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Entry Level Positions



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Around Montana

- Missoula Firefighter Wins Annual Seattle Stairclimb For 4th Straight Year**
http://ravallirepublic.com/missoula/news/local/article_9183068e-dd24-564a-bb6b-9d1da2b0fb89.html



Missoula city firefighter Andy Drobeck won the annual Scott Firefighter Stairclimb for the fourth year in a row on Sunday in Seattle. The challenge requires the participants to race up 69 flights of stairs at the Columbia Center while wearing their full set of firefighting gear, including a breathing mask and oxygen tank. Drobeck estimated that his outfit weighs more than 40 pounds. He completed the challenge in 10 minutes, 46 seconds. Firefighter Ben Brunsvold, also of Missoula's city fire department, placed fourth, at 12 minutes, 20 seconds. The firefighter challenge is a fundraiser for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Drobeck said the Missoula firefighters raised more than \$15,000 for the cause in the past year. He credits his performance in the race with the hours of training he does every week for long distance running, with the cardio and strength training carrying over to climbing all 1,311 stairs. Drobeck also competes in Ironman triathlons. "If I can do nine hours of running, I can do 10 minutes of this," he said.

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2015 Scott Firefighter Stairclimb Results

Follow this link to find out results of our Montana Firefighters!

http://www.llswa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=sfs_2015_results

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Evergreen Fire Chief Talks About Growth, Dual Roles Of The Department

http://www.dailyinterlake.com/members/evergreen-fire-chief-talks-about-growth-dual-roles-of-the/article_a113e05e-c600-11e4-8db0-5ba734c1fcec.html



As a young member of the Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department in the late '90s, Craig Williams saw an opportunity.

It was born out of necessity, really. For a department serving an unincorporated area, Evergreen crews oversaw a condensed population center. Much like neighboring Kalispell, the calls in Evergreen required a variety of responses.

Fires were often coupled with injuries, and at that time the Evergreen department wasn't trained to handle both. Occasionally it was a helpless feeling.

"We got on scene first, but we wouldn't provide the EMS-level service," Williams said.

Over the next two decades, Williams sought to make sure that didn't happen. The change was a shot in the arm for the department.

Williams would go on to become the first full-time employee for the department. Later, he would head up the crew and bring emergency medical service to the department. That move sparked quick growth in a service that remains reliant on part-time and volunteer firefighters. Williams, now 44, grew up and attended school in the Flathead Valley. He said all that knowledge of the areas quirks, its back roads and its people helps him in his current role as chief of the Evergreen Fire Rescue.

"Being local has had its advantages, because I know the community," he said.

A few years after high school, Williams landed a volunteer spot with the Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department, as it was called at the time.

He originally wanted to go into law enforcement and still waffled between the that and firefighting back then. Outside of volunteering for the department, he worked as a fraud investigator and private security.

But the life of a firefighter took hold, he said, and it didn't let go. Williams likes to say that if you find a job you love, you don't work a day in your life. That's a maxim that he applies to himself.

In those early years, the Evergreen crew was still entirely comprised of volunteers. It had been since 1954, when the department was first commissioned to serve the Evergreen School District area.

In addition to being staffed by volunteers, it was also characterized by a single discipline.

"It was a fire culture, and not an EMS culture at the time," he said.

Williams said that the need for medical training became apparent at times when Evergreen would be first on the scene but unable to help an injured person. That's when the idea of a dual-role crew crept into his view.

In 2005, the department had grown and Williams was hired as the assistant chief. He was the first full-time employee there. By that time, his future was linked to the Evergreen department and he started work on integrating emergency medical services.

It wasn't always a popular idea, even with the administration and its governing board. But when Williams started as assistant chief, the crew members began cross-training for fire and EMS certifications.

It was a difficult learning curve at times. Williams said it took nearly two years to get everyone certified, and they lost some people along the way. Some people weren't interested in dual-training. Others went through it, only to realize that it wasn't for them.

