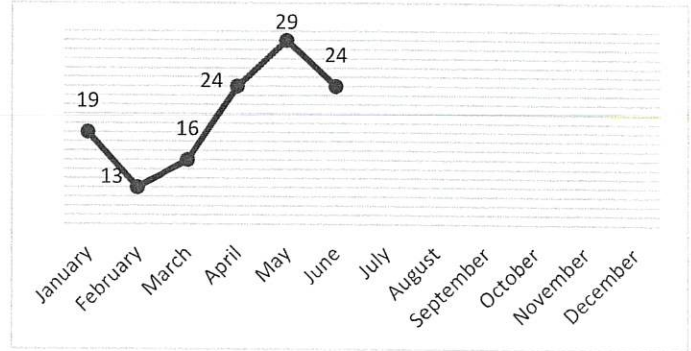




To: Honorable Mayor and Houston City Council
 From: Christian Hartley, Fire Chief *CH*
 Thru: Mayor Virgie Thompson *VT*
 Subj: Fire Chief's Report – July 2021

Fire – Local	6	Fire – Aid	6
Rescue	0	Comm Service	1
EMS	10	Landing Zones	1
TOTAL CALLS -		24	
CALLS TO DATE – 2021			125



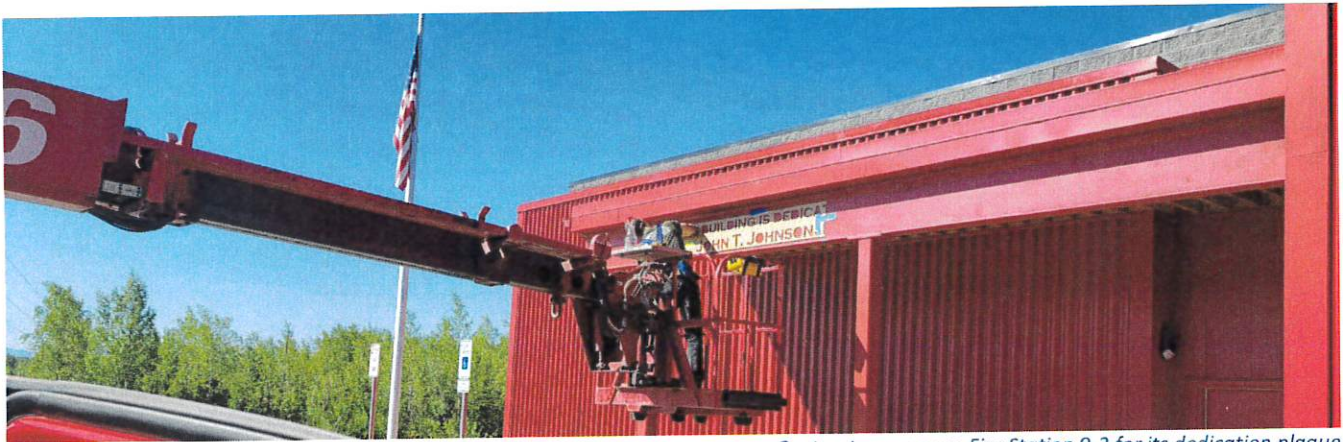
This summer has been consistently busy, although inside our city limits the calls have been minor relative to our neighboring jurisdictions' calls. We have responded multiple times into Willow including for one structure fire that was a perfect example of the importance of being Firewise. A lightning strike against a tree 20 feet from the lakefront cabin resulted in the top of the tree being exploded off and landing on the cabin. Having been ignited by the lightning, it continued to burn and consumed the entire house. Neighbors reported the fire as a lightning-caused grass fire and the structure wasn't discovered until crews arrived. The delayed notification, a locked gate, and a challenging driveway hampered firefighters' access and the cabin was a total loss. Fire was kept from spreading into the forest, however, so damage was limited to the home and impacted tree.

While returning from that fire Chief Hartley could smell what seemed to be burning plastic and went to investigate, finding a trailer on Corn Street that had caught fire from an escaped burn barrel fire. The burn barrel had melted a plastic fuel can next to the residence and ignited the fuel vapors when they escaped. People were inside the home at the time of ignition. While the residents were knocking the fire down, Chief Hartley had Brush 9-1 respond since they were already returning from the Willow fire. That quick response saved the home, and the occupants were educated on the importance of safe burn practices and property hygiene.

I would like to formally invite all council members and their families to Fire Station 9-2 on this Saturday, July 10, 2021, at 1:00p.m. as we formally dedicate the fire station after Engineer John T. "JJ" Johnson. There will be a small ceremony followed by a potluck and station tours for anybody interested. We will also be available for any questions that anybody may have, and look forward to a safe and social gathering.



Alaska State Trooper helicopter uses helistop in front of Fire Station 9-1 as a launching point during a successful search and rescue in June



Contractors prepare Fire Station 9-2 for its dedication plaque



Ladder Testing occurs in June every year