



# On the Line



***Our Core Values: Pride, Respect, Duty, Unity, Integrity and Compassion.***

## In This Issue...

Chief's Corner.....	2
State Smoke Detector/Backpack Update—F/M Rech.....	3
Have You Hit the “Pitch”—Ed Palizzolo.....	4
Safety Tips.....	5
Tango’s Tips-Cody Thorne.....	6
Around the Department.....	7
You’ve Been Caught Letters.....	7
Prevention/Training Efforts.....	8
Member Profile: Monty Pirtle.....	9
Picture This.....	10
Final Alarm: Retirement Bell Ceremony.....	11
Special Invite: Rehab at the Lake.....	12

## Upcoming Events

### August 6th

Department summer picnic

### August 27th

Red & Blue Softball Tournament for Fire and Police Departments that benefits Make-A-Wish

### October 9-15

Fire Prevention Week

**Be sure to check the pub-ed calendars for upcoming events!**

### UFD statistics for July

Calls for service: 227 YTD: 1,441

Average response Time – All incidents: **6 minutes and 12 seconds**

Average response Time – **Emergency** incidents: **6 minutes and 6 seconds**

**Emergency Medical Service calls: 165**

Average Response Time EMS: 6 minutes and 2 seconds

Emergency: 6 minutes and 3 seconds

Non-Emergency: 6 minutes

**Fire related calls: 62**

Average Response Time Fire: 6 minutes and 39 seconds

Average turnout per fire incident: 6 people

We **received mutual aid eight times**—four times for fire calls and four times for EMS calls.

We **provide mutual aid one time**—for an EMS call.

### Types of Fire Calls

The 62 fire calls we had in July fall into the following categories:

<b>Fire / Explosion:</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Hazardous Condition:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Service Calls:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Good Intent Calls:</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>False Calls:</b>	<b>31</b>



## Birthdays:

Damir Nuhanovic	August 3
Brad Crookshank	August 4
John McCannon	August 12
Derek Manser	August 15
Mike Cardwell	August 30



Chief's Corner—Chief Jerry Holt

The concerns about Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) have brought an interesting observation to light. I hope that at this point, everyone is up to speed on CSST and the dangers associated with CSST and lightning strikes. A quick review:

CSST is light weight tubing used to replace black pipe during the installation of gas pipe in most homes built during the late 1990's...and is still being used today. This pipe is 15 times thinner than the pipe it replaces. It is flexible and builders enjoy the low cost and the ability to install is easier than black pipe.

It wasn't until after it was installed that problems began to show up. Lightning strikes can allow electricity to travel through this pipe and if there is another metal object close by such as duct work, wires, metal supports, etc., an arc may occur between the pipe and that object that causes a hole in the pipe...and a subsequent fire. Often these fires are in the hidden space between the ceiling of one floor (usually the basement) and the floor above. They may also occur in the wall and often times around gas fire places. The fire can burn undetected and cause extensive damage to the light weight floor joist of newer construction.

For us, the tell-tale sign is a fire call to a home that reports being struck by lightning and they now have a smell of smoke in the home but they do not see a fire. Any home that meets that criteria should be considered to have a CSST fire until we rule that out.

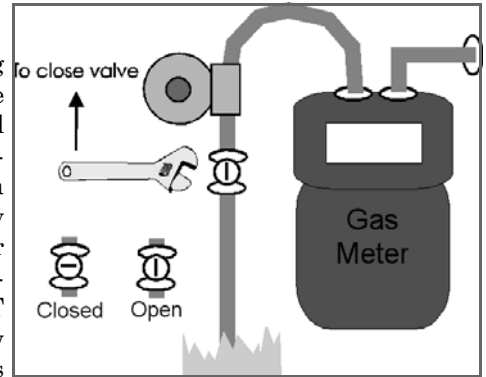
This is a big deal for us – we have thousands of homes built with CSST in our community. In fact, most of all homes built in Western Urbandale have CSST. Add to that the high incidences of lightning strikes in our area, and well, you can put two and two together. The CSST industry says these fires are extremely rare...we have five documented in the last four years. Two CSST fires so far in 2011. I guess "rare" is relative to the effect on you but if we had five Powerball winners in Urbandale over the last five years, people would be wanting to buy their Powerball tickets in Urbandale and "rare" wouldn't feel so small.

