

The Swap Shop will be open Saturday, September 13 from 8 AM to noon and welcomes (before noon) reusable items in working condition like toys, clothing, books, bicycles, and kitchenware. Please, **no** upholstered furniture, tires, windows, doors, electronics, or porcelain fixtures.

Thanks to the following

volunteers for managing the August 9 Swap Shop: Kim Hallquist, Pat Moyer, Nan Kaplan, Ken Tripp, and Ralph Doe. Question: Richard Brewster would like to know ...Who were the three carpenters who constructed the Swap Shop building?

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## Andover Fire Department, September 2014

By Rene Lefebvre  
 Fire Department Chief

A short time ago I attended a retirement gathering for Chief Richard Wright. I am very sure that Chief Wright is not a household name, and most would not recognize him. However, his work over more than 50 years affects how fire departments manage the resources that we depend on when we call for mutual aid support.

It has long been recognized that no single community is able to equip itself to handle large structure fires or natural emergencies. We all need help. Chief Wright recognized this fact in the late 1960s. With the skill of a diplomat, he began to bring together fire departments in the Concord area.

Organizing several fire departments to work as one is a tough task. One must remember, each fire department has a Chief. He is usually not a good person for taking orders, even good ones.

Chief Wright did the impossible and continued to train communities to work as one. I cannot remember any large-scale incident when he was not there.

He called in and managed resources for the local fire chief with a calm, reassuring voice and skill that only a dedicated professional is able to master.

One speaker at the Chief's retirement gathering spoke of the respect he was given when he walked into a room; a respect not born of his rank, but of a quiet competence.

Mutual aid is now commonplace, and there are several large mutual aid centers in New Hampshire. I have had the honor of serving as chairman of the Board of Directors for the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid. Chief Wright has been the leader of the Capitol Area Mutual Aid Compact since it started in the early 1970s. While I never competed with Chief Wright, I did pay close attention to what he was doing – the junior watching the master.

There are not many who have made such a profound impact and improvement to the fire service as Chief Wright. I am very proud to know him and honored to call him a friend. Chief, enjoy your retirement – you have taught us well.

## It's Time To Check Your Heating System

Andover Fire Chief Rene Lefebvre urges everyone to heed this advice!

Heating season will soon be here. This is the time to check your heating systems. Having your heating system checked by a qualified professional will help ensure that the system is ready to operate safely and efficiently.

Heating unit fires are still the number one cause of fires in New Hampshire, and they are preventable. Heating fires are often the result of improper installation, use, or maintenance of supplemental home heating appliances such as wood stoves, coal stoves, and kerosene space heaters. The use of these supplemental heat-

ing devices also increases the risk of dangerous accumulation of carbon monoxide in the home if not properly installed and maintained. Now is the time to have them checked.

It is critical that every home has interconnected smoke alarms on each floor level and that every family should develop and practice a home fire escape plan. Smoke alarms should be tested monthly. Matches and lighters should be kept out of the reach of children at all times.

For further information concerning home fire safety, contact your local fire department or the office of the State Fire Marshal at 271-3294.

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