



# The **TRUMPET**

## **Ground Zero Emergency Training**



**Kansas Urban Search & Rescue Team Members  
Graduate National Canine Training Center**

**Also in this issue:**

- **Pratt Firefighters Awarded Tom McGaughey Honor**
- **Kansas Fire Chiefs Conference**
- **KSAR Conference**
- **Holiday Safety Tips**

**Cover Photo (from left): OK-TF1/ OKC Handler Jeff Hanlon with K9 Finn, KS-TF5 Handler Chad Winton with K9 Sailor, KS-TF7 Handler Andy Kear with K9 Zoom and NJ-TF1 Handler Charlie LaTerra with K9 Ziva.**

## FROM THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

The days are getting shorter and cooler as we move into the holiday season. Please take a moment to review our holiday safety tip sheets in this issue to ensure you and your family and friends have a fun and safe holiday season.

I am very pleased to showcase our two new Urban Search and Rescue canine handlers and canines. It was an honor to have them participate and graduate from the Ground Zero Emergency K-9 Training Center in Okla. City this past September. The program will continue to enhance our team, and I'm looking forward to a long partnership.

As 2018 quickly rushes past us, we begin looking ahead to the future — including the next legislative cycle. I am always open to hearing ideas or suggestions from our Kansas Fire Service. If you have any ideas or proposals that could benefit our mutual efforts to create a safer Kansas, please contact me at [doug.jorgensen@ks.gov](mailto:doug.jorgensen@ks.gov).

Thank you for reading the November issue of The Trumpet. We hope you'll enjoy this issue, and please share it with friends, family and co-workers.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Jorgensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Doug Jorgensen  
State Fire Marshal

## CONTENTS

- |  |   |  |    |
|--|---|--|----|
| • Hot Spots @ OSFM   | 3 | • Kansas US&R Medical Teams Train Together for Next Disaster | 9  |
| • KSAR Gains Two New Canines Through Okla. Program                   | 4 | • Healthcare Laundry Fire Hazards                            | 10 |
| • Kansas Rescue Conference 2018                                      | 5 | • Thanksgiving Safety  | 11 |
| • Prevention Training Available...                                   | 6 | • Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs Conference         | 12 |
| • Fire Doors in Healthcare Facilities Require "Qualified Inspections | 7 | • Latest Fire Hazard Recalls                                 | 13 |
| • Tom McGaughey Award  | 8 | • Christmas Tree Safety                                      | 14 |

# HOT SPOTS @ OSEM

## Prevention Hires New Deputy Boiler Inspector

We are pleased to welcome **Trevor Hallagin**, who has joined our Prevention Division as a Deputy Boiler Inspector for the North/Central Region in Kansas. Trevor comes to the Office of the State Fire Marshal from Trego County-Lemke Memorial Hospital, where he worked in general maintenance for 11 years.

Trevor lives in Wakeeney with his wife, Tammy, and their three dogs and two cats. They have one daughter and are expecting their first grandchild.

“I’m excited for this opportunity,” Trevor said. “I really like working on boilers and hope my experience will make a good fit with OSFM.”

**Welcome, Trevor!**



## OSFM Prevention Team at State Capitol



### OUR MISSION

The agency’s mission is to reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through inspection, enforcement, regulation, investigation, education, hazardous material and search & rescue incident responses.

### OUR PURPOSE

To reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through:

- Inspection
- Enforcement
- Plans Review
- Fireworks and Explosives Regulation
- Investigation
- Hazardous Material Incident Mitigation
- Public Education
- Coordination of Search and Rescue Efforts

### The TRUMPET

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### STAY CONNECTED



# Kansas Search & Rescue Gains Two New Canines Through Okla. Program

*Kansas sends first state-level Urban Search and Rescue canine handlers to Ground Zero Emergency Training Center in Okla. City.*

**Topeka, KS.** – Two Kansans were the first state-level Urban Search and Rescue canine handlers from outside of Oklahoma to graduate from the Ground Zero Emergency Training Center in Okla. City in September. The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) partnered with the Ground Zero to provide two Kansas Urban Search and Rescue canine handlers with dogs and specialized training. Ground Zero, a non-profit organization started by former University of Oklahoma head football coach Barry Switzer and his wife Becky,



**Andy Kear**, Sherman County Rural Fire/ KS-TF7, and Zoom, pose with Ground Zero Co-Founder Becky Switzer.

has provided dogs to Oklahoma Task Force 1, as well as numerous other teams in Oklahoma and federal teams across the country.

