

LINE COPY



Volume I, 2008 Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department



Firefighters fight a three-alarm Springfield warehouse fire at 7390 Ward Park Lane, December 2, 2007. Damages estimated at \$3.7 million.



Ronald L. Mastin

"We must always remember why we exist and use our core values and mission statement as guiding principles in our decision making process."

From The Fire Chief . . .

Greetings to everyone

By the time you read this edition spring will be just around the corner, the County Executive will have presented his budget, training on the handheld reporting devices will be well underway, and the Executive Summary from the EMS Workgroup, headed up by Deputy Chief Christine Woodard, will be released to all department personnel. These efforts along with a number of close call reports, including an in-depth report from the Prince William County Line of Duty Death of Firefighter Kyle Wilson will be the topics of many firehouse discussions. I want to take this opportunity to comment briefly on each of these items and encourage each of you to take an active roll in your fire and rescue department as we strive for continuous improvement.

Spring is a great opportunity to get back outside to conduct practical training evolutions; i.e., pumping, throwing ladders, pulling lines, and driver training to name just a few. It is a time to recommit yourself to physical fitness and for everyone to get involved in outside activities that will serve to promote teamwork and shift cohesiveness. After all, with the graduation of the 124th Recruit Class there are 23 new personnel in our system that can greatly benefit from these activities, not to mention the

next class of 40 will be starting March 3, 2008.

We have been talking about the downturn in the economy and how the projected shortfall will impact our budget both currently and into the future. The Board of Supervisors will have adopted the third quarter amendments which include an additional two percent reduction in our personnel services for the current budget year ending on June 30, 2008. I want to thank everyone for their efforts as we strive to end the year with a balanced budget. The small things that you do around the station make a big difference and do not go unnoticed. These actions coupled with a collective effort to minimize overtime are greatly appreciated. Please keep up the good work, as the next several years are expected to be very challenging. We had to prepare the FY 2009 budget with an additional two percent reduction and while the overall impact will not be known until the Board of Supervisors adopts the budget in late April, it will take a team effort to continue with many of our existing programs.

There are a number of things within the EMS arena that I also want to mention, and thank those working to make them successful. The handheld devices are moving forward as training is underway and we

Ronald L. Mastin, *Fire Chief*
Dan Schmidt, *Editor*
Jackie Pitkin, *Production Editor*
Scotty Boatright, *Staff Photographer*

© COPYRIGHT 2008
Fairfax County
Fire and Rescue Department
4100 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-3801

LINE COPY is the newsletter of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and is published by the Department's Public Affairs and Life Safety Education Office. Questions regarding deadlines or publication schedule should be addressed to Jackie Pitkin at 703-246-3801. All submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs and Life Safety Education, marked "Attn: Editor, LINE COPY."

anticipate them going operational in the spring. This will streamline the incident reporting for our medic units and provide much needed data to help us evaluate our service delivery. We are changing the ALS intern process by going to a day/work format and also putting the paramedics we recently hired into the internship program prior to the completion of recruit school.

The work done by Deputy Chief Woodard and her group will serve as a great platform for us to build on as we continue to address our service delivery model. This is a very complex process that must address everything from recruitment, retention, career development, and flexibility to name a few. Everyone will play a vital role in the success of the initiative as we try to improve upon a system that provides excellent service to our residents.

The last area I want to touch on is the continued increase we are experiencing in call volume. In FY 2009 we anticipate calls will exceed 95,000 with approximately 68 percent being EMS incidents. Why is this important? After all, that is our job. Most importantly, this gives us the opportunity to have a positive impact on a much larger number of our residents as most incidents impact an entire family, even though we classify it as one incident. Remember, it is not our job to question why we were called, but to resolve the issue at hand in a courteous and professional manner. We must always remember why we exist, and use our core values, vision, and mission statement as guiding principles in our decision-making process.

Another fact that can't be overlooked is, with increases in call volume comes more opportunities for our personnel to be involved in one of the "close call" events I spoke of earlier. I encourage each of you to read and study as many of these reports as you can and to analyze the information. Ask yourself, "What would I have done? What, if anything, should have been done differently? How will I use these lessons learned to better prepare myself and those I work with to avoid or react properly in these situations?" To date, less than two months into the New Year, 17 firefighters have been killed in the line of duty.