And these were volunteers. Even today, the department relies on volunteer and part-time crew members with a high level of dedication. Williams said that many pay for EMS and paramedic training on their own, all while holding second jobs.

In 2007, the Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department became Evergreen Fire Rescue. They purchased their first ambulance and launched 24/7 rescue services.

Serving about 9,400 people in and around Evergreen, the department often works alongside the Flathead County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Chuck Curry said that the move to EMS has been a valuable public safety move.

"I think that's been a huge improvement," Curry said. "In the modern day of fire prevention, things don't always catch fire as much as they used to. However, people still get sick or injured."

With the introduction of medical services, the amount of work increased for the department.

"Once we became an EMS provider in Evergreen, our call volume increased," Williams said. That also spurred growth. They were able to expand the crew and offer part-time pay from the ambulance service revenue.

In 2008, Williams became chief of the department. That same year, voters passed a \$4.4 million levy for a new fire station. They constructed it the following year right on top of the old one. They even burned down the old station to use as a training exercise.

"Basically out of the ashes came this facility we have now," Williams said. "And we're really proud of it."

The money earned from ambulance service, along with some smaller revenue sources, still funds the department's core crew. Today, they have 32 members. It's a mix of volunteers and part-timers for the most part. Williams, the fire marshal and an administrative assistant serve as the only full-time employees.

"All of the other employees here, they are solely paid from ambulance revenue," he said.

But the dedication remains, which Williams lauds as a fundamental part of the department's success. The majority of the crew will be certified paramedics by May.

The department recently received an ISO evaluation rating of 3. The ISO is a national standard rating system for fire departments, and Williams said that only 5 percent reach a rating of 3 (the Kalispell Fire Department is also a 3).

Now the Evergreen Fire Rescue is looking for that next step. The same is true for Williams, who is studying to earn an emergency management degree from Colorado State University. His son is about to be certified as a paramedic and is part of the department crew. He said that his daughter is interested in being a flight nurse.

That can be said about a lot of crew members, Williams added. "You're only as good as your family" in that line of work, he said.

That's because it takes a lot time and work to reach that dual-discipline status in a part-time job. But that's part of the character of the Evergreen Fire Rescue, Williams says. There's still that strong volunteer ethic that ran the department for its first 50 years. "We haven't forgotten where we came from," he said. And Williams sits at the helm as the department looks ahead.

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Firefighters Put Out Brush Fire Off Canyon Ferry Road

http://helenair.com/news/local/firefighters-put-out-brush-fire-off-canyon-ferry-road/article_b243a14a-5926-5063-911e-369230983362.html



Firefighters with Tri-Lakes Volunteer Fire Department bring a brush fire on Canyon Ferry Road under control Sunday afternoon. The planned brush fire got out of control at about 1 p.m. and consumed a couple of acres and got within yards of a home before it was stopped.

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Missoula Area Sees Several Grass Fires Over The Weekend

<http://www.krtv.com/story/28293813/missoula-area-sees-several-grass-fires-over-the-weekend>



MISSOULA -- The weekend brought beautiful weather, but with that, there have been several grass fires in the Missoula area.

Both Missoula Rural and City fire departments responded to a grass fire near 3rd Street and Tower Street around 2:00pm Sunday.

Officials say the fire spread during a legal open burn and covered about a quarter acre. The landowner and neighbors helped contain the fire until responders arrived.

This is one of three fires that have been reported in Missoula over the weekend.

Officials say with the warmer temperatures coming earlier this year, the calendar date can be deceiving when it comes to fire.

Missoula Rural Fire Captain Forrest Brown said, "Open burning season started March 1st, so a lot folks are getting out and doing their spring clean up and doing their spring burning. With the snow off the ground, not that long ago we would think things are still wet, but the lighter dryer fuels dry out quickly and can be a hazard on a slightly breezy day."

Brown reminds those planning on burning to keep buckets of water and hoses handy.