On Sept. 17, Kansas sent the first two handlers, Chad Winton, Wichita Fire Department/KS-TF5, and Andy Kear, Sherman County Rural Fire/ KS-TF7, to Tuttle, Okla. to start an intensive two-week, handler training course where they trained and were paired with a canine partner. After returning

to Kansas, the teams will train with other members of the Kansas Task Force K9 Unit to achieve a Type I certification in disaster search. Currently the KS-TF K9 Unit has five certified canine teams with a goal of eventually having 12 certified teams in the state.

“It is an honor to be working with an organization like Ground Zero,” Randy Hill, OSFM Search and Rescue Coordinator, said. “Kansas needs to build its cadre of canine search teams that specialize in locating victims after a disaster like a tornado or building collapse.”

While the goal is to provide deployable canine teams for the State of Kansas, Hill added, having certified disaster search dogs will be a tremendous benefit to each handler’s employer and local jurisdiction.

Ground Zero hosted a “Passing of the Leash,” ceremony on Sept. 27. During this ceremony, they presented four Urban Search and Rescue canines to four canine handlers from across the United States. The ceremony was held at the Survivor Tree in the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, the site of the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building that claimed 168 lives.

“The ceremony is important and marks the official beginning of the team’s journey of becoming another life-saving asset in disaster response,” Darrell Wilkerson, Ground Zero Program Director, said.

The handler and canine teams that graduated in September were:

- New Jersey (FEMA) Task Force (TF) 1 handler Charlie LaTerra and K-9 Ziva
- Kansas TF handler Chad Winton and K-9 Sailor
- Kansas TF handler Andy Kear and K-9 Zoom
- Oklahoma (FEMA) TF-1 handler Jeff Hanlon and K-9 Finn

**For more information on the Ground Zero Emergency Training Center visit [www.groundzerosaveslives.com](http://www.groundzerosaveslives.com)**



**Chad Winton**, Wichita Fire Department/KS-TF5, and Sailor, chat with Ground Zero Co-Founder Barry Switzer after their graduation.

# Kansas Rescue Conference 2018



The 2018 KANSAS RESCUE CONFERENCE took place this year, Oct. 17-19, at the Kansas Training Center and Crisis City in Salina. Our 11th annual conference huge success and provided another excellent training opportunity in a variety of areas related to rescue operations and disaster response. It was an excellent opportunity to network and train with responders, vendors, and some of the best instructors in Kansas and from across the country.

*Photos by Mission Fire Chief Forrest Walter*



Technical Rescue Conference 2018  
Salina Kansas



# Prevention Training Available...



As the education consultant for the Office of the State Fire Marshal Prevention Division, I have the great opportunity to go around this great state of Kansas and perform many different training sessions. This aspect of my job that I enjoy the most. Being able to get out and meet different people in different positions in Kansas is such a great experience.

The training that I put on most is usually on the healthcare side of things, like nursing homes and hospitals. The training mainly consists of going over the *NFPA 101 Life Safety Code*, which is the code that drives the Fire Code for those facilities.

**By Joel Beckner**

Occasionally, I will also bring along our Bullex Fire Extinguisher System as well. The Bullex is a fire extinguisher simulator to help individuals train on how to put out a fire without having the dangers of an actual flame being present.

Office fire safety training is also something I have done. This presentation is more focused on the most common fire hazards in office spaces and the proper procedure of what to do if a fire indeed does happen. I often hit on home fire safety as well when doing training for businesses.

The last major trainings that I do, would be schools, K-college level. For

colleges, we have trained the resident advisors on proper college safety and then provide Bullex Fire Extinguisher training as well.

For K-12, the training is mainly focused on the teachers and maintenance directors, going over what the



*International Fire Code* says are the rules for school settings.

If any of these training sessions sound beneficial, please feel free to reach out to me at [joel.c.beckner@ks.gov](mailto:joel.c.beckner@ks.gov) or 785-296-0659.

***I would be happy to drive out to your facility and provide training needed at NO COST to you.***





# Fire Doors in Healthcare Facilities Require “Qualified” Inspections

Fire door inspections in healthcare continue to be an issue of concern. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 80 says that all fire rated door assemblies must be inspected and maintained by a qualified person. NFPA 80 3.3.95 defines a qualified person as, “A person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, professional standing, or skill, and who, by knowledge, training, and experience, has demonstrated the ability to deal with the subject matter, the work, or the project.”

## ***How does one become qualified?***

For facilities to have their own personnel qualified as inspectors, they can take the *NFPA 80 (2016) Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Requirements for Swinging Fire Doors* online training class. This class covers information regarding how fire doors work, and more specifically, the 13 items that must be checked when doing a fire door inspection.

