

New fire department forms north of Williams



Patrick Whitehurst, Reporter

Tuesday, August 05, 2008

High Country Fire Rescue currently seeks subscribers

A new fire and emergency response team will soon be in action north of Williams along Highway 64. High Country Fire Rescue, a private, non-profit company, expects to cover an area along Highway 64 from mile marker 188 to mile marker 205. The department plans to cover private citizens and commercial entities that are not covered by another district or fire department, said High Country Fire Rescue Chief Robert Small.

"Our service area is going to be from mile marker 188 to mile marker 205 on the Highway 64 corridor and then three to five miles on either side," Small said. "It includes the Lake Kaibab park area, the Red Lake area, Lake Kaibab south and Lake Kaibab west. There's an expanse of land out there. It's a big area."

The newly formed organization is currently seeking homeowners and business owners who wish to subscribe to the group's services. Subscription prices are based on the square-footage of a home or business, Small said.



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Submitted photo
Founding members plan the formation of High Country Fire Rescue in June. The new organization currently offers 13 volunteers in various capacities.

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now. That's not big, but it's a start. Our motto is ARK, what that stands for is Acts of Random Kindness. That's what our motto is. We've got EMTs, RNs, working in the capacity of EMTs and we've got three people that want to go to EMT school," Small said. "We're going to have a good coverage of medical experience."

A number of firefighters in the new group, Small said, were former volunteers with the Junipine Fire Department. A handful of firefighters resigned from the Junipine department in June over a dispute with fire district board members concerning the department's coverage area. Officials with the Junipine Fire Department said their policies have not changed. Small is the former chief for the Junipine Fire Department.

"What we as High Country Fire Rescue are about is giving back to the community. We want to help the entire community, not just a select few," Small said. "We're here to help the community. This is medical and also fire. There are a lot of retired people out here and we have had a number of people that are bed ridden for a short time for some illness or something like that and they have literally fallen out of bed. We will do services like that, too."



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Reader Comments

Posted: Thursday, August 07, 2008

Article comment by: **Dale & Jeanette Martin**

We are so happy to be hearing about this new organization. We live north of Williams and had been hoping that something could get started.

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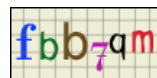
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