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2015 FSTS Staff And Command Coming In April

MSU Fire Services Training School will be presenting the Staff and Command seminar Saturday, April 18th through Sunday, April 19th at the Hampton Inn, 2301 14th St SW, Great Falls Montana. Class will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

This seminar is intended to assist chief fire officers, trustees, fire service area board members and administrative officials with the leadership and management of effective fire service organizations. This seminar will provide current or newly appointed chief officers, trustees, fire service area board members, administrative officers, and city/county commissioners' exposure to the fire protection challenges they face and the range of skills required for success. Participants' interest and needs will determine the content of the presentations which are informal and highly interactive.

Tuition is \$129.00 for members of a public Montana Fire Department and \$200.00 Private for private or out-of-state individuals. This includes 2 lunches, 1 dinner and handout materials.

To register please contact:

<http://www.montana.edu/wwwfire/register.php> or

Jon Marshall at jonathan.marshall@montana.edu (406) 771-4338

Or Kathy Craig at katheryn.craig@montana.edu (406) 771-4335

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Legislative Update - Week 9

The past week in review:

There was little activity last week due to the Legislature transmittal break. Full schedules will resume this next week.

Hearings and issues this upcoming week:

HB504 (Revise laws related to consolidation of rural fire districts and areas) Has a hearing scheduled in front of the Senate Local Government committee for Friday, March 13th, at 3:00 PM in room 405. This bill would allow fire districts to consolidate with fire service areas. The Montana Fire Alliance supports the bill.

HB555 (Generally revise laws related to volunteer firefighters) Also has a hearing scheduled before the Senate Local Government committee on Friday, March 13th, at 3:00 PM in room 405. The bill would raise the allowance, including a stipend or per diem, that a volunteer firefighter could earn, from \$300 to \$3,000 per calendar year. This bill only affects volunteer firefighters covered by the VFCA pension administered by MPERA. The Montana Fire Alliance supports the bill.

To follow the Montana Fire Alliance's "bills of interest" go to www.mtfirealliance.org/legislative.html

Respectfully Submitted
Leonard Lundby
Montana Fire Alliance - Legislative Liaison

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DES Emergency Management Supervisor Position

The Disaster and Emergency Services Preparedness Branch is recruiting for a Branch Manager. Please click on the link for more information:

<https://mtstatejobs.taleo.net/careersection/200/jobdetail.ftl?job=15140489>

Emergency Management Supervisor - (15140489)

Description

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Consider being a branch leader in the Disaster and Emergency Services Division. This position is responsible for managing the Preparedness Branch and supervising up to ten professional Emergency Managers. Responsibilities also include budget management, policy and procedure development, career ladder administration and reports to the Disaster Emergency Services Administrator. Successful candidate must have demonstrated ability to work and engage in diverse working environments within and outside the Department.

May be assigned as Agency Duty Officer on a rotational basis and must be available for emergencies on a 24-hour basis for a seven-day period. At all other times, incumbent must be available for duty around the clock in the event of emergency or natural disaster.

The Preparedness Branch is responsible for the coordination of preparedness and protection related activities throughout Montana, including grants, planning, training, individual and community preparedness, assessments, lessons learned, and continuity of government.

Qualifications:

Knowledge of: Emergency management organizations and organizational structures; principles and practices of urban, community and regional disaster planning; the methods and techniques of gathering and analyzing statistical data. Understanding of the functional relationship between the federal, state, and local emergency management organizations; emergency management planning and operations; management principles; the technical literature pertinent to emergency management programs; the proper channels for dissemination of program information.

Ability to: Interpret and apply emergency planning and operations rules and regulations; organize and coordinate program activities with federal, state and local agencies; effectively interact with state and local governments, volunteer, and private organizations and other Emergency Managers; implement emergency operations plans and direct/coordinate rescue and survival activities; evaluate emergency situations and make sound recommendations based on current weather or disaster conditions and personnel/resources available to meet demands. Collect, assemble, and analyze facts and draw conclusions to recommend solutions to problems; identify and interpret program requirements, policies, and regulations to provide guidance and advice; organize and present facts and opinions orally and in writing.

