



Sasamat Fire Department December News



Pet Oxygen Masks: This month, the SVFD begins carrying a new medical device to help animals. These specially-designed oxygen masks can be used on pets suffering from smoke inhalation or needing resuscitation after exposure to toxic fumes. Although not the primary focus for fire departments, the SVFD has a history of helping animals in distress. Our volunteers have assisted local dogs, cats, and even horses. Going forward, the SVFD is happy to add to our capabilities as we continue to look out for all of our four-legged friends.



Address Signs and Gates: Our members respond to about 100 emergencies in Anmore and Belcarra each year. Although our digital maps are quite accurate, we sometimes lose precious minutes trying to locate specific driveways. Please help emergency responders by ensuring that your address markers are clearly visible from the road. If we can't see the numbers at night or during inclement weather, paramedics and firefighters may be delayed in arriving to help your family. If your driveway is gated, please also email Chief Jay Sharpe (jay.sharpe@anmore.com) with an access code. Our CADS system is secure and your code would only be available if we receive a 911 call to your address. Without the codes, our mandate is to force private gates open, if uncertain whether lives and property are threatened.

Local Realtor Helps: In the effort to upgrade our breathing apparatuses for today's larger homes, the SVFD has raised \$68,213 from 97 residents, with \$101,787 left to go. Last month, local Anmore realtor **Glen Klassen** stepped up to donate, giving our volunteers a hand as we secured **SCBA #8**. Thanks Glen and Lisa! The owners of **Anmore Grocery** also made a generous contribution to thank our crews for extinguishing a fire at their store recently – that's two more local businesses helping the cause. If anyone is looking to make a charitable donation this year, please consider our rescue equipment fundraiser as a local option. Donations can be made at www.svfd.ca with tax receipts automatically generated – you just print them off. Thanks for continuing to support our volunteers as they continue to protect your community.

Judy Evans Retirement: 26 women have worn SVFD colours over the years. In October, the *Tri-City News* ran a cover story about **Judy Evans**, our longest serving female firefighter, as she retires from 33 years of active service. Judy is one class act. Awarded the *Queen Elizabeth Jubilee* medal in 2012 for her dedication and efforts with community emergency response, she has made a huge impact on our Department over that period, attending approximately 1000 emergency responses. Judy is not only one skilled firefighter and thoughtful neighbour, but all of us at the SVFD consider her a dear friend. The two Villages owe her a measure of gratitude for her long commitment to public safety. Thanks Judy!

We hope everyone in Anmore and Belcarra has a wonderful and safe Christmas season.

Sincerely,

Jay Sharpe (*Fire Chief*)

Dave Gregory (*Dist. Chief Anmore*)

Jol Drake (*Dist. Chief Belcarra*)

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