I digress...so what's the little thing that has to do with CSST fires? The gas meter! There is now an emphasis on controlling the gas meter. Rightfully so – In a CSST fire, one MUST control the gas meter. If one fails to do that, the flow of gas into and on the fire will continue certainly speeding the damage occurring and making those light weight floor joists even more susceptible to early failure. However; the little thing to me is why now the emphasis on controlling the gas meter? Shouldn't this have always been the case? I was taught as a firefighter that someone must immediately control the gas meter before or simultaneously to making entry into a structure that is on fire. Whoever conducts the 360 can quickly control a gas meter. I've carried a



that. In fact, I've always considered it an assignment and to that end, the Safety Officer should always confirm the gas has been controlled or shut off the gas line on his/her 360. I have always expected the Safety Officer to do that. This isn't new – *it has never been a good idea to have gas flowing into a structure that has a suspected working fire in it.*

Why do I bring this up? Because I recently heard a firefighter talking about a change that they made in their department because of CSST fires that now requires the gas



line to be shut off immediately. While that's a good idea, that should have been the case since we started putting gas lines in homes. We haven't invented a new procedure here – we should have been adhering to that principle all along. It is not a good idea to have an explosive gas flowing into a structure that "might" have a fire in it. It is the little things. Are there other procedures that are taken for granted that we are not doing anymore? I hope not...but the reality is that as we lose experience, we lose the reason behind some of the things we did so we quit doing them. This "old" process helps with a "new" problem. The little things can make a big difference...and make sure that you are as safe as you can be in a dangerous situation. The little things matter!



Welcome Home Lt. Gentosi!



There are more pictures of Lt. Gentosi's homecoming on pg. 8, 9 and 10.

## ON THE LINE

### State Smoke Detector Project/UCSD Backpack Update - Fire Marshal Jon Rech

You may remember the rollout of the State Smoke Detector Project that occurred in late 2010. After much waiting, we now have a better idea of what's in store for UFD. The surveys, given to students grades K-6 (and parents), asked for them to check one of the following boxes:

1. "I would like new or updated smoke detectors."
2. "I don't want detectors but would like a fire-safety inspection."
3. "I do not wish to participate."

Our surveys have been sorted out and we have received our first installment of detectors and long-life batteries from the State Fire Marshal's Office. Here are the interesting numbers so far:

Surveys given to students = 2,636

Residents not wanting to participate = 127

Surveys returned = 405

New detectors received from the SFM Office = 212

Urbandale residents needing new detectors = 176

Urbandale residents wanting a fire-safety inspection = 35

Non-Urbandale residents needing detectors or an inspection = 67

The large number of non-Urbandale resident surveys are due to the two private schools located in Urbandale. These are spread out over 15 different communities in the Metro DSM area. Once we have all the surveys and detectors distributed to the appropriate FD, we will initiate a plan to get the Urbandale ones done. The residents that requested new detectors will receive two. We are in the process of finalizing the forms and procedures that will be used for the detector installations and home fire-safety inspections. Look for some brief training on this in the first part of August. A State Farm Insurance agent in Urbandale has already offered to help with the detector installations. We will also be reaching out to Boy Scout Troops based in Urbandale to see if they would be interested in helping. We anticipate our overall numbers will increase as we get surveys from other FDs who have kids in their schools that live in Urbandale.



### UCSD Backpack Sponsorship

The Urbandale Firefighters Fund recently approved funding for UFD to sponsor filling 24 backpacks of school supplies for low-income students in the Urbandale Community School District (UCSD). This project is being coordinated through the Urbandale Community Action Network (UCAN) and Polk County Health Services. The backpacks will be given to students who utilize free medical clinics that are being done in the community over the next few weeks. A total of around 200 backpacks are being filled by other local businesses and organizations such as UPD. The 24 backpacks UFD sponsored consist of twelve for grades K-1, nine for grades 2-5, and four for the Middle and High School.



## Have You Hit the 'PITCH' Today? - By Devon Wells and shared by Ed Palizzolo

This article is a reprint of an article from *Fire Engineering.com* web site. I believe it plays an important role in meeting our overall mission statement. Hopefully it brings everyone closer together and playing on the same "Team"! - Ed Palizzolo

### **Have You Hit the 'PITCH' Today?**

Jul 8, 2011 - By Devon Wells

All true baseball and softball players want to hit the pitch when they are at bat. Sure, there are other ways to get on base, such as getting hit by a pitch or being issued a walk, but the glory lies in a hit, especially a grand slam home-run. Hitting the pitch improves your experience, makes you more valuable, and helps the entire team win more games. Ultimately, a [team](#) with the highest batting average might find itself in the post-season and possibly playing for the championship.