While there are a variety of contributing factors, I am asking each of you to focus on these very basic things:

- wear your seat belt at all times
- engage in physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle
- execute emergency scene actions according to our manuals and policies

Risk a life to save a life and lets all work to make sure everyone goes home. ❖

This Issue . . .

| | |
|---|----|
| <i>From The Fire Chief</i> | 2 |
| <i>Uniform Staff Riding Hours Provides Significant Contributions In Field</i> | 4 |
| <i>124th Recruit School</i> | 5 |
| <i>Training Corner</i> | |
| <i>Recruitment Is All-Important</i> | 6 |
| <i>Enhancing Operational Member Safety A Top Priority For Everyone</i> | 7 |
| <i>Public Affairs and Life Safety Education: Adding Value One Day at a Time</i> | 10 |
| <i>Students Offered Fire & EMS Training</i> | 13 |
| <i>Hot Shots</i> | 14 |
| <i>Online Volunteer Management System Improves Communication Channels</i> | 16 |
| <i>Firefighters Return From New Hampshire</i> | |
| <i>Captain II John R. Niemiec Voted President, IAFF, Local 2068</i> | |
| <i>Bronze Star Recipients Have Coast Guard and Fairfax Connection</i> | 17 |
| <i>Awards & Presentations</i> | 18 |
| <i>Thank You Letter</i> | 20 |
| <i>Large Loss Fire Investigations</i> | 21 |
| <i>30-Year Awards</i> | |
| <i>2007 Top Ten Activity Report</i> | 22 |
| <i>2007 Toys For Tots Toy Campaign</i> | |
| <i>November-December 2007 Top Ten Activity Report</i> | 23 |
| <i>Community Program Highlights</i> | 24 |
| <i>"Taking Up"</i> | 25 |
| <i>Fourth Quarter Promotions</i> | |
| <i>Retirements and New Hires</i> | 26 |
| <i>Anniversaries</i> | 27 |
| <i>Station 2 Profile</i> | 28 |

Uniformed Staff Riding Hours Provides Significant Contribution In Field

By Deputy Chief John A. Burke
Special Operations

The following charts reflect the number of hours worked in the field by uniformed personnel assigned to administrative positions. The charts reflect the third and fourth quarters of calendar year 2007. The number of hours worked demonstrate the continued commitment from administrative staff toward assisting field operations personnel. During the six month period covered by the two quarters,

staff personnel from all bureaus, divisions, and sections of the department contributed 4,524.5 hours of operational work in the field. This equates to 188 twenty-four hour shift work days.

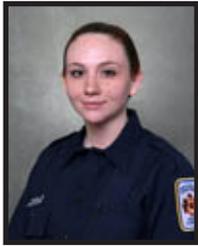
The clear benefit of this effort to field personnel is having fewer holdovers and mandatory recalls on a daily basis. By working at least twenty-four hours each quarter, uniformed staff are able to maintain operational readiness in the field. ❖

| Staff Riding Hours | Calendar 2007 | | | 3 rd Quarter |
|--------------------|---------------|--------|-----------|-------------------------|
| | July | August | September | |
| Academy | 326 | 240 | 372 | 938 |
| EMS Division | 156 | 120 | 96 | 372 |
| Operations Bureau | 108 | 216 | 154.5 | 478.5 |
| Personnel Services | 24 | 24 | 0 | 48 |
| Safety & Personnel | 84 | 0 | 0 | 84 |
| Support Services | 120 | 24 | 138 | 282 |
| Prevention | 120 | 252 | 60 | 432 |
| Fiscal Services | 36 | 72 | 24 | 132 |
| | | | Total | 2766.5 |

| Staff Riding Hours | Calendar 2007 | | | 4 th Quarter |
|--------------------|---------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|
| | October | November | December | |
| Academy | 72 | 66 | 48 | 186 |
| EMS Division | 48 | 84 | 108 | 240 |
| Operations Bureau | 228 | 168 | 114 | 510 |
| Personnel Services | 0 | 24 | 36 | 60 |
| Safety & Personnel | 12 | 0 | 25 | 37 |
| Support Services | 162 | 72 | 96 | 330 |
| Prevention | 72 | 83 | 132 | 287 |
| Fiscal Services | 24 | 24 | 60 | 108 |
| | | | Total | 1758 |



