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- When the Gleneagle golf course closed, residents were cutting grass beyond their own property, but the HOA told them not to touch the 150 acres between homes, and it is now high grasses and could easily become flash fuels.
- Although Gleneagle has a chipper, the community needs further education now that the open space grass is no longer mowed.

Kovacs said he had looked at drone footage of the Marshall Fire and one neighborhood was completely decimated, and it was surprising to see the homes were surrounded by a golf course that did not act as a fire break, and the high winds cast embers well beyond the golf course.

Kovacs said the district will be increasing public education on the evacuation preparation program Ready Set Go! Homeowners need to be prepared, and if evacuations are requested, they should leave without delay to avoid creating traffic congestion, and that will allow the firefighters to begin attacking the fire.

Note: A wildland town hall meeting to address the residents' concerns was held the following evening at Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church. Details and a video link of the meeting can be found in the corresponding article on page 24.

Chief's report

Kovacs said the following:

- The district had an increase of nearly 20% in total call volume for December, and that has been the norm for most fire agencies in comparison to 2020.
- EMS calls are the "lion's share" of the work for the district and represented 45% of total calls in November and December.
- Multiple agencies including Wescott, TLMFPD, the Colorado Springs Fire Department and the Air Force Academy Fire Department responded to a vehicle and vegetation fire on the I-25 median in November. The fire was held to a couple of acres, and thankfully the wind was not a significant factor that afternoon.
- The district had zero fire losses in November and December.
- A significant amount of training has been taking place "organically" between both districts for several years, and 5,276 hours were recorded for 2021.
- The annual "Santa on Patrol" event was a great success and there was good participation throughout the district neighborhoods.

Public comment

Resident Mary Gunderman thanked the firefighters on behalf of the residents of Paradise Villas in Gleneagle, Colorado Springs, for their quick response time and for rescuing the residents during the emergency.

Wescott fleet update

Bradley said the following:

- The Wescott ladder truck was out of service as of Dec. 31 with a broken leaf spring, and was returned to its usual location at Station 4 (formally Wescott Station 1, Gleneagle Drive) the second week of January.
- The two Wescott command vehicles are now repurposed in the district.
- Engine 511 is undergoing preventive maintenance in January and will eventually be sold along with Engine 512 to a broker.
- The first priority is to make sure the Wescott Station 4 accommodation and living space conversion is completed, and some of the proceeds from the sale of the engines will go toward accommodation upgrades at Stations 4 and 5.

Kovacs said TLMFPD will also sell an engine and several dated and obsolete vehicles in 2022.

Equipment update

Treasurer Duane Garrett requested an update on the approved Self-Contained

DWFPD (cont. on 12)



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