So how does this apply to the fire service? Firefighters operate as a team in all of their functions. Daily shift work, emergency response, and social interactions are all team activities. High-performance teams have high levels of [accountability](#) for each member. If part of a team is not functioning at full potential, the entire team suffers. Just like a championship baseball team, firefighter teams must work well together to be the best.

### **VALUES**

When team members believe in the same ideals, the team works well together. Organizational values are shared standards and core beliefs that guide decisions and actions in the organization.<sup>1</sup> Policies and guidelines cannot anticipate every decision that will be made, and no amount of training can cover every situation that will confront the members of the organization. Excellence can be achieved only when decisions that are made are consistent with the vision of the organization, along with its mission and vision statement.

In my organization, we have identified five core values. The values were identified through an exercise that members of the department completed. The top values identified were professionalism, integrity, trustworthiness, cooperation, and health. To make it easier for members to remember these values and use them in their daily decision making, the PITCH acronym was created.

#### *Professionalism*

People that stay engaged and ensure confidence in what they do are said to act professionally. All members of a department should conduct themselves in a manner that brings credit to the organization and the fire service while on duty and off duty. Professionalism is a trait of volunteer and career firefighters. It has nothing to do with whether or not you get paid for your performance. It means that you are confident, respectful, and engaged in what you are doing.

Too many times, we read headlines of firefighters getting

into trouble with the law and fire officers misrepresenting their positions. I recently had the unfortunate opportunity to witness a complete lack of professionalism by members of a large metropolitan department. Their behavior, while in official uniform, was disrespectful to their department, their community, the fire service as a whole, and themselves. Many members of the public witnessed the same conduct, which resulted in negative comments directed at the firefighters. This does not help the fire service in a time when our public perception is extremely critical.

#### *Integrity*

Integrity is doing what is right and being honest with yourself while firmly adhering to moral and ethical values. One way to describe integrity is your decision to sit at a red traffic light at 2 a.m.-- not a single car on the street, law enforcement is not in the area, and the light just turned red. Choosing to sit at the light for the entire 45 seconds, even though no one will see you, is demonstrating integrity. No one value can have a greater impact on your organization; members exhibiting integrity, or the lack of it, will guide the direction of the department.

#### *Trustworthiness*

Being dependable and reliable in all situations to the department, its members, and the community makes a member trustworthy. The public holds a great deal of trust in its firefighters. Mothers are very protective of their children and would never hand them over to a stranger; however, when the child is sick and 911 is dialed and firefighters show up to help, the mother immediately hands her baby over to these strangers because she trusts the firefighters.

This is also apparent in our emergency efforts. When we enter a dangerous situation, we depend on our partners, whether from our department or a mutual-aid company, to watch our back and operate in a safe, competent manner. A lack of this trust will cause unsafe situations and ineffective operations.

#### *Cooperation*

Cooperation is best described as working together to create a synergistic approach to assignments, organizational advancements, and problem solving. It is also getting along well with each other, the community, and other agencies. This is important in relationships within and outside our organizations. There are countless examples of agencies not cooperating with each other. We see this between paid and volunteer departments, city and county fire services, fire and police agencies, and fire-based vs. private ambulance companies. Who is suffering because of this lack of cooperation? The answer is the public, our constituents and supporters, voters, elected officials, families, and friends. Are these the people we want to endanger because we cannot swallow our pride and work with each other?

*Continued on next page...*

Have You Hit the 'PITCH' Today? -By Devon Wells and shared by Ed Palizzolo

Internally, ask yourself how well your union, volunteer organization, and administration work together? If we are all interested in the well-being of the public, everyone should be able to work together to reach amenable solutions to every discrepancy. I have found that the more open, cooperative, and understanding the relationship between labor and administration, the better the outcome for all involved.