124th Recruit School



*Firefighter
Dawn M. Blair
Station 32, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Ik Soo Cho
Station 29, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Richard O. Fleet, III
Station 41, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Zoe Frost
Station 1, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Jeremy J. Godines
Station 41, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Shelita R. Green
Station 24, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Tanya D. Hall
Station 37, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
James J. Hannan III
Station 23, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
James C. Kenney
Station 28, B-Shift*



*Firefighter
Timothy D. Kim
Station 18, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Stephanie A. Leland
Station 31, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Dameon C. Lloyd
Station 34, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Colin T. Morgan
Station 30, B-Shift*



*Firefighter
James A. Moss, Jr.
Station 4, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Iona M. Nieves
Station 34, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Labryon J. Payton
Station 29, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Sandra M. Petro
Station 37, B-Shift*



*Firefighter Medic
Eric A. Provow
Station 38, B-Shift*



*Firefighter Medic
Tegarassen S. Rungen
Station 11, A-Shift*



*Firefighter Medic
Paul Serzan
Station 19, A-Shift*



*Firefighter
Thomas D. Wainwright
Station 35, C-Shift*



*Firefighter
Rachel L. Wicker
Station 4, B-Shift*



*Firefighter
John T. Wright Sol
Station 11, C-Shift*

Training Corner

By Deputy Chief Garrett L. Dyer
Chief Training Officer



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everybody to the new "Training Corner" as a regular column in Line Copy. We are about to embark upon a holistic approach to training as the Training Task Force Redesign Committee unveils their recommendations. This combined with the field training officers going to shift work this year will allow training to be delivered directly to the field at the station level. This training will build on core competencies with a great deal of emphasis on best practices.

As part of the training redesign, *Training Corner* is a vehicle for us to share training news, views, tips, ideas, and other information. There are many training items that we find in trade journals, training outside of Fairfax County, or through on-the-job basic evolutions that we feel need to be addressed. Everyday on the job we learn something new, different, or learn a better way of doing things than what we've done in the past. There are various web sites that provide the opportunity for us to learn different tactics and strategies from other departments. It is our hope that we continue to learn from the outcomes of our brother and sister firefighters so we don't make the same mistakes, and to highlight the lessons learned.

I challenge everyone in the department regardless of rank to submit articles for *Training Corner*. The subject matter may focus on suppression, EMS, or special operations areas. When submitting articles, please include references to ensure we can all benefit from the training. All submitted articles will be assessed for applicability to our operational procedures.

Submitted articles that require a change in procedure or policy will be forwarded to their respective areas for review. May 1, 2008, is the deadline for Volume II. Please email your articles to scott.kraut@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Thank you in advance and I look forward to receiving your articles. ❖

Recruitment Is All-Important

Captain II Cheri E. Stroup
Recruitment

What's up with recruitment... who are they hiring and where is this department going? Everywhere we go, comments and critics of our recruiting process and personnel hired are there. Let's look at the other side of the story.

Let's start with an overview. The Recruitment Section falls under Safety and Personnel Services Division within the Personnel Services Bureau. The four-person section is responsible for marketing, recruiting, training, scheduling, testing, processing, and selecting the next generation of uniformed personnel. The goal is to facilitate an in-depth view of all applicants, using the current process. The seven month process includes nine steps: application, written exam, Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) orientation, CPAT, Personal History Statement (background interview), medical exam, polygraph exam, psychological exam, and final review. Federal, state, and county rules and regulations govern our procedures on what we legally can do. How we do it is established by the Fire Chief.

For 14 months, recruitment has experienced a 75 percent turn-over in staff and has undergone a reorganization. Personnel constantly evaluate and make adjustments to our process. For example, the addition of the new Performance Testing Center (CPAT building) is a reality. We can now conduct training and testing more frequently and efficiently. We have added weekly written testing and will soon add monthly CPAT testing. We are a national leader in the IAFF-IAFC Wellness and Fitness Initiative.

You have often heard that each and every departmental member is our best recruiter. Please spread the word about this great opportunity and recommend at least one potential applicant yearly. Everyone should have a vested interest in recruiting the best. Remember . . . as you depend on the new person sitting next to you, we depend on your help. ❖

This is the first of two articles, next issue will cover the ins and outs of reflecting the community we serve.

