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Around Montana

Fire Cause and Determination for Company Officers Starts Monday

This course starts Monday at 0830 at Missoula Station 4, 3011 Latimer St.

*Please note, we are not able to accept any more registrations.

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NFA - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations Starts Tonight

Course Location: Columbia Falls City Fire Department, 624 1st Ave West, Columbia Falls, MT

Course Date: February 20th & 21st, 2015

Course Time: 1800 – 2200 Friday night, 0830-1630 Saturday

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Gordon Graham



Over 175 attendees representing 35 agencies gathered in Bozeman Thursday for an inspiring and thought provoking seminar on Real Risk Management. DNRC graciously sponsored world renowned speaker and educator Gordon Graham for the day.

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Cause Determined For Ennis Sportsman's Lodge Fire

<http://www.kbzk.com/story/28154780/cause-determined-for-ennis-sportsmans-lodge-fire>



A state Fire Marshall has determined the cause of the fire that heavily damaged the Sportsman's Lodge in Ennis on January 20th. Deputy State Fire Marshall, Pat Clinch, says the fire was started by a malfunctioning refrigerator-freezer unit in the kitchen of the lodge. He has ruled that the fire was accidental. The 70 year old lodge was a historic landmark in the community and over the decades had drawn many celebrities to the area. A half dozen people were evacuated when the building caught fire, but no one was hurt.

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Smoldering Cig Sparks Fire In Butte

http://mtstandard.com/news/local/baby-you-need-to-get-home-now-smoldering-cig-sparks/article_a65af77a-0b99-5c79-a909-ce5b9c3e4520.html



A smoldering cigarette butt caused a fire that damaged a two-story apartment building on West Mercury Street on Thursday. Butte-Silver Bow firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze, responding shortly after noon. No one was injured. "We knocked it down real quick," said Jeff Miller, fire chief. The source of the blaze, a cigarette that had not been put out properly, created conditions ripe for ignition, Miller said. "The discarded cigarette was down in-between the decking material," he said.

The blaze then traveled from an exterior enclosed furnace vent pipe to a second-floor deck, catching the eaves on fire.

The building was evacuated.

Resident Crystal Harris was not at home when the fire started. She said her fiancé, Robert Harwood, called, urging her to come home.

"Baby, you need to get home now. The house is on fire," Harris recounted his plea as she anxiously watched firefighters hosing down hot spots and removing roofing material.

Harwood said a stranger alerted him to the fire.

"I wouldn't have noticed (the smoke) if someone hadn't rang the doorbell," he said.

Discarded lighted material causes quite a few fires each year, Miller said. He cautioned smokers to put out cigarettes properly and refrain from doing so in inorganic material such as potting soil.

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Montana Mutual Aid Agenda For February 28th – March 1st

Meets Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 10:00am at Eastgate Fire, Lewis and Clark County, Montana

(note revised date – February 28th and March 1st, 2015)

Join Dan Madrzykowski (NIST Fire Dynamics) for a remarkable training opportunity on February 28th and March 1st at Eastgate Fire.

Montana Mutual Aid welcomes the leader in the fire dynamics research discussing the latest results of the recent NIST Fire Dynamics research, and the command strategy and tactics to put that research to real world use when fighting fires in structures. This session will be an interactive conversation about how the fire service fights fires in structures.

Please join Dan for an outstanding day and a half program that will shape the fire service for the next 30 years.

Also presenting will be Sonny Stiger - wildland fire behavior, and forecasts for the 2015 wildland fire season and invited speakers from Montana DES, the Montana Fire Services Training School, MT DNRC, Montana Fire Chiefs, Montana Volunteer Fire Fighters, Montana Fire Instructors, and other guests.

This program will be among the most valuable training opportunities in Montana in 2015. Registration is available on line at www.montanamutualaid.org or by calling 1-406-431-2458.

