



*Geared to owners and prospective buyers of the SCOTTY line of vehicles.*

## Vegas **HOT** For Fire Safety

From the elaborate stage shows and neon-bright casinos, to the natural beauty of the surrounding desert, Las Vegas has much to offer its 35 million visitors each year. And while tourists flock to the famed Vegas strip and television production crews from CSI, Alias, and Lucky, set up picture-perfect exterior shots of the city, it's not all glamour and hype for the fire departments of Las Vegas and surrounding Clark County.

Las Vegas Fire & Rescue serves more than 500,000 residents in a 114-square mile area. With 15 fire stations and a staff of about 650, the LVFR is continually on the go. In 1998, LVFR and Clark County Fire Department took ownership of two **SCOTTY** Fire Safety Houses.

"The Junior League of Las Vegas raised nearly \$80,000 from local businesses in about a month to purchase the **SCOTTY** Fire Safety Houses," said Evert Wilson, fire safety education officer for the city of Las Vegas.

The Junior League is a charitable organization dedicated to developing women in leadership roles for the purpose of building better communities.

In less than five years, the city's fire safety house received about 70,000 visitors.

"We visit all of our elementary schools at least once a year with the safety house; and we also attend special events in our surrounding community. We average a little over 100 shows a year with the trailer," Wilson added.

The '98 model, which featured a kitchen, first and second floor bedrooms and measured 32 feet in length, soon proved to be too small to accommodate the ever-increasing number of participants in the city's fire education programs.

Because of the tremendous volume of visitors, the department decided to purchase a new 35-foot **SCOTTY** Fire Safety House



with two large classrooms. Their second **SCOTTY** was funded by the city with no outside sponsorship. They took possession of their vehicle in April 2003.

"It handles the larger groups with ease," said Wilson. "Our target audience in the schools is second grade but we'll go anywhere there is an audience. We appear at block parties, neighborhood watch groups, baseball games, and we're in just about every parade. If you can name an event, we've probably been there."

Because of the Junior League's generosity, LVFR Chief David L. Washington decided to return the original **SCOTTY** Fire Safety House back to the organization. Once service is completed, the Junior League will donate the vehicle to the North Las Vegas Fire Department.

"The popularity of our fire safety house has been beyond my wildest dreams," said Wilson.


Clark County also utilizes its **SCOTTY** to teach second graders about fire safety, according to Bob Chow, public education officer for the county fire department.

"The firefighters reinforce the safety messages already taught in the classroom by using themselves and the visual, smell, and touch senses provided by the house itself," said Chow. "One of the original tar-

get schools was Manny Cortez Elementary School, which was identified as a high risk and economically deprived area by the Clark County School District Community Partnership Offices under the direction of Candy Schneider."

In 1999, the county fire department and the District Community Partnership Offices held a special program at the elementary school using the NFPA's Learn Not to Burn curriculum. The event was televised on the educational station, Channel 10, as part of the community outreach through the school system and the fire department.

"It was an outstanding media release to the southern Nevada community," said Chow. "Interviewed during the program were various representatives who helped sponsor the purchase of the vehicle, including Louise Helton from the Junior League of Las Vegas and Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Chapman from our department."

The Clark County fire safety house had 2,500 students in 1998 to 4,000 students this year attend the valuable fire safety lessons. It is a familiar sight in other community events, said Chow, including the Metro Police Department's National Night Out, Clark County Family Safety Day, Mount Charleston Volunteer Fire Department's annual "Firefest," and the Fourth of July parade in Boulder City. 

City of Corvallis thanks FEMA for

# State-of-the-Art SCOTTY Combination Sprinkler/Fire Safety House

For eight years, Jim Patton, Fire Prevention Officer with the Corvallis, Oregon Fire Department, wanted a combination sprinkler/fire safety house. But the funding just wasn't available until FEMA's Fire ACT grant came into being.

"The 2002 grant program came out in February and I sent in my application in April," said Patton. "I felt really good about our chances of getting a grant. I don't think I'm such a great writer, but I was passionate about what I wrote."

Patton took his Fire ACT grant information and broke it down into different sections. He wanted to make sure he highlighted the three high-risk targets - children, senior citizens, and college students.

"We have Oregon State University here with a full-time population of 18,000," Patton added. "There are 38 sororities and fraternities and hundreds of off-campus student housing."

The Corvallis department consists of 59 paid and 35 volunteer firefighters in four operating city stations and one rural station. Patton said he emphasized the use of the proposed unit in his grant narrative by saying the fire safety house would be shared with all the volunteer departments surrounding the city.

The department then had to show the required 10 percent matching funds. Patton got to work contacting area corporations and businesses. Within one day he had accumulated promises of \$6,000.

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***"It was remarkable. We got money from Hewlett Packard, State Farm Insurance, and the Benton County Emergency Management Office which jumped on board because of the trailer's Weather Smart Package option," said Patton.***

jumped on board because of the trailer's Weather Smart Package option," said Patton. "The local firefighters union gave \$1,000 and the local fire district offered \$500. FEMA was impressed by the amount of money we were able to raise so quickly."