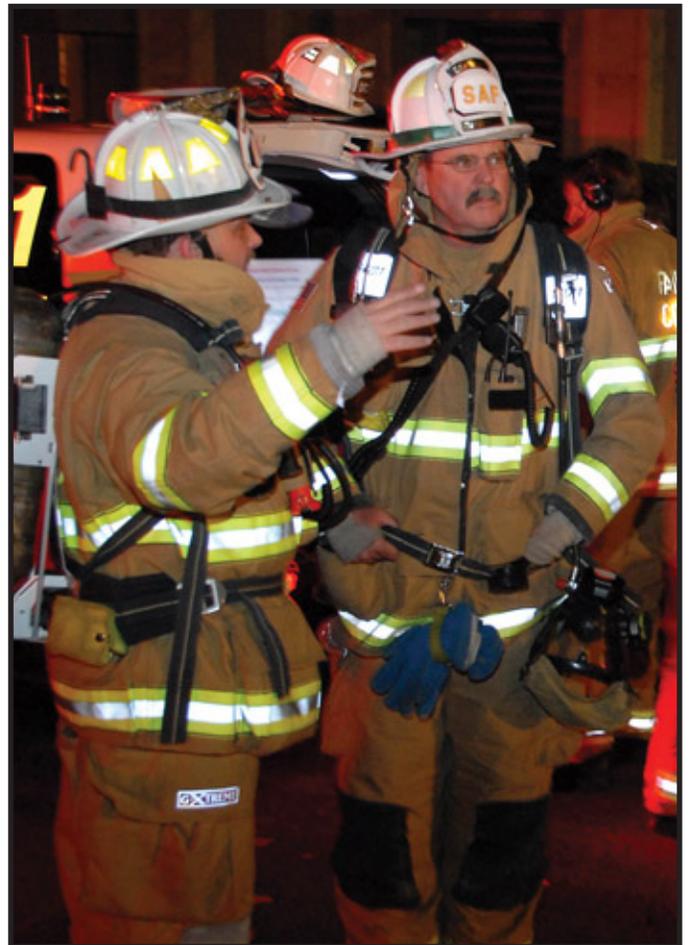
Enhancing Operational Member Safety Is A Top Priority For Everyone

By Battalion Chief Daniel V. Gray
Safety and Personnel Services

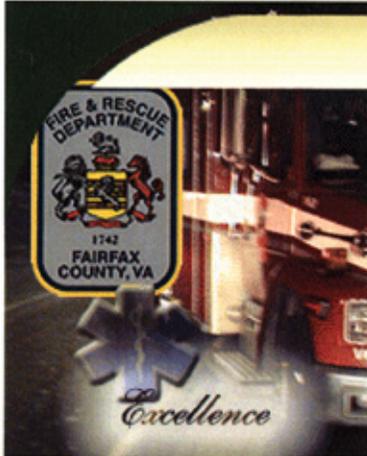
In January 2008, the Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) decided to enhance the overall safety of all members. For the last 20 years, the safety officer staffing and responsibilities model has been one officer per shift and has primarily been a function best described as reactive. The addition of the Field Training Officer (FTO) from 2200 hours to 0700 hours and the move from day work to shift work will greatly enhance our capabilities and responses. This realignment will provide an opportunity for additional scene safety for members. The FTO will also provide an additional liaison resource to assist with injured or personnel exposed to an infectious disease. They will also be dispatched to handle FRD vehicle accidents. Despite the positive impact anticipated by the addition of the FTOs, this program identifies another missed opportunity. During the hours of 0700 to 2200 the FTOs primary responsibility will be field training, as directed by the Deputy Chief of Training. From 2200 to 0700 hrs., the FTO will sign on as SAF402 (the second safety officer), and perform the duties currently expected of an Incident Safety Officer.

With a great need for safety education, escalation of incidents requiring the response of a shift safety officer, and the increasing challenges facing today's firefighters, the need for incident scene safety is paramount. The Fire Chief has requested additional safety officers in the last several budget cycles. When approved, the new safety officer positions will be able to offer a proactive approach for safety related education and awareness at the station level on a daily basis and provide the support described previously. Additionally, by providing two safety officers

across the county, the response time will be decreased to less than 25 minutes. These enhancements to safety will move us forward in our effort to provide the safest possible work environment for all members. Currently, the Safety Officer is based out of Pohick Fire and Rescue Station 35 and the FTO will work out of Chantilly Fire and Rescue Station 15. ❖



Captain I Brendan B. Harris, A-Shift Safety Officer, confers with a fire officer from Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management, at a condominium fire, 1512 Summerchase Court in the Reston area of Fairfax County, December 1, 2007.



