safety sectors.

SENIOR YEAR

FES 4039 Regulatory Issues in Fire and Emergency Services This course introduces the student to safety, health, and environmental regulations on the state and federal levels that impact the delivery of fire and emergency services. OSHA, EPA, and NFPA regulatory requirements will be introduced along with methods and techniques to implement compliance programs.

FES 4045 FES Human Resource Management (Prerequisite: FES 3015) - Major human resource management functional areas for Fire and Emergency Services agencies are explored in this course.

FES 4224 Management of Mass Casualty Incidents - The course covers systematic approaches to triage, treatment, and transport in response to large-scale EMS incidents.

FES 4225 Special Operations in Emergency Medical Services - This course covers planning and management of non-routine EMS services. Environments covered include tactical medical operations, EMS support of large-scale special events, and EMS response to hazardous materials incidents.

FES 4003 FES Public Policy and Administration - The role of administrative agencies in the formulation and implementation of public policy. Emphasis will be placed on the politics of administration. Case studies are included in this course.

FES 4585 Management of Fire Prevention Programs - The course covers planning, promoting, and executing fire prevention functions, stressing legal responsibilities, needs assessments, negotiation, and planning activities.

FES 4685 Management for Arson Prevention and Control - The course covers the elements of building a community's arson control plan. The course work also includes coalition building and data collection and analysis.

FES 4885 Design and Management of Community Disaster Exercises - The course covers exercise design, presentation, and evaluation, for testing a community's disaster plan. Designs from table-top to full-scale exercises are covered.

FES 4023 Leadership and Ethics - This course will cover the role of legal standards and professional codes of ethics relative to fire and emergency services.

FES 4055 FES Public Relations - This course will cover the principles and practices used in effective and persuasive communications in the fire and emergency services environment.

FES 4835 Natural Disaster Phenomena in Florida - The course covers the spectrum of natural disasters prevalent in Florida. Topics include hurricanes, flooding, freezes, and agricultural emergencies.



Firefighters Standards and Training Advisory Council

Established by Chapter 633 of the Florida Statutes to recommend uniform standards in the employment and training of firefighters, and to recommend minimum curriculum requirements for institutions operated by or for any employing agency for the specific purpose of training firefighters.

Brief of Activities

(Editorial note: Article written by Shayne Stewart, Firefighter Member of the Advisory Council. Shayne will be writing the briefs of the meetings for The Alarm Alert and for the Fire College Web Site.)

Here is the latest from your Florida Firefighters Standards and Training Advisory Council. Our last meeting was held in Ocala at the Fire College on Friday, October 13, 2000.

Director Clark informed the Council of the latest information on the Firefighter Health and Safety Rules that were removed from the Administrative Code when the Division of Safety was sunsetted. Commissioner Bill Nelson then revived the Rules in emergency action. Workshops were held across the state on the Rules along with the Two-In, Two-Out amendment that is to be included along with the original Rules. Input was taken up to October 16, and now the final draft of the Rules is being written. Director Clark stated that a final draft of the Two-In, Two-Out rule would be addressed when the final draft is written. I am sure that input will still be heard from both sides when the Rules go to the Public Hearings for final approval and revision.

Chief Napoli from the Fire College reported to the members of the Rule changes relating to the Education Programs offered by the Fire College. These Rules are still a few weeks away from being final. Again, Public Hearings on the Rule changes will be announced when they are scheduled.

The Chief also gave us some good news from the National Fire Acad-

emy. The NFA will be increasing the field delivery of NFA courses. As many of us already know, it is sometimes difficult to take the classes at the NFA campus. This will hopefully make more classes available to you. Another change that will increase educational opportunities is a review group that will be looking at state programs that could be accepted as an NFA course. This could increase the amount of quality training programs from other states to be taught all over the country.

Training on the Life Safety Code is ongoing. If you are a certified inspector, and still have not completed the required courses, you have only a few months left to complete the classes. The School Evaluation program has started and the selected schools have been inspected. Distance learning of the programs was thought to be the way to train the inspectors, but a "hands on" class may be required so all the information needed is understood by the inspectors.