Cost is \$179 per person, including registration, course materials, including NIST training DVD, 1 dinner, 1 lunch, 1 breakfast and breaks.

Session starts at 10am, Saturday, February 28 and concludes Sunday, March 1 at 12 noon. Session is held at the Eastgate Fire Station in Lewis and Clark County.

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IAAI Training Opportunity Coming to Great Falls

Electrical Aspects of Fire Investigation

Instructor: Dave Cusatis IAAI-CFI, IAAI-CI

Where: Great Falls Fire Rescue Charles C. Carrico Regional Training Facility, 1900 9th Street South Great Falls MT, 59405

When: Thursday March 12th, 2015 8am-5pm Lunch Provided

Description:

This course addresses the critical skills essential to the effective investigation and evaluation of fires involving potential electrical causes. This course utilizes state of the art techniques, practices, protocols and standards to assist investigators to properly and effectively evaluate electrical systems and associated components to ascertain their role in a fire.

Students will be provided with a basic knowledge of electrical faults and failures of electrical components and circuits, as well as a working knowledge of the National Electrical Code (NEC) and how it applies to the fire investigations.

The use of 'Arc Mapping' will also be discussed and how it can be effectively used to assist in fire origin determination. Participants will also be able to demonstrate a general knowledge of electricity, electrical circuits, systems and arc mapping principles through a series of instructor led 'hands-on' practical exercises.

Register online at firearson .com

Click on training and certifications.

Scroll down to classes and events.

Click on Electrical Aspects of Fire Investigation

Or to register by phone call 1-410-451-3473

Cost:

Montana Chapter Members: \$100.

Montana Non-Members: \$200.

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Around the Nation

Houston Firefighter Collapses at Scene

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11849724/houston-fire-capt-dwight-bazile-critical-after-fire>

A Houston firefighter was in critically condition late Thursday after collapsing outside a house fire in southeast Houston.

HFD Capt. Dwight Bazile led his crew of firefighters into the burning house in 6400 block of England about 6:45 p.m. after they received reports that people may be inside.

HFD officials said he wasn't feeling well and walked back outside. "He sat himself down on a stretcher and collapsed right there," HFD Capt. Ruy Lozano said.

Paramedics continued resuscitation efforts as they rushed Bazile to Memorial Hermann Hospital at the Texas Medical Center.

He was immediately taken into intensive care. Authorities said his family has been notified.

HFD said no one was found in the house. The investigation into the fire is continuing.

On the same day in 2005, HFD Capt. Grady Burke, 39, died while battling a fire inside a vacant house in the 8500 block of Brandon.

The 12-year HFD veteran was later found to have died from burns and smoke inhalation, according to the state investigation into his death.

"This is just a tough day for the Fire Department," Lozano said Thursday outside the hospital where Bazile was fighting for his life.

Bazile was part of a 2008 lawsuit accusing the city of discriminating against black firefighters by relying on a promotion test that was racially biased.

Lawyers for the city eventually negotiated a settlement, awarding captain's rank and back pay to Bazile and the other firefighters.

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One Dead, Two Hurt in N.M. Apartment Fire

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11849782/one-dead-two-hurt-in-albuquerque-nm-apartment-fire>

Albuquerque firefighters rescued a woman from the balcony of a burning second-floor apartment early Thursday morning, but were unable to save another person from the deadly blaze.

Firefighters arrived at the 1000 block of Coal SW around 2:30 a.m. and found one apartment in the 19-unit building engulfed in flames and fire spreading to adjoining apartments, Capt. Jason Garcia said in an email.

The woman was carried down a ladder from the second-story balcony and the fire was put out within 20 minutes, Garcia said.

She was not injured, but when the crew entered the apartment on a search and rescue mission, they found a person dead inside, he said.

Garcia said the victim lived in the apartment, but didn't release a name or gender.

A third resident, a 30-year-old man, suffered severe burns and was hospitalized in critical condition. And a 45-year-old man, who lives next door, was taken to the hospital with lacerations and was in stable condition, according to the fire department.