Subject Areas

[Fire & Rescue Home](#)

[Department](#)

[Recruitment](#)

[Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\) Requests and General Information](#)

[Fire Marshal](#)

[In the Community](#)

[Educational Topics](#)

[EMS Transport and Billing Inquiries](#)

[Training](#)

[News Releases and Media Advisories](#)

[Department Patches](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Glossary](#)

[Index](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Fire and Rescue - Educational Topics

you are here: [homepage](#) > [public safety](#) > [fire and rescue](#) > [educational topics](#)

EDUCATIONAL TOPICS

RESIDENTIAL FIRE AND BURN PREVENTION

- [General Home Fire Safety \(multi-lingual\) Booklet \(PDF, 1.2M, large file\)](#)
- [Smoke Alarms - "Obey the Law" \(PDF, 891K, large file\)](#)
- [Carbon Monoxide Alarms](#)
- [Home Escape Planning \(PDF, 508K, large file\)](#)
- [Home Fire Safety Survey \(PDF, 13K\)](#)
- [Home Fire Extinguishers](#)
- [Evacuation](#)
- [Battery for Life](#)
- [Fire Safe Heating Systems](#)
- [Portable Heaters - Heat or Hazard](#)

HIGH RISK - SPECIAL NEEDS

- [Every Step of the Way \(PDF, 275K, large file\)](#)
- [Fire Safety for Older Adults \(PDF, 203K, large file\)](#)
- [Fire Safety for Children *Every Step of the Way \(ESW\)* \(PDF, 352K, large file\)](#)
- [File of Life \(PDF, 182K, large file\)](#)
- [Fire Safety for Hearing Impaired *Visual Smoke Alarm Program*](#)
- [Fire Safety for the Disabled](#)
- [Are You Prepared for an Emergency? \(PDF, 665K, large file\)](#)

FIRE SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE

- [General Fire Safety](#)
- [Flyer for Work Safety \(PDF, 23k\)](#)
- [Fire extinguishers](#)

SEASONAL SAFETY

Related Resources

[Emergency Preparedness](#)
[Department of Homeland Security](#)
[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#)
[Special Needs Registry](#)

Spring/Summer

- [Boating](#)
- [Cookouts](#)
- [Falls from Windows \(PDF, 46K\)](#)
- [Fireworks](#)
- [Grilling \(PDF, 250K, large file\)](#)
- [Water Safety Tips](#)

Fall

- [Halloween Safety \(PDF, 66K\)](#)

Winter

- [Fireplace Safety Tips \(PDF, 126K, large file\)](#)
- [Fireplace Ashes \(PDF, 77K\)](#)
- [Candle Safety \(PDF, 35K\)](#)
- [Frostbite and Hypothermia](#)
- [Electric Blanket](#)
- [Frozen Water Pipes](#)
- [Life-Saving Gifts](#)
- [Kitchen Safety](#)
- [Holiday Safety](#)
- [Holiday Tree Tags \(PDF, 160K, large file\)](#)
- [Winter Safety Tips](#)

SPECIAL TOPICS

- [Calling 911](#)
- [Yielding To Emergency Vehicles \(PDF, 43K\)](#)
- [Children's Activity/Coloring Book \(PDF, 526K, large file\)](#)
- [Children's Activity/Coloring Book-Spanish \(PDF, 3MB, large file \)](#)
- [Children's Fire Safety Snapper 1 \(PDF, 449K, large file \)](#)
- [Children's Fire Safety Snapper 2 \(PDF, 429K, large file\)](#)
- [Children's Fire Safety Snapper 3 \(PDF, 464K, large file\)](#)
- [Children's Fire Safety Snapper 4 \(PDF, 398K, large file\)](#)

Editor's Note: The following 46 fire and life safety educational topics are on our web site and provide members with information for handouts, presentations, and fact sheets. Please use this valuable resource whenever possible.