In October 2002, Patton learned through Rep. Darlene Hooley, 5<sup>th</sup> District, that his grant wish would be fulfilled.

The Corvallis Combination Sprinkler/Fire Safety House was delivered on June 2.

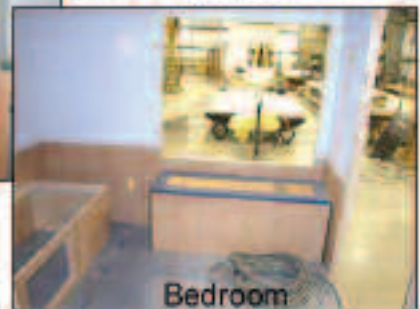
"One of the things we are going to do is

take the bedroom and turn it into a college dorm room with lamps and posters and all the fire hazards that college students typically have in their rooms. We want them to see a room that is their environment," said Patton. "Many of the fires on campus and in off-campus housing is because of student carelessness. Our focus is to try to deal with the student mentality and teach them to be responsible." 📧

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*The key to a quality product is top-notch building materials and custom designs. That's the hallmark of a Mobile Concepts by SCOTTY vehicle. These production photos of Corvallis, OR's Combination Sprinkler/Fire Safety House, show a few of the details that go into each and every SCOTTY product.*

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# TECH TALK with Roger

Quality control manager at



Mobile  
Concepts

by SCOTTY

## We've come a long way, baby!


inches on center. We use urethane construction adhesive that holds wall panels tight, even when the road is less than friendly. Fact is, our sidewall and ceiling paneling is 5.2 mm; that's nearly twice as thick as we used a decade ago. Our trailers are held together with BUCKETS of construction screws!

Do kids ever wipe their feet? Of course not. That's why we make commercial grade carpet standard in our trailers. We had a department who uses their trailer a lot, (The dirty carpet proved it!) who brought their trailer in for service thinking it needed a total carpet replacement. We know the grade of materials we use and suggested a good commercial cleaning. When the carpet was done it looked NEW!

You'll find textured metal on the heated doors that hides finger marks just like your home refrigerator does, and we did away

with pressure treated wood deck rails and replaced them with solid plastic decking that can never splinter, crack, or need painted.

This summer we introduced KRYSTAL KOTE™, a baked polyester, abrasion-resistant finish on our metal-sided trailers. This finish minimizes "chalking" common on older aluminum siding, and can be compared to an automotive clear coat paint finish. Our vinyl sided units feature thick, solid color vinyl with hairpin nailing flanges that offer twice the fastening material. We've increased the number of cabinets featuring solid oak for better wear, and we insist on appliances built to handle the demands firefighters have come to expect their equipment to meet.

When it comes to fire safety houses "we are COMMERCIAL grade!" 

If you haven't been in a current generation of the SCOTTY Fire Safety House, you are in for a pleasant surprise!

SCOTTY pioneered the fire safety house in the late 80's, and after 13+ years of real-life field reports, we've learned what's best and what isn't. The early models were plain with basic, bottom-rung appliances, built in a similar method to travel trailers. Then, the idea of a mobile safety education trailer took off... like an arsonist with an empty gas can!

Today's fire departments are devoting a heavier schedule to public education than a decade ago, so we've met that demand by insisting on a commercial build, top to bottom. On today's build you'll find exterior walls framed with 2 x 3's spaced 16

## PART I:

# Children Ignore the Sound of Smoke Detectors

The importance of practicing home fire drills came into focus last year after several news stations televised dramatic footage of children sleeping though the blaring sound of smoke detectors.

The news programs showed children under the age of 13 sleeping through the 80-decibel screech of a smoke detector. It took some children up to 20 minutes to wake up and stumble toward their bedroom doors through the dense nontoxic smoke used in the tests. According to national fire safety officials, a home evacuation should take less than two minutes.

"The moral of this is that people need to install more smoke alarms in their homes and practice fire drills," said Lt. Mike Wheeler of the Park Forest Fire Dept., IL.

"I don't think children comprehend the noise of the smoke detector and that they need to get out."

Wheeler said children have been conditioned to ignore the sound of the smoke detector.

"Kids are getting a mixed message. When an

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Continued on p. 4



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### Children ignore detectors

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adult is cooking and the smoke alarm goes off, no one gets out of the house,” Wheeler added. “The only way to overcome that is to set off the smoke detector while children are sleeping so they can comprehend that sound and respond appropriately.”

Repetition is the key to teaching children how to respond correctly to the blare of a smoke detector.

The elderly may also find the noise of a smoke detector problematic.

“Many senior citizens are on medications and that affects how well they respond,” said Wheeler. “They may be hard of hearing and if their smoke detectors are not operating, they can’t stand on a chair to change the battery. Many of our seniors



*Model HD-35BleacherFLT  
owned by the City of Park Forest, Illinois.*

don’t have family nearby who can help them.”

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has undertaken a two-year study to determine what changes must be made to residential smoke detectors.

Mobile Concepts by **SCOTTY** will continue to follow this important story and make any improvements deemed necessary to our **SCOTTY** Fire Safety Houses. We currently have smoke detectors hardwired in all rooms of our Fire Safety Houses. 