



# CARPINTERIA - SUMMERLAND

## FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

### Information “News” Release

Date: February 29, 2008

To: Lea Boyd, Editor Coastal View News Paper  
From: Charlie Johnson  
Re: Structure Fire Response

Release Date: February 29, 2008  
Contact: Charlie Johnson, Information Officer 566-0582

Last Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup> Carpinteria-Summerland Firefighters responded to a fire reported out at 5463 Dariesa near Lisa and Mira in Carpinteria. The call came in about 4:25 that afternoon; firefighters were on scene in minutes and confirmed that the fire was out. They did ask for the Fire Investigator to respond to help with some fire safety education. Ironically in this week's Coastal View News, the weekly safety message from the Fire District focused on, "kitchen fire safety" the message read "If you have food on the stove cooking stay in the kitchen and watch what you heat." The fire reported out incident on Dariesa is a classic example of this safety message. A 15 year old female was home alone and decided to fix some French fried potatoes, she first put a pan on the stove and added some cooking oil and turned on the burner, then went off to her bedroom for a few minutes but returned quickly to check on the oil, which at that point was not quite hot enough. The young girl returned to her bedroom area and as luck would have it she got distracted and forgot about the oil on the stove heating up. Awhile later when she smelled the hot oil she quickly went to the kitchen to check on it, too late!!! The oil got to hot and ignited sending flames up the front of the kitchen cabinets to the ceiling. The quick thinking young girl grabbed the kitchen sink sprayer and sprayed the flames knocking the fire down, she then grabbed the pan of hot oil and carried it outside fortunately she didn't spread the fire or get burned in the process. There was some damage to the kitchen cabinets, ceiling and stove. In talking with the young girl firefighters learned that the smoke alarm didn't work and upon investigation firefighters discovered the battery in the smoke alarm was dead, before leaving firefighters replaced the battery in the smoke alarm and tested it to be sure it was working. A reminder if you in the kitchen and have food on the stove cooking stay there and watch what you heat, if you must leave the kitchen, turn the burner off is the safest practice but if you're only going to be a quick minute turn the burner down, and take a kitchen utensil like a spatula or hot pad and hold it tightly in your hand as a reminder that you have food on the stove cooking, then return immediately. **This Saturday night before going to bed don't forget to change your clocks ahead 1 hour for daylight saving time and while you're at it why not make another "Life Saving" change, install fresh new batteries in your smoke alarms, give them new life! Remember a Smoke Alarm makes a sound you can live with.**