Public Affairs and Life Safety Education: Adding Value One Day at a Time

By Dan Schmidt

Public Affairs and Life Safety Education

There was a slight name change within the fire and rescue department several months ago; it was subtle and mostly went unnoticed. Public Information and Life Safety Education was changed to Public Affairs and Life Safety Education (PA/LSE). Why the change? The short answer, it better reflects what we do for you and the residents of Fairfax County. This is a unique merging of media relations, special events, community outreach, publications, resident inquiries, and fire and life safety education. It is the only group within the county that has merged public affairs or public information and an education component together – a one-of-a-kind, special arrangement. It is a mission we enjoy and look forward to fulfilling everyday. We would like to share some facts and figures from last year with you as we spotlight the hard-working and busy PA/LSE team.

News Releases: Produced and distributed approximately 125 news releases to media outlets, stations, posted on our web site.

Media Advisories: Produced and sent 26 media advisories to media outlets, stations, posted on our web site.

Media Inquiries/Responses: Responded to approximately 2,400 media inquiries annually.

Fire and Rescue Digest Television Program:

A 15-minute television program produced quarterly in coordination with Channel 16, highlighting the people and programs of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, including public safety announcements (next show features Chamber of Commerce Valor Award recipients).

Public Information Officer (PIO) On-Call: Provides 24/7 on-call PIO support to emergency, non-emergency incidents, and response to news

representatives' / organizations' media inquiries (five PIOs rotating weekly).

Special Events Coordination: Celebrate Fairfax, grand opening for Crosspointe Fire and Rescue Station 41, Fire Prevention Open House, 9-11 anniversary, 10-year anniversary of the Health and Occupational Center, semi-annual smoke alarm initiative (conducted on daylight savings time weekends).

Community Outreach: Coordinate community and organizational requests for presentations with field personnel, coordinate community requests for health fairs, town hall meetings, and community festivals.

Publications: Produce and update publications as appropriate including: Line Copy, Annual Report/Calendar, "At Your Service," "After the Fire," Fire Tips for Older Adults, Smoke Alarms, "Can Your Ashes," "Home Safety," Firefighter Recruiting Brochure, EMS Transport Billing Program, and many others.

Educational Topics: 46 separate educational topics available on web site, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr (see sidebar).

General Telephone/Web site Inquiries: Respond to approximately 20 calls daily from residents (about 4,800 annually). Inquiries have included: "Why do we send VATF-1 to earthquakes and bombings when coal miners are better suited for digging operation?" "Where is the closest fire and rescue station?" and a school teacher calling to borrow turnout gear to use in a talent show to convince the audience they were firefighters.

Education: Every Step of the Way Program, Project Safety And Fire Education (S.A.F.E.). Preschool children educated: 20,092; School Age Child Care (SACC) children

educated: 10,728; seniors educated: 14,462.

Juvenile Firestop Education Program:

Education and intervention for approximately 300 juveniles/parents/guardians. Referrals are generated from the juvenile justice system, schools, school resource officers, parents, and fire investigators.

Awards: Provides processing and editorial support for all departmental awards submitted to the Awards Committee. Awards processed include: Career Achievement, Meritorious Service, Team Performance, Unit Citations, Citizen Valor/Lifesaving, and Firefighter of the Year. All county awards are submitted by the nominator through the chain of supervision for submission to County Human Resources.

Miscellaneous: Media and Community Relations training for company officers, recruit school orientation, provide and update fire, life, and seasonal safety information on our web site and to the county's News To Use information program posted on www.faircounty.gov.opa ❖

Editor's Note: As we continue to profile stations and other workplaces, it's appropriate we spotlight the remainder of the staff that supports this large organization. This is the first of several articles highlighting staff work.

Media Spotlights Smoking & Home Fires Safety Campaign



Executive Vice President of Public Relations, Lieutenant Raul G. Castillo, National Association of Hispanic Firefighters, joined U.S. Fire Administrator Gregory B. Cade and International Association of Fire Chiefs Executive Director Mark W. Light in spotlighting the new U.S. Fire Administration "Smoking & Home Fires Campaign." Lieutenant Raul Castillo, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is assigned to Public Affairs and Life Safety Education.