And finally from Chief Napoli, good news for all firefighters who hold an Associate of Science degree in Fire Science. It is possible that there will be an articulation agreement within a few weeks to allow AS degree holders to enter the Bachelors Degree program. Keep up to date on this important advancement by checking the Fire College Web Site or calling the Fire College.

In old and new business, the Council members will have E-mail addresses posted on the Fire College Web Site. If you wish to contact any of the members of the council, you will be able to do so by E-mail. A Survey on Officer Candidate Programs was reviewed and it looks as if the need is there for a program or some type of guidance to get this type

of educational opportunity going. A sub-committee was set up to develop a program of study for the Officer Candidate Program. Members of that sub-committee will be Mike Randolph, Mike Gonzalez, and Vicki Sheppard. If you wish to have input on that program, please contact those members.

During the meeting held in Panama City in June, the Candidate Physical Ability Test, and the Wellness and Fitness Initiative was introduced to the members. More discussion followed during this meeting, deciding if the CPAT was within the scope of the Advisory Council, and if the Wellness and Fitness Initiative could be included into the Firefighter I and Firefighter II Programs. Another sub-committee was appointed to explore this further. Cynthia Diven will chair the committee with Shayne Stewart and a member to be appointed by the Florida Fire Chiefs. Remember that these committees will meet in the Sunshine.

Classes from the Bachelors Degree Program will be included into the Chief Officers Certificate. This will allow Chiefs to work toward that degree if desired.

There will be no CEU's needed for Fire Officer I and II. It remains that only statutory programs will require CEU's.

Finally, the next time the Advisory Committee will meet is in Jacksonville, during Fire Rescue East. The meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2001. I would like to encourage all of you attending Fire Rescue East to attend the Standards and Training Advisory Council meeting and bring your ideas as to where you want your Fire Service to go in the next year.



Fire Line

News from Florida and across the country

Fire extinguisher question & answers

*Chris Floyd
Disaster Services Director*

*Capital Area Chapter
American Red Cross*

Each year, about 440 people in the United States die inside their home after trying to fight a fire with a fire extinguisher instead of getting out safely and calling the fire department. The reasons this happens, according to the National Fire Protection Association are:

- They do not know how to properly use a fire extinguisher. Most people can not learn how to use a fire extinguisher by simply reading directions. Using a fire extinguisher properly requires training from professionals. It is even more difficult to read directions for the first time during an emergency.
- Not all fire extinguishers will work on all fires. Home fire extinguishers are made for very small fires that can be put out quickly.
- People try to fight fires for too long and are overcome by poisonous gases produced by the fire.
- The fire is bigger than the extinguisher was designed for.

The American Red Cross recommends the following advise for safety during fires:

- The safest thing to do in case of a fire is to get away from it safely and call the fire department from another location away from the fire. Have a fire escape plan and a safe meeting point for your family. Practice your

plan!

- It still is a good idea to place a fire extinguisher in your home near each place where fire may start, such as the kitchen, garage, workshop, barbecue area etc. An extinguisher should only be used on a very small fire that can be put out quickly. Also, install smoke detectors and test them monthly. Replace batteries once a year or when the alarm does not sound when the unit is tested.
- Get a fire extinguisher that is rated A-B-C, which is designed for fires that most often occur at home. For more information on the type and size of fire extinguisher you need for specific locations in your home, contact your local fire department.
- Get training from your local fire department in how to use the fire

extinguisher that you get. Not all fire extinguishers work in the same way, so it's important that you get training and practice with the same type of fire extinguisher that you may use.

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for replacing or recharging fire extinguishers.
- If you try to use a fire extinguisher on a fire and the fire is not out in 30 seconds, drop the extinguisher and get out.

For additional information on fire prevention or to become a Disaster Resistant Neighborhood contact the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross in Tallahassee at 878-6080, in Perry at 584-6663, in Bristol at 643-2339, in Monticello at 342-0211 or in Apalachicola at 653-3952 or visit our web site at www.tallytown.com/redcross.

Real Christmas tree: Real safety



(National Christmas Tree Association, St. Louis, MO) As the Christmas season approaches, it is important to make the public aware of how real Christmas trees can be displayed safely.

