

PAOLI FIRE COMPANY

Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service Since 1909

**3 PREPARED
PROTECTING
PROUD**

Winter 2021

PLEASE DONATE

NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR



Dear Neighbor,

I hope this letter finds you and those you love well. While I have written those words before, never have they meant as much as they do right now.

This new year brings new hope: The first COVID-19 vaccines were approved at the end of 2020 and distribution has begun! We have all started thinking ahead to a time when we can gather together to work or play, when we can not only see all of our friends and family again, but we can hug them.

Unfortunately, we are not there yet. Paoli Fire Company has and continues to transport COVID-19 patients. In Spring 2020, these patients were mostly elderly residents of assisted living and nursing facilities. Now, most of them live in private residences and every age group is represented.

It is clear that all of us must continue to do everything we can to stop the spread of this virus. For Paoli Fire Company, the things we must do to protect you and ourselves while providing emergency medical care and transport, rescue and other emergency services have resulted in unprecedented and ongoing expenses. At the same time, the pandemic has reduced some of our biggest sources of revenue. We had to cancel both our Easter flower sale and our annual open house, for example.

It is in a spirit of hopefulness for the future, but also realism about the elevated costs we will continue to bear this year, that I ask you to please make your 2021 membership donation. Thank you for your extraordinary support of our holiday evergreen drive, which helped fill some of the gap. Supporting our membership drive with similar enthusiasm could bridge the remaining distance.

While becoming a member is a generous act of community support, it also potentially has a tremendous personal benefit. If you are a member and need an ambulance in 2021, your insurance co-pay will be your only out-of-pocket payment to Paoli Fire Company. And among the sad lessons that the COVID pandemic has reinforced is that no one, regardless of age or health, knows when he or she may need an ambulance.

Thank you, and please give what you can.

Andrea Testa
Fire Chief

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Membership Donation = Significant Savings

If you need an ambulance in 2021, your membership can yield big savings! We are legally required to bill your insurance company. For Paoli Fire Company members, the amount paid by insurance, plus your co-pay, is accepted as payment in full. Non-members are billed for the costs beyond what insurance covers, which can be as much as \$2,000. See reply envelope for membership donation levels.

Donate Now at www.paolifirecompany.org
69 Darby Road, Paoli, PA

Costs of Covid in 2020

COVID-19 increased Paoli Fire Company's 2020 costs while depressing revenues. We are facing similar circumstances for at least the first half of 2021.

EXTRA EXPENSES:

Overtime:
\$29,990

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):
\$11,000

Virtual Trainings:
\$2,500



REDUCED REVENUES:

Cancellation of Easter Flower Sale:
Approx. \$4,000

Reduced Membership Drive Donations:
\$24,000



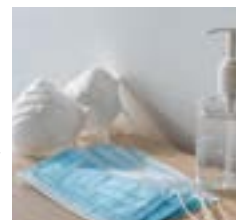
HOW TO HELP:

Make a financial donation

- Donate the appropriate membership amount (see enclosed envelope) or whatever you can afford. Every bit helps, especially now!
- Donate by mail – send a check in the enclosed envelope.
- Donate online – Click the yellow “Donate” button at the top of our website, www.paolifirecompany.org

Donate Supplies

- We are still in need of surgical and N-95 masks, gloves, antiviral cleansing wipes and hand-sanitizers.
- Your gift of the above offsets our costs.
- Email Chief Testa at chief3@paolifirecompany.org



New Paoli Fire Company Apparatus Allows Faster Response, Increased Firefighter Safety

Paoli Fire Company's new tower truck – a 2020 Pierce Ascendant with a 100 foot aerial – is a long-overdue replacement for a 21-year-old vehicle.

“Tower 3 is equipped with the most recent technology available for a Tower ladder,” said Chief Andrea Testa. “It can be completely set up and put in use in 28 seconds. It is equipped with a computerized terrain detection system that can automatically balance and stabilize the truck in place. Previously firefighters had to manually place stabilizing plates on the ground which took up to four minutes of valuable time.”

Tower 3 also has enhanced LED lighting, a 2000 Gallon per Minute (GPM) single stage pump, and carries 300 gallons of water.



Caring for Our Youngest Residents: Paoli Fire Company Earns EMS for Children Certification



Paoli Fire Company's ambulance company has received expert-level certification in pediatric patient care.

“Kids aren't just small adults – this is a whole different realm of emergency medical service,” said Paoli Firefighter/Paramedic and Advanced Life Support Co-

Coordinator Ashley Neubauer. “Being prepared to treat pediatric patients benefits the kids in our community and their families.”

The state Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC), in partnership with the state Department of Health, Bureau of

Emergency Services, and Health Services Council, awarded this highest-level certification after Paoli Fire proved that:

- All ambulances carry extra child-sized equipment.
- Background checks for every EMT and paramedic are complete and on file.
- Every EMT and paramedic receives a minimum of four hours of child-specific medical training each year.
- Child-centered community outreach or education is provided.
- Certified personnel provide infant and child car seat checks.

Paoli Fire Company, which became an Advanced Life Support agency in late 2019, is one of just nine agencies in Chester County to achieve certification through the Pennsylvania EMSC Voluntary Recognition Program.

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