Public Affairs and Life Safety Education personnel (left to right): Front row - Cathy Jo Richards, Administrative Assistant IV; Renee Stilwell, Communications Specialist II; Dan Schmidt, Public Safety Information Officer IV; and Jackie Pitkin, Publications Assistant. Back row - Lieutenant Raul Castillo, Scotty Boatright, Communications Specialist I; Mary Cramer, Life Safety Education Specialist; Wyleng Liew, Life Safety Education Specialist; Jennifer Edmonds, Life Safety Education Specialist; Mary Beth Sefton, Life Safety Education Specialist; and Lieutenant Willie Bailey.

PLEASE JOIN US

1st & 3rd Monday of every month

Time: 6:00 P.M.



FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

FIRE EXPLORER POST #1949 IS CURRENTLY RECRUITING FOR MEMBERS.

Young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20 are invited to become Fire Explorers with the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department.

Learn first-hand how exciting the firefighters job is by working side-by-side with actual Fairfax County Firefighters. Following an introductory training program, Fire Explorers may Ride-Along to real emergencies with firefighters and paramedics, and assist them by performing routine, supervised tasks. Fire Explorers assist with virtually all routine tasks in the community and around the fire station, including community relations, fire prevention, equipment and station maintenance, and training. Fire Explorers wear a uniform, and are provided with helmets, turnouts, and other safety clothing. Becoming a Fire Explorer is an excellent way to develop qualities and gain experience that will be helpful in nearly any field of endeavor.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY
FIRE RESCUE
ACADEMY**

**4600 WEST OX RD
FAIRFAX 22033**

***In between:
Piney Branch Road and
Post Forest Drive.***

***For Information Call:
703-246-3965 or email:***

Joseph.herrera@fairfaxcounty.gov



Students Offered Fire & EMS Training

*By Captain I David P. Tobin
Safety and Personnel*

Now is a great time to be a young adult who is interested in fire or emergency medical services (EMS). The department has many exciting and challenging avenues for young men and women to choose from.

Since 2004, the Fairfax County Public School system has offered a Fire and Emergency Medical Sciences program. This is part one of a full year course taken in both the fall and spring semesters. Fire and Emergency Medical Sciences prepares students to enter the workforce or pursue further education in the field of EMS and fire science. The principles and practices of emergency response and fire fighting will be explored under the direct supervision of a certified EMT-B instructor. The curriculum consists of planned learning experiences in the classroom, laboratory, and faculty supervised clinical settings. Students will have the opportunity to observe and interact with a variety of patients experiencing varying degrees of injury or disease that are carefully selected to provide appropriate clinical learning experiences. As preparation, students will be provided with ample lab practice to fully prepare them for the clinical experience and minimize risks. During the course of study, students will have the opportunity to earn the following five certifications: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT -B), and Hazardous Materials Response, Bloodborne Pathogens, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Upon completion of the course, students will be prepared to continue their education in emergency medical services and fire science. Interested students should contact their schools guidance counselor for enrollment information.

Another opportunity for young adults is Fire Service Exploring. Fire Service Exploring is a

worksite-based program for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade and are 14 years of age, or 15 years of age but have not yet reached their 21st birthday.

Fire Service Explorer posts help youth gain insight into a variety of programs that offer hands-on career activities. For young men and women who are interested in careers in the field of fire service, Exploring offers experiential learning with many fun-filled, hands-on activities that promote the growth and development of adolescent youth. In addition to learning about fire and EMS, the program is designed to coach Explorers in the following areas:

- life Skills
- teamwork
- citizenship
- character education
- leadership experience
- self-confidence

Explorer Post 1949 is the post the department sponsors. They meet on the first and third Monday evenings of the month, and one Saturday morning. If you are interested in being an advisor to the program or if you know of a young adult who is interested in participating, contact Captain David Tobin at 703-246-3965 or david.tobin@fairfaxcounty.gov. Information about this and other Explorer programs can be found at www.learningforlife.org.

Investing in the men and women of tomorrow is an essential undertaking that the department takes pride in. If you have teenage relatives, or neighbors, pass this article along to them and encourage them to be a part of one of these interesting programs. ❖

Hot Shots



Firefighters reported heavy fire from a two-story warehouse located at 7390 Ward Park Lane in the Springfield area, December 2, 2007. The warehouse was fully involved causing the firefighters to fight the fire from the exterior. The three-alarm fire was brought under control in approximately 90 minutes. Damage is estimated at \$3.7 million.



