



## Office of State Fire Marshal recognizes juvenile firesetter intervention efforts

Career and volunteer firefighters along with civilians throughout Oregon were recognized during the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association's 6th annual Meritorious Awards banquet May 18, 2007.

A highlight of the event included presentation of the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Golden Sparky and Silver Sparky awards and a Special Commendation award.



*OSFM awardees (from left), Judy Okulitch, Dr. Tim Kopet, and Larry Blumenstein with Oregon State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr.*

OSFM Juvenile Firesetter Intervention (JFSI) Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch received the Golden Sparky award for her 17 years of service in developing an internationally recognized JFSI program and for her many years of outstanding service to the citizens of Oregon and the Oregon fire service in juvenile firesetter intervention and public education fire prevention efforts.

Oregon psychologist and Fire Safe Children & Families Program clinician Dr. Tim Kopet was awarded the Silver Sparky for his longtime partnership with the OSFM's JFSI program and career contributions in JFSI research, treatment options and education.

A Special Commendation was awarded to Salem Fire Captain Larry Blumenstein for his work creating a video titled *Moving Water* as part Oregon's new elementary fire awareness curriculum developed by OSFM. He was also recognized for his longtime work with the Oregon

Fire Service Museum, Memorial and Learning Center as an advocate for making the museum a place for visitors to learn about fire safety in addition to viewing memorabilia.

## Juvenile Firesetter Interventionist 1 training scheduled August 2 - 3

Eugene Fire & EMS Assistant Fire Marshal Doug Perry and OSFM Juvenile Firesetter Program Coordinator Judy Okulitch are scheduled trainers for a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1 course August 2 & 3, 2007 at Eugene Fire & EMS Training Center. The training center is located at 1705 W. 2nd Avenue (the corner of 2nd and Chambers), Eugene, OR. Parking is free. There is no charge for the two-day class which runs 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. All meals are on your own.

There is no charge for the two-day class. The training provides students an overview of Oregon's juvenile firesetter intervention program including policies, procedures and laws, child development and communication, practice using the Juvenile with Fire screening tool, and intervention options including educational strategies and referral procedures. The class prepares applicants for completing the knowledge component of the task book required by DPSST for NFPA 1035 certification as a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1.

To register or for more information, contact Tera Gneckow at 503-373-1540 ext. 266 or email [tera.gneckow@state.or.us](mailto:tera.gneckow@state.or.us).

## California city votes to ban sale of novelty lighters

City officials in National City, California voted to ban the sale of novelty lighters effective June 1, 2007.

The ordinance is the first of its kind in the United States and received support from the National City Fire Department and the San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association.

The ordinance's definition of novelty lighter includes lighters especially attractive to children ten years or younger due to a toy-like design or other features, such as buttons or devices that initiate visual effects, flashing lights, or musical sounds that might encourage a child to use the lighter.

Fire marshals, police officers, code conformance officers or any other City official authorized to enforce any provision of the Municipal Code has enforcement authority regarding the banned lighters.

## Latest novelty lighters found on the Oregon market



*The duck lighter (left) is 8.5 inches tall with a 1.5 inch flame that shoots from its head. The bullet is nearly four inches tall and functions as a flashlight at one end and a lighter at the other. The coke can lighter comes attached with a key chain*

**Save this date!**

### Upcoming training

#### Cultivating Partnerships 2

September 17 & 18, 2007,  
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel  
Portland, Oregon

Hosted by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal, the Fire Safe Children and Families Program and the Oregon Burn Center, this series of seminars is designed for anyone involved with juveniles and fire.

Seminar topics include:

- Bullying and firesetters,
- Treating siblings of firesetters,
- Court mandated intervention programs,
- *Juvenile with Fire* screening tool,
- Working with special needs youth,
- Intervention programs for Spanish speaking youth and families,
- Burn Camp-what's it all about?

For more information and to register, contact Kirsten Balding at [kbalding@lhs.org](mailto:kbalding@lhs.org). Register online after June 18 by visiting [www.firesafekidsandfamilies.com](http://www.firesafekidsandfamilies.com)