*Health*

Finally, staying physically and mentally fit, promoting healthful living and fitness in all that we do, and being “fit for duty,” physically and mentally, is a high priority. Firefighters are dying and leaving the service at alarming rates because of health problems, many of which could be prevented. There is no need to be the next Mr. Universe. However, a well-balanced lifestyle of healthful eating habits and physical activity will increase happiness, job performance, and overall satisfaction with life. Also, avoiding unhealthy habits like using tobacco, excessive drinking, and not getting enough sleep will assist in keeping your mind and body fit for duty.

The public relies on us to provide a high quality, efficient, and effective emergency service in their most vulnerable situations. We owe it to them to be healthy and ready to serve them. When one team member is not physically or mentally ready to work, that member is a liability to themselves, their team, and the department.

All members of the organization should recognize the commitment they have to the success of others and the department. Team success is dependent on each member's performance and adherence to recognized standards. When we are assessing the performance of our team at the fire station, do we assess our batting average to see how we are doing? If everyone is hitting *the pitch*, our chances of winning as a team are better. So ask yourself, “Have I hit the **PITCH** today?”

*Devon Wells, a 20-year veteran of the fire service, is the chief of Hood River (OR) Fire & EMS. He is a Western regional director of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) and has been a division supervisor and structure protection specialist on a Type 2 Incident Management team.*

**Safety Tip**

Be Sure To Know Your Equipment – firefighterclosecalls.com

As a firefighter, proper knowledge of your SCBA is necessary to help provide a safe working environment. We as firefighters should be familiar with every square inch of our LIFELINE. If you do not properly check your SCBA's you will be inviting a dangerous situation upon yourself and your fellow brothers and sisters on the front lines with you. The fireground is not the time to find an overlooked mistake. Making sure your SCBA is in proper working condition is a part of being a good firefighter. Proper inspection of your SCBA should include you checking the overall condition of the pak. That means making sure all the straps, hoses, harness and regulator are all in good shape. It also includes checking your gauges and making sure there is plenty of the good stuff ("Air ain't no big thing, til you ain't got none" -fellow brothers words), activate your pass device and make sure it is in good working condition, always check the facepiece for cleanliness and a good fit, and make sure the buckles are in proper working condition. And don't forget to check your bypass valve. This comes natural to great firefighters, but we need to remember the steps and constantly make sure our pak is ready to go.



Even after we get our new SCBA's – doesn't mean there can't be a failure – so be sure to inspect them carefully and know ALL your PPE.

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK HELP NEEDED**

If you are interested in assisting Fire Marshal Rech in planning Fire Prevention Week activities, please let him know **ASAP**.

## Tango's Tips-By Cody Thorne

### Hoist V6 and Step 360 Pro Starters

By now you all may have noticed the new equipment at station 41. I hope you all have had a chance to enjoy it! If not, perhaps you don't know where to begin. Well here is some information for you novices, or neophytes as Lt. Bissell would say, to take to the gym...

The Hoist V6 is a multi-function cable machine. It is designed to train your body for just about any movement in any plane your body can move. The machine is also capable of being used in almost any way you would normally use free weights. As pointed out before, there are 2 independent weight stacks ranging from 10lbs to 200lbs. I have looked into the weight ratios taking into account the mechanical advantage of the pulleys; you are getting the complete 200lbs on each stack. The manufacturer has compensated for the mechanical advantage. When starting a workout remember these things:

- Have a pre-workout plan; know what muscle groups you want to work.
- Warm-up and stretch the muscles to be exercised.
- Start with a weight that is easy to use until your muscles become familiar with the exercise. At that point, bump it up so you are doing no more than 10-15 repetitions per set.
- Work the large muscle groups first. If you work your arms prior to a chest workout you won't have much energy left. Large muscle groups include the legs, chest, back, and abdominals.
- If you work the front of a muscle, work the back as well. Physiologically speaking, some muscles can only move a limb in one direction resulting in the need for a separate muscle to move the limb in the opposing direction. Example: In the anatomical position, the bicep will move the hand and lower arm toward the body or shoulder. The triceps will move the flexed arm away from the body. Er go, work the chest = work the back/shoulders, work the front of the legs = work the back of the legs, ect.
- If you experience pain during a workout stop immediately.
- Be sure to cool down with an easy walk for about 5 minutes and then stretch once again. This will help attenuate muscle fatigue.



