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## GLENDALE FIRE RECRUITS GRADUATE ACADEMY

New fire fighters joined the ranks of the Glendale Fire Department after graduating from the fire academy this past Saturday. A total of 27 fire fighters graduated from the multi-agency fire academy including firefighters from Daisy Mountain, Goodyear and Peoria Fire Departments. Glendale picked-up thirteen as part of an on-going federal grant which helps defray the cost of hiring.

The academy is thirteen weeks as the recruits learned all facets of firefighting including hazardous materials, emergency medical care, building construction, physical fitness and wellness, hose stream management, ladders and fire behavior. Today's fire service is dynamic and considered "all hazards" regarding the mitigation of emergencies.

They adopted Peoria Fire Captain Dave Rhenke as one of their own when they learned of his battle cancer. "Rhenke Renegades" was the class motto and they also raised money at a carwash to help support him.

The recruits are instructed by certified and highly experienced "Recruit Training Officers" which are veteran Fire Captains. The addition of firefighters in Glendale will ensure appropriate staffing to handle emergencies and replace existing vacancies within the department due to attrition.

The Glendale Fire Department currently has 249 firefighters including Chief Officers in its ranks and is rated as one of the busiest department in the state. Glendale responded to 36,852 incident calls in 2014.

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