

PRESS RELEASE

September 12, 2008

Firefighter Receives Top Honors

The Johnson County Fire Protection District is pleased to announce special recognition recently achieved by Lieutenant Chuck Heiss. Heiss participated as a volunteer member of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department during the fair which was held August 7-17 in Sedalia and was singled out for recognition for his individual performance.

Lieutenant Heiss served as a member of an Engine Company during the fair and was recognized as Fire Fighter of the Year. This was the first year Heiss has served as a volunteer member of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department and has been with the Fire District since 2005. Along with Heiss, the District had six other firefighters volunteer at the fair this year. This is the second year in a row that members of the District have achieved high honors. In 2007 Battalion Chief Larry Eggen received Fire Fighter of the Year and Firefighter Joe Jennings received Dispatcher of the Year.

The District also received special recognition from the Missouri State Fair Fire Department. The District donated the use of an Engine for the duration of the fair. Apparatus and equipment used during the fair is provided by fire departments from across Missouri or by vendors. The Fire-Weather Safety House was also donated by the District for use during the fair. The Safety House is utilized for a hands-on training approach in fire safety and severe weather. 360 children and 152 adults went through the House while it was at the fair.

The Missouri State Fair Fire Department is a fully operational fire department for 11 days each year and is the only department in the nation of this type. The Department is staffed by members from various fire agencies throughout Missouri who are members of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri. All personnel that serve on the department volunteer their time away from their families to be in Sedalia for the fair.

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