The Step 360 Pro is designed to help you strengthen your core and stabilizer muscles. This is essential training for firefighters since we rarely walk on dry, level surfaces. The 360 may not look like much but you will feel the workout the next day if not hours after completion. Most traditional workouts do not target your core and stability muscles in the legs. Using the 360 will give you increased balance as well as benefit your strength and cardio abilities. The best possible

way to start using the 360 is by watching one or both 18 minute exercises provided on the 360's DVD. It is located in the workout room, inside the stereo cabinet. When the DVD prompts you to use a medicine ball or resistance tubing, substitute them with dumbbells since we do not have either item available at this time. If you get winded and need to take a break, go ahead, it's ok, I had to. The workouts aren't designed specifically for beginners but after several bouts, your body will begin to adjust and the workout becomes easier.

If you would like to begin exercising and don't know where to start, I am here to help you! Just contact me however you please and I will be more than happy to assist you! Stay fit, stay healthy!

**Suppression is the failure of prevention...it is far better to prevent our customers from going through the tragedy of a fire than to respond and risk our lives and the lives of the public to save their lives and possessions from a preventable fire!**

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE DEPARTMENT...

- SCBA testing continues. We continue to plan on having everything wrapped up soon and a recommendation on the preferred SCBA so that we can start the bid process. This will be a competitive bid process so the end product remains in the hands of the best price we can obtain on a unit that will meet our needs.
- We continue to work on the 911 Memorial. We hope to have a conceptual drawing soon and begin the process of getting the memorial constructed in time for a September 11 dedication. The decision has been made to place the memorial in front of Station 42 as opposed to the area around the training building. This is a joint effort between Clive, Urbandale and Windsor Heights and all three departments have agreed that having the memorial out front would provide the most exposure and provide the most opportunity for our guests and visitors to view the memorial. Our vision remains to have this a lighted memorial so that it is viewable at night. Part of the vision includes lighting the current statue so that it is viewable at night.
- The south fence at Station 41 will be replaced this fall. If you haven't noticed, the fence is in pretty bad shape. In investigating the need for a fence it was discovered that the fence is required by zoning and that the current fence is too short. The new fence will be the required six feet and will provide the required screening of the south portion of our parking lot.
- As of the writing of this newsletter, we are in the process of interviewing for additional part-time positions. We no longer will divide staff into POC and part-time categories...staff will either be considered full-time or part-time. The restriction of providing training for those who live in Urbandale (the old POC) will be removed and anyone who is interested in working PT for us will be considered regardless of where they live. There will be stipulations on EMS training for those who have no training however; anyone is eligible.
- Effective with this group of potential new hires, **all employees hired after July 1, 2011 will be required to be tobacco free (all forms of tobacco) on and off duty** as a condition of employment. This will not affect current employees and is being implemented to NFPA recommendation regarding the health and fitness of firefighters and subsequently reducing firefighter fatalities.

**Congratulations!**

- **Assistant Chief Denny Danford (34 years) and Captain Joe Malloy (32 years) on their retirement.**



**Last Safety Incident:  
As of August 1st**

**16** days without a safety incident  
**38** days without a lost time injury

**Last incident:**

- Lost time: head injury when wood struck head during training.
- Last incident: Exposure to possible body fluids

**"YOU'VE BEEN CAUGHT DOING AN OUTSTANDING JOB" LETTERS...**

We continue to recognize your efforts. Whenever we receive a thank you letter, card or a phone call, we pass that along to the people involved in the form of a "You've Been Caught Doing An Outstanding Job" letter. As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, we have sent 56 letters to our personnel. The following people received "You've Been Caught" letters since our last newsletter:

**Craig Jensen and Ed Palizzolo**

We received a thank you note for attending a block party and leading their parade.

**Derek Manser, Pala Merfeld, Monty Pirtle and Lt. Routson.**

We received a note with an ambulance payment – the note says "Thank you to the wonderful EMT's June 1 – 2! They were truly wonderful!"

