



FOUNDATION
SERVING WOODSIDE,
PORTOLA VALLEY,
EMERALD HILLS, LADERA
LOS TRANCOS, SKYLINE
AND VISTA VERDE

FIRE FOUNDATION ON ITS WAY Helps to Purchase Equipment, Plans September Event

WOODSIDE, Calif. – June 22, 2011 – The Woodside-Portola Valley Fire Protection Foundation announced today that it has raised more than \$85,000 toward its immediate goal of \$250,000.

“Our community responded swiftly and generously to our fall 2010 kick-off mailing,” said Foundation President Rudy Driscoll, a resident of Woodside. “Their response mirrors the efficient, effective response that we receive from our fire department. Our thanks to all, and let’s keep it coming,” he said.

The Foundation has allocated \$50,000 of the initial funds raised toward items identified by the Woodside Fire Protection District (WFPD). These items include a set of cutters/spreaders (“jaws” of life) for vehicle extraction and heavy-duty ropes and related equipment for equine rescue. Some funds, which will be matched by the San Mateo County Fire Safe program, will go toward the purchase of a chipper truck to enhance the district’s fire prevention program.

WFPD Fire Chief Dan Ghiorso said, “We are in the business of providing help, not asking for it. We are frankly surprised and delighted by the community’s response.”

Through WFPD’s active grant program, the fire district has been awarded funds for a new firefighting/rescue patrol vehicle featuring a compressed air foam system, for thermal imaging cameras and for heavy rescue and extrication equipment including a rescue airbag lifting kit capable of lifting in excess of 81 tons. In addition, the grant program has enabled WFPD to equip its apparatus fleet and ambulance with state-of-the-art Lucas Chest Compression Systems, which improve the chances of survival in cardiac-arrest patients through consistent, uninterrupted and automated chest compressions from the moment of rescuer arrival.

The Foundation has scheduled the “1st Alarm Chili Cook-off and BBQ” event for Sunday, September 25, 2011 at Runnymede Farm in Woodside. “It will be unlike other community events,” promises retired Fire Chief Armando Muela. “Hot chili, fire muster activities for children and adults, fire engines. We hope the community will turn out for some fun.”

Established in 2009, the Woodside-Portola Valley Fire Protection Foundation (www.FireDistrictFoundation.org) works to augment the budget of the Fire District for up-to-date equipment, facilities, fire prevention and training. The Board is comprised of a team of community volunteers and Fire District staff. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Contact information: 650.851.1594 or info@FireDistrictFoundation.org.

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