If a facility decides to train their own employees to do the fire door inspections, they must make sure that the certificate(s) they receive for passing the NFPA 80 class are available and on hand for review. The name on the certificate(s) must be assigned to the individual that is performing the fire door inspections. Facilities cannot have a single certificate for all employees who want to do the inspection, but they must have a certificate for each individual person if there are multiple.

As always, if you have any questions regarding this information, please reach out to me at [joel.c.beckner@ks.gov](mailto:joel.c.beckner@ks.gov) or 785-296-0659.

The online class, *NFPA 80 (2016) Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Requirements for Swinging Fire Doors*, can be found at <https://www.nfpa.org/Training-and-Events/By-type/Online-Training>.

# Pratt Firefighters Honored with 2018 Tom McGaughey Award



Pratt Firefighters at Pratt City Council Meeting, November 5, 2018.

PRATT — (Nov. 6, 2018) Kansas State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen awarded six Pratt firefighters with the 2018 Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award at the Pratt City Council meeting yesterday. Each year, the Office of the State Fire Marshal joins with the Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs and Kansas State Firefighters Association to honor a firefighter or team of firefighters for heroic actions above and beyond the call of duty.

After being nominated by *Pratt Fire Chief David Kramer, Lieutenant Chad VanSlyke, and firefighters, Justin Sanko, Richard Rawson, Jarod Gilmore, Lee VanSlyke and Kenny Lee* were selected for this year's Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award for their heroic actions at a house fire in Pratt on the morning of Jan. 25, 2018.

The Pratt Fire Department was dispatched to the fire at 211 Austin. After being told there were people inside the structure, they bravely went into the house, which was engulfed in flames, and quickly recovered three family members. When it was discovered that there was fourth individual in the house, they didn't hesitate to go back in and recover that person.

"As chief of a department," Kramer said, "we understand our job and the risks that are sometimes necessary. However, there is that one moment that you have to make the decision that your people's health and safety have become your top priority. At this fire, I was thinking we were at that point, and I was pulling them out, but due to our dedication to training and confidence that we could do it, there was no hesitation on our team's part to go back in and get the job done."

Unfortunately, this fire ended tragically with the loss of four lives, but this team of firefighters, without question or hesitation, rushed into perilous conditions in a valiant effort to save lives.

"It is an honor to be able to recognize the Pratt fire firefighters for their selfless actions on that tragic morning," Jorgensen said. "They risked their lives in an effort to save a family they didn't know."

Firefighters put their lives on the line everyday, without hesitation, to save the lives of strangers. This award is our way of saying thank you. Your sacrifice makes a difference."

The Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award recognizes exemplary accomplishments and acts of heroism by firefighters and other persons at fire-related incidents in Kansas. The individual or team is recognized for their acts above and beyond their basic duties and responsibilities, and for exemplifying the finest traditions of the fire service. The award is named in memory of Wichita Fire Chief Tom McGaughey who perished in a fire, along with three others (Chief Fire Inspector Merle O. Wells, Firefighter Jimmy L. Austin and Firefighter Dale J. Mishler) at the Yingling Auto Dealership on November 21, 1968.



State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen presented the Pratt Firefighters with the Tom McGaughey Award at the Pratt City Council Meeting.

# Kansas US&R Medical Teams Train Together for Next Disaster



*Crisis City* – The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Disaster Medical Solutions hosted an Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Medical Team Training Course Sept. 25-28, at Crisis City. This course was designed and required for disaster response medical team members to help them prepare for future local, state, and national disasters.

US&R teams are called upon to respond to major disasters that require specialized skills and equipment to help save lives. These major events may include tornadoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, acts of terrorism, or other catastrophic events. All instructors are veterans of multiple deployments and provided real world experience through hands-on training that will help the US&R medical professionals in Kansas refine their skills to treat victims in an austere environment. Instructor's experience includes: OKC Bombing, PR Explosion, WTC/Pentagon Attacks,

Hurricanes Andrew/Katrina/ Sandy/Matthew/Harvey/Irma/ Maria, National Security Events, Haiti/Mexico Earthquakes, and others.



Six physicians and 34 paramedics from across Kansas took part in four days of classroom instruction and live hands-on, scenario-based training in collapsed structures and confined spaces. They learned techniques that have been proven to be effective during past incidents such as those mentioned above. This training also included K9 care, to help members care for the search dogs that normally

deploy with the US&R teams. The training concluded with a mock disaster exercise on Friday night where victims buried inside a collapsed building were provided with medical treatment and then extricated from the disaster.

