

## Keytesville C of C Recognizes Volunteers of Keytesville Fire Protection District as Volunteers of the Quarter

By Janet Weaver

Since the month of October is associated with Fire Safety, it is only fitting that the Keytesville Chamber of Commerce recognizes the invaluable service provided to the community by the Volunteer Firemen of the Keytesville Fire Protection District.

Some research has revealed that the Keytesville Fire Protection District is comprised of approximately 30-35 individuals who are all strictly volunteers. These volunteers come from all different professions. All these people avail themselves of training sessions to learn the best way to fight various kinds of fires most efficiently.

Surprisingly enough in the Keytesville Fire Protection District there are numerous family members—at least 4 sets of fathers and sons, 7 sets of brothers, uncles, cousins, as well as children and relatives of retired Keytesville volunteer firemen.

According to the current Fire Chief, Rick Jones, the present day equipment includes a 2017 Pierce Engine on a Freightliner chassis, a 2002 Pierce Engine on a Kenworth Chassis, a 1997 Mack Tanker and a 1994 Ford 350 Brush Unit.

The Keytesville Fire Protection District is presently housed in a modern facility built in 1990 at the west corner of Bridge and Park Street. This building has 4 bays, a water fill station, classroom area, bunker gear area, workshop, showers and restrooms.

Presently the Keytesville Fire Protection District serves an area of 64 square miles and includes the Chariton County Court House, several large grain facilities, several governmental facilities, some conservation areas, the City of Keytesville and the Village of Dalton.

The Keytesville Fires Protection District has a new website that describes the history of the early fire department in Keytesville and how it evolved over time into the present day entity. You can read more about this noteworthy group of volunteers by going to [www.kfpd.org](http://www.kfpd.org) The Keytesville Chamber of Commerce salutes all of our Volunteer Firemen and their organization--the Keytesville Fire Protection District.