In 1999, the National Christmas Tree Association retained Custer Powell, Inc. to conduct a study of the

research and testing literature regarding the flammability and proper care of real Christmas trees. Based on the study results, CPI has prepared informational materials suitable for publication. Topics included in one of the reports, Fire Safety Considerations in the Purchase and Care of Real Christmas Trees, are: moisture levels; tree stands and watering; when is the tree to dry?; fire retardant treatments; placement and use of real Christmas trees; and disposal.

To obtain a copy of this report please write:

National Christmas Tree Association
1000 Executive Parkway, Suite 200
St. Louis, MO 63141-6372
Or visit www.realchristmastrees.org

CPSC RECALLS

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Dell Computer Corp., of Round Rock, Texas, is voluntarily recalling about 27,000 batteries used in notebook-style personal computers. These batteries can short circuit, even when the battery is not in use, causing them to become very hot, release smoke and possibly catch fire. Dell has received one report of a battery in a Dell computer short circuiting and catching fire. The incident resulted in minor property damage. No injuries were reported.

The recalled batteries were sold with the following Dell notebook computers: Latitude CPiA, CPiR, CPtC, CPtS, CPtV, CPxH and CPxJ, and Inspiron 3700 and 3800. The batteries also were sold separately, including in response to service calls. The batteries insert into the front-left and/or front-right of the computer. "DELLTM" and "MADE IN JAPAN" are written on the batteries. The batteries' identification number is written on a white sticker. Consumers should have this number available when they contact Dell to determine if their battery is part of the recall.

Consumers should contact Dell immediately to determine if their notebook computer battery is part of this recall. To contact Dell, call toll-free at (877) 741-6420 anytime, or go to the firm's web site at <http://support.dell.com/battery>. Consumers also can write to: Dell Computer Corp., One Dell Way, Round Rock, Texas 78682, or fax them at (512) 283-7261.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Century Products (Century) of Macedonia, Ohio, is recalling about 4 million infant car seats/carriers. When the seat is used as an infant carrier, the handle can break. An infant inside the carrier can fall to the ground and suffer serious injuries. "The break can happen unexpectedly and the seat can drop to the ground," said CPSC Chairman Ann Brown. "Century is providing parents with new handles for their carriers. Installing the new handle will help keep your baby safe and secure."

Century has received more than 2,700 reports of handle-related problems, including handles breaking, cracking or possibly not being locked while the seat is being used as a carrier. In addition to these reports, Century has also received over 200 reports of injury, including concussions, skull fractures, lacerations, broken bones, bruises, and scratches as a result of such handle-related problems.

"Riding in a child safety seat on the car's rear seat for every trip is the safest way to transport young children in a motor vehicle," said NHTSA Administrator Dr. Sue Bailey. "The recall announced today is only related to using the seat as a carrier (not how the seat performs while in a car). Parents should continue using these carriers as car seats." The recall involves all Century rear-facing infant car seats/carriers with one-piece handles manufactured from January 1991 through July 1997. The date of manufacture, written as month, day, year (010191 through 073197), can be found on a label on the side of the seat. The recalled car seats/carriers have a molded, one-piece, one-color plastic handle colored white, gray, or tan.

To receive a free replacement handle, call Century toll-free at (800) 865-1419 anytime, or visit Century's web site www.centuryproducts.com. Consumers should have the car seat in front of them when they call.

Consumers with questions about this recall campaign should call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or visit CPSC's web site www.cpsc.gov.

(U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission press release dated 9-27-00.) CPSC, BRK Announce Recall of First Alert Fire Extinguishers

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), BRK Brands Inc., of Aurora, Ill., is voluntarily recalling about 600,000 First Alert® household fire extinguishers. The extinguishers can fail to discharge when the trigger is activated failing to put out a fire, which puts consumers at risk of fire-related injuries.

CPSC and BRK have received five reports from consumers of the fire extinguishers failing to discharge when activated. No injuries have been reported.

Only First Alert model FE1A10G with serial numbers beginning with: RH, RK, RL, RP, RT, RU, or RW are included in this recall. The serial number is located on the extinguisher's label, above the model number in a rectangular box. "First Alert" is written on the units' label and pressure gauge. The fire extinguishers are either red or white. Home centers, mass merchandisers, and hardware stores nationwide sold the fire extinguishers from September 1999 through September 2000 for between \$9 and \$15.