*Thanks to all of you for providing outstanding service!!*

**ON THE LINE**

**Other programs/training/projects completed by UFD in July:**

**Training Report: 751 hours** of training were completed in July.

Fire Training: 308 hours

EMS Training: 443 hours

**Prevention & Inspection Activities:**

Completed 16 Inspections

Completed 21 re-inspections

Completed 3 preplans

Conducted 24 plan reviews

Conducted 2 Car Seat checks

Conducted CPR training for 8 adults

Conducted public education/ relations for a total of 336 people. (182 children, 154 adults)



			# of Children	# of Adults	
7/1/2011	9401 Hickman	Safety talk	0	24	
7/1/2011	7100 Douglas	Station tour	2	1	
7/1/2011	4718 105th Ct.	Detector Batteries	0	1	
7/8/2011	9000 Northpark	CPR Class	0	8	
7/9/2011	16036 Northpark	Truck request for a B-day Party	10	8	
7/9/2011	4224 Merle Hay	Safety event	15	5	
7/9/2011	15001 Maple	Detector Check	0	1	
7/12/2011	7305 Aurora	BP checks	0	12	
7/13/2011	St.42	Station tour	7	2	
7/13/2011	St.41	Station tour	4	2	
7/13/2011	2530 73rd	Safety talk	0	12	
7/17/2011	154th & Airline	Truck request for a Block Party	24	12	
7/19/2011	St.42	Station tour	10	2	
7/20/2011	IABME Conference - Ames	Safety talk	0	20	
7/25/2011	2751 Parkside Ln.	Extinguisher Training	0	12	
7/26/2011	3520 86th	Truck request for a kids event	80	25	
7/27/2011	11131 Plum Dr.	Safety event	0	0	
7/29/2011	4735 105th Ct.	Detector Batteries	0	1	
7/30/2011	149th & Bryn Mawr	Truck request for a Block Party	30	6	<b>Total</b>
			182	154	336



# Member Profile...

**Member Profile:** Monty Pirtle

**Length of time with UFD:** December 2010

**Level:** PT FF/EMT-B

**What got me interested in the Urbandale Fire Dept?** The members of UFD and the departments focus on customer service.

**Previous EMS experience:** Dallas County EMS - 4 years

**Previous Fire experience:** Adel Volunteer Fire Department – June 2002 - present

**Family Life:** Married to Heidi for 5 years. We have 2 children – Isaac is 3 ½ and Addison is 19 months. We also have Maggie – a 3 year old beagle mix.

**Professional work:** Mercy One Dispatch- November 2010, I was a welder for 8 years prior to Mercy

**Activities or hobbies I enjoy:** Golf, bow hunting, fishing, anything outdoors, spending time with family and friends.

**Most memorable moment with UFD:** Being offered a part time position.

**Most memorable moment outside of UFD:** My wedding day and the day my children were born.

**Favorite TV programs:** Anything on the Outdoor channel, Big Bang Theory, Criminal Minds

**Favorite movies:** Men of Honor, The Hangover, Wedding Crashers

**Last book that I read:** Driver/Operator

**Personal goals:** Successfully complete PS school, I start this fall. Become a full time member with UFD.

**Words of advice for someone new getting into EMS or Fire:** Always be willing to learn new things and work hard, keep an open mind and thrive for success. Be customer focused.

**What I enjoy about the Urbandale Fire Dept:** The other members kindness and willingness to teach me new things. The training opportunities, which have allowed me to improve my skills.



Lt. Gentosi is welcomed home by a contingent of FD personnel.



# Picture this...



AC Danford and Capt. Malloy are recognized for their years of service at a City Council Meeting in July. Mayor Andreweg presents them with a clock and a year's membership to the City's Fitness Center.



Capt. Malloy with his wife Ruth and AC Danford with his wife Vicky at the Council recognition. Below: Chief Danford and Capt Malloy receive their helmets and badges at the retirement ceremony.



Left: The welcoming home of Lt. Gentosi at Dallas Center High School.



Right: Alana welcomes Lt. Gentosi home!

This is the Bell Ceremony that was conducted as part of the Retirement Reception for Chief Danford and Capt. Malloy. This is a new tradition in our department and a new way to recognize the efforts of those who are retiring.

## **“Final Alarm: Retirement” Bell Ceremony**

The Fire Service is rich with ceremony, custom, and tradition. Today’s ceremony is the celebration of the ultimate goal of one’s career: retirement. Today we recognize the career of Assistant Chief Denny Danford and Captain Joe Malloy. Chief Danford has spent 34 years of dedicated service and Captain Malloy has spent 32 years in dedicated service to the Urbandale Fire Department and the citizens and guests of our community.

Like so many fire service ceremonies, this ceremony is based on the early days of communications in the fire service. In the early days, bells were used to communicate the location of fire alarms as well as other important information. The number and series of bell strikes were used to transmit the location of fires as well as other information including notification of the death of a firefighter. This death notification or the “Striking of the Four Fives” is one of the most somber ceremonies in the fire service.