Education: Bachelors degree to include coursework/training in one or more of the following areas: emergency planning, regional/urban/community planning, disaster planning, public safety program planning, transportation planning, public administration or business administration, military science, or statistics.

Experience: Seven years experience in one or more of the following areas: emergency management planning, regional/urban/community planning, disaster planning, public safety program planning, transportation planning, public administration, business administration or the social sciences. Three of the seven years must be progressively responsible supervisory or

managerial experience.

Alternative qualifications:

Equivalent combinations of related education and experience may be considered.

Applicant Pool Statement: If another department vacancy occurs in this job title within six months, the same applicant pool may be used for the selection. **Training Assignment:** Not Applicable

Job

: Project/Program Management

Salary: \$

70,295 - 70,295 Yearly

Benefits Package Eligibility: Health Insurance, Paid Leave & Holidays, Retirement Plan

Number of Openings

: 1 **Employee Status:** Regular **Schedule:** Full-Time

Shift

: Day Job

Travel

: Yes, 10 % of the Time

Primary Location

: Helena

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Around the Nation

Canadian Firefighter Dies Days After Collapsing at Scene

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/12051740/columbia-valley-firefighter-brian-smyth-dies-from-cardiac-arrest>



Columbia Valley Firefighter Bryan Smyth.

Photo credit: Courtesy Fraser Valley Regional District

Firefighters in British Columbia are mourning the death of Brian Smyth, who served with the Columbia Valley Volunteer Fire Department.

Columbia Valley firefighters were called to the Iverson Road house fire, along with Cultus Lake and City of Chilliwack fire departments, around 5 p.m.

Shortly after 9 p.m., Smyth, 57, sought medical attention, according to a press release from the Fraser Valley Regional District.

He suffered cardiac arrested and was taken to Royal Columbian Hospital.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mr. Smyth's family, the Columbia Valley Volunteer Fire Department, and the community. We are deeply saddened," said Fraser Valley Regional District Board Chair Sharon Gaetz.

"I know that Brian was well loved by his fellow firefighters and a respected, longtime resident of the community," Electoral Area H Director Taryn Dixon said. "His presence will be greatly missed."

In the press release from the regional district, it said "Mr. Smyth continues to give back to others in death, as he donated his organs to save the lives of others."

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Toddler Alive 14 hours After Car Crashes into Utah River

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11873612/toddler-alive-14-hours-after-car-crashes-into-utah-river>



In this March 7, 2015 photo, officials respond to a report of car in the Spanish Fork River near the Main Street and the Arrowhead Trail Road junction in Spanish Fork, Utah. An 18-month-old girl survived a car crash in a frigid Utah river after being strapped in a car seat upside-down for some 14 hours before being found by a fisherman, but her 25-year-old mother, Lynn Groesbeck, of Springville, was found dead in the car, police said Sunday. (AP Photo/The Daily Herald, Sammy Jo Hester)

Photo credit: The Associated Press

SPANISH FORK, Utah (AP) — An 18-month-old girl whose mother crashed their car into a Utah river survived hanging upside down in a car seat for some 14 hours in freezing temperatures before a fisherman found her, authorities said.

The mother, 25-year-old Lynn Groesbeck of Springville, was found dead in the car, and her daughter Lily Groesbeck was in critical but stable condition at a Salt Lake City hospital, police said Sunday.

"She is doing remarkably well considering the circumstance. The doctors have been hopeful so far," the mother's sister, Jill Sanderson, told KSL-TV of Salt Lake City on Sunday. "We would like to express our appreciation to the Spanish Fork rescue team for saving the baby's life."

The fisherman discovered the car on its top in the Spanish Fork River about 12:30 p.m. Saturday in Spanish Fork, about 50 miles south of Salt Lake City, police Lt. Matt Johnson said. Investigators believe the wreck occurred about 10:30 p.m. Friday, when a resident near the accident scene reported hearing a noise, Johnson said. The resident could not find anything unusual when checking the area.

