For Immediate Release:

Corbett Fire Department Holds an Open House To Celebrate 75 Years of Service. Community can View a 50,000lbs “Birthday Gift.”

Corbett Fire District Corbett, Oregon Oct. 3, 2024

 October 12, 2024 the Corbett District will celebrate 75 years of being an officially organized tax supported fire district. The public is invited to the celebration that will be held at the Corbett Fire Station, 36930 East Historic Columbia River Highway. It will be from 11:00 PM until 2:00 PM. Real “fire house chili”, hamburgers, hot dogs, and a birthday cake will be served. Additionally, there will be rides on fire engines for kids of all ages, information from Firewise on how to protect your home in a wildland fire, as well as a sign-up for CPR classes.

 At 12:30 PM the annual Heini Ziegler award will be presented to Paul Peek, for his community volunteer work. Heini Ziegler was a past Corbett Fire Chief in the 1960s and 1970s, as well as a founding member in 1949.

 At 1:30 PM we will have a “wet down” ceremony for the new water tender. A “wet down” ceremony dates back to the 1800s when horse drawn pumpers were used to extinguish fires. After a fire, the volunteer firefighters and horses would return to the station. The community that lived around the station would “wet down” the horses, wash the pumper, and push the pumper back into the station. Corbett Fire is inviting kids of all ages to wash the new water tender and help to push it into the station in order to officially put it into service. Note: In 1949 the fire district purchased a used water tender for $2,000 ($25,000 in 2024 dollars), cost of the new tender is $ 500,000. This water tender is a real “birthday gift” because it was purchased with a grant from the Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Office.

 During the days of Oct. 9 and 10 the Corbett firefighters will be at the Corbett schools and on Oct. 14 they will be at the CAPS school in Springdale teaching fire safety. Topics will in include how to help their parents devise a home escape plan, what to do in case a child’s clothing catches on fire, how to practice fire safety when cooking, as well as bike/ pedestrian safety.

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