

THE CACHAGUA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, First Half of 2017



From the Chief:

I hope this issue of the newsletter finds everyone enjoying the summer. So far the weather has been warmer than last year at this time. Cachagua Creek has dried up after a strong flow through the rainy season. Please continue to work on your properties to make them more defensible in the event we have another wildfire like we had last year.



Chief Gregg Curry

The Soberanes Fire of 2016 is the most expensive wildfire in US history, costing more than \$236 million. It ranks 18th of the top 20 California wildfires in terms of acreage burned, at more than 132,000 acres. The source was an innocent illegal campfire that was left unattended in Garrapata State Park. The fire spread quickly and impacted many of us for weeks. We all know another fire could start at any time so being prepared with a list of your important items along with their locations is part of your critical pre-emergency planning.

Cachagua Fire has had a busy first half of the year as confirmed by the 64 calls we responded to. We remain prepared to respond to all emergencies in our precious area of operations. Below, I have included a couple of items that are valuable and will enable you to react to or be better prepared for emergencies in the home.

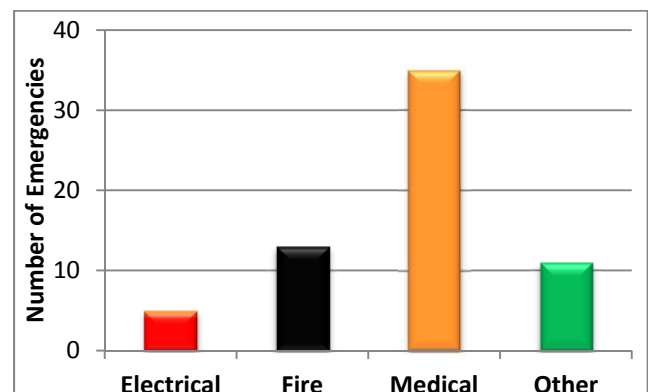
The first topic addresses the signs and symptoms of a stroke and the BE -FAST test to evaluate someone who may have suffered a stroke.

The second shows the Public Education section of the National Fire Protection Association website (<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education>). The website is full of valuable ideas to be better prepared for the holidays between now and the end of the year. House fires are rare in Cachagua but they are a real threat along with wildfires. Please take a look at the website and the links provided below. In closing, I want to wish everyone a pleasant summer. As always please let me know if you have questions or concerns that involve the District.

Sincerely, Gregg I. Curry, Fire Chief

First Half of 2017 (January – June)

We had 64 calls during the first half of 2017, the majority of which were associated with Medical calls.








Signs and Symptoms of Stroke

Knowing the signs and symptoms of a stroke is the first step to ensuring medical help is received immediately. For each minute a stroke goes untreated and blood flow to the brain continues to be blocked, a person loses about 1.9 million neurons. This could mean that a person's speech, movement, memory, and so much more can be affected.

Learn as many stroke symptoms as possible so you can BE FAST to recognize a stroke and save a life!





Stroke symptoms include:

	SUDDEN numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
	SUDDEN confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding
	SUDDEN trouble seeing in one or both eyes
	SUDDEN trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
	SUDDEN severe headache with no known cause

Act BE-FAST

BE-FAST is an easy way to remember and identify the most common symptoms of a stroke. Recognition of stroke and calling 9-1-1 will determine how quickly someone will receive help and treatment. Getting to a hospital rapidly will more likely lead to a better recovery.

Use BE-FAST to Remember the Warning Signs of a Stroke. The B and E are new additions to the FAST mnemonic which researchers say will help bystanders identify potential stroke victims. B stands for balance and E for eyes which are often affected by two prevalent symptoms: balance or gait problems and the sudden onset of visual problems. The rest of the helpful letters are below.

F	FACE: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?	
A	ARMS: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?	
S	SPEECH: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is their speech slurred or strange?	
T	TIME: If you observe any of these signs, call 9-1-1 immediately.	

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

We can all help make the world a safer place by learning more about how and why fires start. We offer dozens of consumer-friendly fact sheets on a wide range of timely and important topics - everything you need to know to keep you, your family, and your neighbors safe from fire and related hazards. The seasonal fires link will offer good information to be better prepared for Halloween, Thanksgiving and the winter holidays.

- [Smoke alarms](#)
- [Fire and life safety equipment](#)
- [People at risk](#)
- [Property type and vehicles](#)
- [Safety in the home](#)
- [Seasonal fires](#)
- [Top causes of fire](#)
- [Wildfire](#)

Photos of Cachagua Fire battling the Nason Fire in conjunction with Cal Fire on May 21, 2017. The fire was started by sparks from a grinder.