Two apartments had substantial fire damage and four other tenants had to stay elsewhere due to damage to their apartments.

There was obvious charring outside an apartment on the west and south sides of the building Thursday morning, and a sliding glass door was missing above the balcony. Debris was piled up on the balcony, and the room off the balcony was gutted and charred.

Clairie Miller, who helps manage an apartment building across the street that wasn't affected, said when she heard the news she rushed to check if it was her building.

"We were in total panic mode when we heard it on the radio this morning," Miller said.

"Luckily it wasn't ours. But it's terrible, and it happens anywhere. It's just awful."

Investigators carried out a body on a stretcher around 9:30 a.m. and loaded it into a gray, unmarked van. The body was draped in a green, satin-looking cloth. An arson investigation truck was parked in the apartment complex parking lot.

Robert Pineda, who lives across the street, said he woke up around 2:30 a.m. because his dogs were barking and, when he went outside, he saw flames rising 8 feet above the roof of the apartment.

"I was worried. There are kids and families who live over there," he said.

The fire department is investigating what caused the fire.

The complex's manager said a young couple lived in the apartment and a friend was staying over Wednesday night.

"I didn't know them personally, but they were nice people," he said.

Another apartment resident, Annette Gomez, said she woke up in the middle of the night when a neighbor started banging on the door to tell her to leave. She went to the parking lot with her grandkids.

"It was a lot of flames, I don't mean a spark, it was engulfed," Gomez said. "It was horrific. I'm amazed about what took place."

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Three People Jump to Safety From Ohio House Fire

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11849723/three-people-jump-to-safety-from-columbus-ohio-house-fire>

The Columbus Division of Fire continues to investigate a house fire that sent three people from a second-floor window into the frigid cold Thursday.

The three jumped from the burning University District duplex, at 1353 N. 6th St., shortly before 5 p.m.

All three reportedly will be OK, though one of them -- a 34-year-old woman -- was taken in stable condition to Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center for injuries she received in the fall.

The names of those involved aren't available at this time.

The fire started on the first floor and all three of the residents jumped from the building before fire personnel arrived, said Battalion Chief Sean Moore. A dog died in the fire, he said. The fire's cause is under investigation.

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Colo. Firefighters to Restore 104-Year Old Fire Truck

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11849789/salida-colo-firefighters-to-restore-104-year-old-fire-truck>

A 104-year-old fire truck will get new life as a "crazy piece of rolling history" thanks to a \$80,000 restoration project that got a boost earlier this month from the state historical society.

The Salida Fire Department's 1911 Kissel fire truck, which started helping firefighters mobilize on Sept. 7, 1912, got a \$60,000 gift in the form of a Colorado State Historical fund grant, according to Christian Samora, deputy city clerk.

Remaining funds for the truck's overhaul will come from \$20,000 worth of matching funds.

The city will chip in \$7,500 and \$12,500 was supplied by local residents who donated through fundraising efforts during the past two years, Samora said.

"We quit running the truck in parades in 2000 because it would overheat and we didn't want to damage it," said Doug Bess, fire chief. "It was tucked away in the bay and forgotten."

When Bess became chief, he decided the old truck needed some love. He and fellow firefighters worked to drum up funds for its refurbishment.

"It is a crazy piece of rolling history and I want to see it back in parades," Bess said.

Once a contract for the work is approved in a couple of months, the truck will be taken to Reliance Fire Museum in Estes Park where owner Doug Klink and his crew will begin the restoration process.

The Kissel is especially important to the city's history because it was the first motorized fire truck owned by the city, Samora said. The truck was in service from 1912 until 1942 before becoming strictly a parade icon.

"The city would like to thank everyone who donated and gave their time to this great project," Samora said.

"I am so anxious to get it up and running again. When it is done it will be something special," Bess said.

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