



Gates Mills Fire Department

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NEWS FROM THE CHIEF!

This month's Pink Sheet article contains excerpts from my speech given at the Gates Mills Improvement Society Dinner on January 8, 2016.

2015

On behalf of the Officers, Firefighters, and families of the Gates Mills Fire Department I'd like to thank the members of the Improvement Society for the annual village employee holiday bonus program. I'd also like to express my appreciation to Mayor Riley and our village council for their support of the fire department and the numerous services and programs that we provide.

My speech this evening will be the eleventh time that I have had the privilege of addressing this group. 2015 saw a 15% increase in calls for assistance. Included in these incidents was one house fire in our village, multiple auto accidents, power lines down and fire alarms.

The two items I'd like to highlight this evening are:

Recent promotions within the fire department and the continued success of our Home Smoke Alarm Installation Program.

Promotions: this year three of our firefighters (each with over ten years of experience on the department) were promoted to the position of Second Lieutenant. These individuals will now transition from fighting fires to the difficult role of making tactical fire ground decisions and more importantly, being responsible for the safety of our firefighters under extremely hazardous conditions. Along with their additional responsibilities, these new positions are a part of our fire department continuity and succession plan.

Smoke Alarm Program: again this year we improved the safety of our residents by providing and installing photo-electric smoke alarms. In 2013 we installed 50 smoke alarms, in 2014 we installed 67 smoke alarms and in 2015 we installed 78 smoke alarms in 10 more homes in Gates Mills. If you need smoke alarms or if your smoke alarms are over ten years old you should give me a call! See me tonight, or look me up in the Pink Sheet.

Thank you, and have a Safe and Happy New Year!!!

P. Thomas Robinson, Fire Chief