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CALDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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The Caldwell Fire Department (CFD) recently faced a notably high volume of calls for service during the July 4 holiday weekend and the days leading up to it. This surge in calls included a range of incidents such as dumpster fires, medical emergencies, grass fires, and residential fires.

Between July 2 and July 7, CFD crews responded to eight fires, six of which were firework-related. Two of these fires are still under investigation. Notably, one fire was caused by an illegal mortar launched into the second floor of a residence. There was also a fire near Main Street and 21st Avenue on July 4, just before midnight, which was caused by fireworks and burned approximately one acre. Another firework-related fire was reported at 3:46 a.m. on July 5, burning dry grass near the Terrace Drive-in. Each of these incidents required a substantial allocation of our resources and attention, resulting in limited capacity to address additional emergencies and necessitating longer response times and reliance on mutual aid from Nampa Fire District and Mid-Star Fire District. It's important to note that crews have also responded to fires caused by out-of-control outdoor burns conducted by citizens, despite the ongoing burn ban in effect in the City of Caldwell.

The growing demand for services highlights the necessity for increased fire response capacity. Luckily, the bond approved by citizens in 2023 will fund the construction of a new fire station near Karcher Road and Lake Avenue, which is expected to be operational by 2027. This new facility, along with the addition of new personnel, is intended to greatly enhance CFD's response capabilities to serve the needs of the expanding population.