“By training medical task force members to respond to disasters using an all hazards approach, the State of Kansas will be better prepared to save lives during future disasters,” Joe Hernandez, Disaster Medical Solutions, said. Crisis City, located just outside of Salina, is an advanced world class disaster training center where responders can experience the “real world” scenarios they will encounter while responding to disasters. “The only thing harder than preparing for a disaster is explaining why you didn’t,” Hernandez said.

*For more information, contact Randy Hill, KSAR Coordinator, OSFM, 785-207-4144.*

# Healthcare Laundry Fire Hazards

*Laundry rooms in facilities must be staffed when dryer is in use.*



Laundry rooms in facilities are essential to the operation of a facility. However, they can also be a serious fire hazard.

Many fires occur each year in laundry rooms because of improper processing of chemical and grease laden rags. Chemical and grease laden rags have been known to build up heat and spontaneously combust due to the chemical reaction when put in dryers or confined spaces right after getting out of the dryer. It is always important for those rags be air dried only.

For healthcare facilities, whenever the dryer is in use, the laundry room must be staffed. In addition, the staff shall be knowledgeable of who is using the dryer, and the contents of the dryer.

***When it comes to home fire safety and dryers and washing machines, here is a great fact to know:***

*The leading factor contributing to the ignition of home fires involving clothes dryers is the failure to clean the dryer. That accounts for one-third of the dryer fires each year, according to NFPA.*

With that in mind, do not use a dryer without a lint filter, and if you do have a lint filter, make sure you clean it out before or after each load of laundry.

As always, if you have any further questions, please reach out to me at [joel.c.beckner@ks.gov](mailto:joel.c.beckner@ks.gov) or 785-296-0659.

# Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.



- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

## Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

**Have activities** that keep **kids out of the kitchen** during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done **outside** the kitchen.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



# Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs Annual Conference, Garden City



*Pat Collins, President of the Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs, kicked off the annual conference in Garden City, Oct. 26.*



*From left, Sara Wood, NFIRS Program Manager and Kelly Ingold, Public Education & Outreach Consultant, staff the OSFM table at the 2018 Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs Conference in Garden City.*

## OSFM Encourages Kansas Fire Departments to Develop Decontamination Kits for Added Firefighter Safety Measures

It has been determined that establishing a safe and effective practice for removing toxic substances and particulate from personnel equipment and the fire protective ensemble after exposure to products of combustion will aid in reducing possible carcinogenic exposures and potentially have both short and long term positive health impacts.

OSFM is encouraging all Kansas fire departments to establish their own decontamination kits to provide this important safety measure to their current process. An example of our recommendation for what should be included in the kit is shown here.

***A proper decontamination kit should include:***  
5-gallon bucket, 5-gallon bucket lid, spray bottle, scrub brush, duct tape, 5-pattern trigger hose nozzle, hand and face wipes, Dawn Dish Soap, 2.5" female X .75" male GHT Adapter, 25' forestry grade lay flat hose w/garden thread, 55-gallon clear plastic 4mil-6mil thickness trash bags.



# Latest Fire Hazard Recalls from CPSC

**Name of product:**

Pendant lights

**Hazard:**

The insulation on the electrical wiring can come loose, posing fire and shock hazards.

**Remedy:**

Replace

**Recall date:**

October 25, 2018

**Units:**

About 260



**Name of product:**

Wireless speakers

**Hazard:**

The lithium ion batteries in the wireless speakers can overheat and catch fire, posing a fire hazard.

**Recall date:**

October 19, 2018

**Units:**

About 164,000



**Name of product:**

Haier Top-Mount Refrigerators

**Hazard:**

An electrical component in the refrigerator can short circuit, posing a fire hazard.

**Remedy:**

Repair

**Recall date:**

October 25, 2018

**Units:**

About 137,000



**Name of product:**

Wireless charger bedside pockets

**Hazard:**

The wireless charger bedside pockets can overheat, posing fire and burn hazards.

**Remedy:**

Refund

**Recall date:**

October 18, 2018

**Units:**

About 3,600



*For more information on these recalls and others and to sign up for direct recall notifications, please visit [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).*



**Working smoke alarms save lives!**

**Free Smoke Alarm Program**

**GetAlarmedKS.org**

# Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



## PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



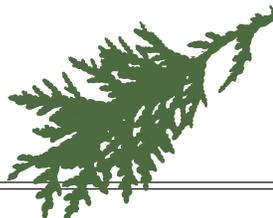
## PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



## LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



## After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

## FACTS

- ! **One** of every three home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.



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