Today’s ceremony is a more joyous occasion and represents a new tradition in our department. The Retirement Ceremony is the acknowledgement of the end of a tour of duty. As the bells are sounded when a firefighter’s ultimate tour has been completed, so should it be when a joyous occasion such as retirement when it can be enjoyed by those who have fulfilled their mission. The bell will be struck five times to announce that the tour of duty has successfully been completed.

*I request that the members of the Urbandale Fire Department, both active and retired, please rise and stand in place until dismissed by my command. All members will offer a final salute in gratitude of your years of service.*

**Fire Department: Attention. Present Arms:**

**-FIVE BELL STRIKES-**

The Signal 5 has been transmitted. It is with deep appreciation for the years of service provided by Assistant Chief Danford and Captain Malloy that the Urbandale Fire Department proudly announces the end of tour and official retirement of Chief Danford and Captain Malloy. We are thankful for your years of dedicated service and are grateful that you have safely completed your service to our community and you are now officially relieved of your tour.

*Fire Department: Order Arms. Stand at Ease.*

Chief Danford, Captain Malloy and all fire department personnel are dismissed. This concludes the Retirement ceremony.

# You are invited to: REHAB AT THE LAKE

**When:** Thursday, August 18, 2011 from 1000 hours until dark & Friday, August 19, 2011 from 1000 hours until dark

**Where:** Saylorville Lake

**What:** Weather permitting, come enjoy a day (or two), or just a few hours of boating, tubing, skiing, and general relaxation aboard '*Ship Rech*' with your fellow UFD employees.

**Who:** I can get 6-7 adults comfortably aboard my boat. There's plenty of room for people and a couple of coolers for the liquid refreshment of your choice.

**What Else:** Please note that country music and fishing are strictly prohibited aboard '*Ship Rech*.' Violators shall be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. All participants shall be subject to a short marine fire and life safety presentation at the start of the day.

**What Now:** Contact Fire Marshal Rech if you are interested!



**← You should  
be here on  
8/18 & 8/19!!**

# Information we are providing to homeowners regarding CSST



## **Important Information for Homeowners!**

The Urbandale Building and Fire Departments would like to provide important information to Urbandale residents who have Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) gas pipe in their home.



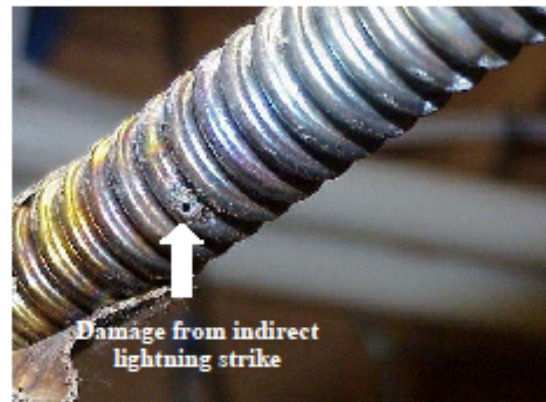
### **What is CSST pipe?**

CSST pipe is a flexible, metal gas piping system used in many homes constructed or remodeled since the early 1990s. The corrugated tubing can be identified by a yellow plastic coating. The picture to the right shows what yellow CSST looks like. You commonly will see it where your water heater, furnace, or fireplace are located.



### **What's the Potential Issue?**

Many installations of CSST prior to 2010 do not have the appropriate bonding and grounding needed for the tubing. Proper bonding and grounding may reduce the risk of damage or fire from a lightning strike. Even a nearby lightning strike that does not strike a structure directly can cause damage to CSST tubing that is not properly bonded and grounded.



### **I can't tell if my CSST tubing is bonded or grounded. What should I do?**

If you do not see any metal clamps or copper wire where your gas line enters your home from the outside or on any black iron pipe near CSST in your utility room, you are encouraged to contact an electrician or your home builder to assist you in determining the appropriate bonding and grounding that may be needed for the CSST in your home.



Additional CSST Bonding information can be found on the Urbandale Building Services Web site at: [http://www.urbandale.org/document\\_library/building\\_services/requirements\\_and\\_guides/CSST\\_Bonding.pdf](http://www.urbandale.org/document_library/building_services/requirements_and_guides/CSST_Bonding.pdf)