Consumers with recalled fire extinguishers should immediately contact First Alert at (866) 669-2736 anytime or visit the First Alert web site at http://www.firstalert.com/more_information/index.html to receive a coupon for a new extinguisher.

First Alert fire extinguishers with a "100% Quality Tested" sticker attached to the fire extinguisher label are not included in the recall, regardless of the serial number.

Editors Note: Recent Safety Alerts and recalls can be found at www.safetyalerts.com

Fire College Schedule

INSPECTION

Fire Prevention Practices (Course #313/1200) Jan. 8-12
Private Fire Prot. Sys. I (Course #314/FFP1620) Jan. 22-26
Private Fire Prot. Sys. II (Course #315) Mar. 26-30
Building Const. (Course #311/2320) Nov. 27-Dec. 1, Feb. 5-9
Codes and Standards (Course #312/1300)
Nov 18-19/Dec. 2-3, Mar. 5-9
Blueprint / Plans Review (Course #316/ 2326) Dec. 9-10/16-17,
Feb. 19-23

ARSON

Fire Chemistry (Course #400) Mar. 5 -9
Latent Investigation (Course #402/2243) Nov. 27 - Dec 1
Jan. 29 - Feb 2.
Legal Issues (Course #403/2243) Dec. 18-22, Mar 26-30
Arson Investigation (Course #407) Dec. 4-8, Feb. 26 - Mar 2
Post Blast Invest. (Course #406) Dec. 11 - 15, Mar. 19 - 23

LEADERSHIP

Company Officer (Course #209/2130) Jan. 8 - 12
Tactics I (Course #206/2410) Jan 29 - Feb. 2
Tactics II (Course #304/2420) Feb. 5 - 9
Fire Service Course Delivery (Course #208/2150)
Nov. 27 - Dec. 1, Feb. 26 - Mar 2
Fire Service Course Design (Course #210) Nov 18-19/Dec. 2-3
Legal & Ethical Issues (Course #305) Dec. 11 - 15
I-200 Basic Incident Mgmt Sys (Course #507) Mar 12-13
I-300 Intermediate Incident Mgmt Sys (Course #508) Mar 14-15

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Air Monitoring for Haz-Mat (Course #510) Jan. 8-12
Chlorine Emergencies (Course #515) Dec. 5-7, Feb. 6-8
Haz - Mat I (Course #207/2500) Jan 20-21/27-28

Haz - Mat II (Course #319/2501) Feb. 10-11/17-18

Haz-Mat III (Course #502) Feb. 26 - Mar. 2

Haz-Mat III (Course #508) Mar. 12-30

APPARATUS

Fire Svc. Hydraulics (Course #203/2640) Dec. 4-8, Feb. 12-16,
Mar. 12-16

Fire Apparatus Ops. (Course #202/1620) Dec. 11-15, Feb. 19-23,
Mar. 19-23

Aerial Operations (Course #703) Dec. 18 - 22, Feb. 5-9

EVT F2 (Course #601) Jan 22-25

EVT F3 (Course #602) Feb. 12 - 15

EVT F4 (Course #603) Mar. 5 - 8

EVT F5 (Course #604) Dec. 11 - 14

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Intro to Fire & Life Safety Ed (Course #320) Jan 8 - 12

Fire Photography (Course #404) Feb. 5-9

Pub. Ed. Thru Basic Characterization (Course #308) Mar 5-9

Public Information Officer (Course #505) Mar. 26-30

EXTINGUISHER

Fire Extinguisher Certification (Course #708) Dec 4 - 8,
Dec. 18-22, Jan 22-26, Feb. 19-23, Mar 19-23

Insp. Pre-Engineered Sys. & Ext. (Course #716) Dec. 20-21

RESCUE

Farmedic (Course #110) Dec. 16-17, Jan 27-28, Mar. 24-25

FAME (Course #801) Feb. 5-8

FUN SAR Tech II (Course #822) Feb. 19-24

Rope Rescue I & II (Course #204/FFP 2660) Feb. 12-16

Rope Rescue III (Course #213) Mar. 12-16

Confined Space Rescue (Course #512) Mar. 5-9

GENERAL COURSES

S205 Forestry Urban Interface (Course #925) Jan 17-19,
Feb. 27-Mar 1

Division of State Fire Marshal
200 E. Gaines St.
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