The girl was found hanging upside down above the river that flowed through the car, and the water never reached high enough to touch her, Johnson told the Deseret News newspaper. Her mother was found in the driver's seat.

The car struck a cement barrier on the bridge and careened into the river, investigators said. It landed under the bridge and was difficult to see from the road. Police are not sure why the car left the road, and the Utah Highway Patrol is assisting in the accident investigation.

Family members told police that Lynn Groesbeck left her parents' nearby home in Salem about 10 p.m. Friday and was heading to her home near Provo when the crash occurred. She was enrolled at Provo College with a goal of becoming a medical assistant, Sanderson said, and had lived in the Provo area her entire life.

"She was very compassionate and a very loving person and always willing to bend over backwards for her loved ones," Sanderson told KSL. "Her baby was the love of her life. She was an amazing mother."

Three police officers and four firefighters who entered the river to push the car on its side and rescue the girl were treated for hypothermia at a hospital and released.

The temperature dipped to the low- to mid-30s overnight while the girl was trapped in the car.

Police said they wouldn't release further details Sunday unless the girl's condition changes.

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Blaze Rips Through Historic N.J. Inn

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/12051825/blaze-rips-through-historic-nj-inn>



Photo credit: Fire and EMS Alerts of Hunterdon County

A historic inn in southern New Jersey was destroyed after a large fire ripped through the structure early Monday.

Heavy smoke was visible early from The Sergeantsville Inn. However, fire broke through, and there was a collapse as well, according to [NBCNewYork](#).

Firefighters requested additional manpower as they started the effort about 2 a.m.

"This is the center of our town," Delaware Township Mayor Roger Locandro told reporters.

"This is the place where senators and assembly people come. This is a place where people celebrate their birthdays or anniversaries -- their life events."

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W.Va. Man Performing CPR Killed by Patient's Dog

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11873862/east-wheeling-wv-man-doing-cpr-killed-by-patients-dog>

WHEELING, W.Va. (AP) — Police in West Virginia say a pit bull attacked and killed a man who was trying to help the dog's ill owner.

The incident occurred Sunday night at a home in East Wheeling.

Lt. Phil Redford says police believe the dog's owner suffered a heart attack. The other man was attacked by the dog as he tried to resuscitate the owner.

A police department news release says both people were pronounced dead at a local hospital. Their names haven't been released.

Ohio County Animal Control removed the dog from the home and placed it in quarantine.

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Entry Level Positions (Denotes New Posting)**

Red Lodge Fire Rescue Position Announcements

Red Lodge Fire Rescue (RLFR) is accepting applications for positions on the seasonal fuel mitigation crew. The RLFR fuel crew generally works 40 hours per week with opportunities for overtime pay on local, regional, and national wildland fire engine assignments. Up to 4 temporary seasonal positions will be hired.

Primary duties will include removing forest fuels from the landscape to reduce wildfire risk. Additional duties may include responding to wildfires, miscellaneous station work, and other duties as assigned. Qualified applicants must work well with others in a physically demanding work environment. Wildland firefighting experience, chainsaw experience, NWCG S-130/190 and S-212 is preferred. Other necessary training will be provided to successful applicants.

The temporary seasonal position is full time from mid-May through October with a salary range of \$14.00 - \$15.00 per hour.

Applications due by April 1st, 2015. For questions about the positions, please email Jon Trapp at jon@redlodgefire.com or call (406) 446-2320. Applicants should include a cover letter, resume and at least two references. Send submissions to:

Red Lodge Fire Rescue
PO Box 318
Red Lodge, MT 59068

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****[Firefighter](#)** Department of Natural Resources Conservation

Lincoln, Montana

Listed: Feb, 25 Full-time



****[Firefighter](#)** Montana Department of Natural Resources
Kalispell, Montana
Listed: Feb, 23 Full-time



****[Forestry Technician](#)** United States Forest Service
Missoula, Montana
Listed: Feb, 19 Full-time



****[Firefighter](#)** Nampa Fire Department
Nampa, Idaho
Listed: Feb, 22 Full-time

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