Three-alarm apartment fire . . . firefighters encountered heavy smoke and fire from a ground floor apartment upon arrival at the Cavalier Club Apartments, 6200 Wilson Boulevard, January 12, 2008. The fire was brought under control in 15 minutes. A small explosion was confined to the apartment. Four adults were displaced.



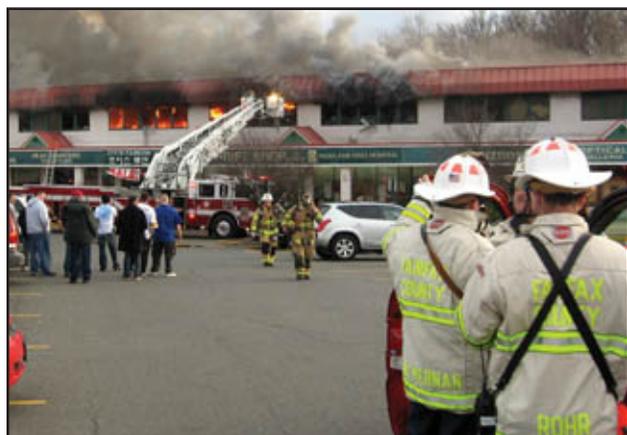
A second alarm was struck on an apartment building fire located at 14408 Newton Patent Court. Firefighters attacked the fire near the top floor balcony and roof area and brought the fire under control in approximately 40 minutes. Approximately 20 residents were displaced. There were no injuries. Damage is estimated at \$750,000. The cause of the fire was accidental, improper disposal of fireplace ashes on the balcony caused the fire.



Firefighters from Rescue 426 work to extricate a trapped person in a rollover crash at Van Dorn Street and Franconia Road, January 30, 2008. (Photo by Battalion Chief Elliot Rubino, Battalion 5, C-Shift)



Firefighters encountered a single-family home fully involved upon arrival at 3162 Mary Etta Lane in the Fair Oaks area. The two-alarm fire was brought under control in approximately 40 minutes. The fire was also fed by a natural gas leak in the home. Two adults were displaced and the property loss is estimated at \$1.5 million.



Firefighters responded to a three-alarm fire at a strip mall located in the 9600 block of Fairfax Boulevard near Fairfax Circle, Fairfax City, February 15, 2008. Damage is estimated at \$1 million.



This two-alarm single-family Falls Church house fire located at 3222 Locker Street, February 3, 2008, had smoke showing from three sides upon arrival. Firefighters brought the fire under control in approximately 75 minutes. One firefighter was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The fire was determined to be accidental, combustible materials too close to the hot water heater caused the fire. Damage is estimated at \$400,000.



Two crash patients were transported with non-life threatening injuries involving a two-vehicle crash at Burke Center Parkway and Fairfax County Parkway, January 12, 2008.



A fuel tanker truck caught fire on I-95 near Eisenhower Avenue and Telegraph Road, February 8, 2008. Fire crews quickly extinguished the fire using foam. The driver escaped with no injuries.

Online Volunteer Management System Improves Communication Channels

By Julie Weckerlein
Fair Oaks Volunteer Fire Company

A new online Volunteer Management System (VMS) is strengthening the partnership between the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and its volunteers. By forging this link, Fairfax County is directly impacting its service delivery through improved communication channels.

The advantage to the Fire and Rescue Department is two-fold. VMS offers an immediate snapshot of how its volunteers can sign up for backfill, MUD drill, or stand-by events. It is also a useful tool for compiling data on volunteer utilization by tracking training and volunteer hours, ensuring that standards of coverage are met, and goals set forth by the county's strategic planning efforts are reached.

In addition, VMS offers its members a one-stop area to sign up for duty shifts, view county-wide events, register for classes, schedule physicals, download necessary documents, and read the latest news. It also provides a public-facing component whereby visitors can learn about volunteer opportunities and directly contact volunteer stations in their area.

Although VMS has been operational for only a few months, it has already earned the attention from the state of Virginia for its user-friendly way of managing communications. John Morrison, the system's developer and volunteer with the Vienna Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company 2, earned the Governor's Award for Excellence in Virginia Fire Service Management – one of seven categories awarded across the state.

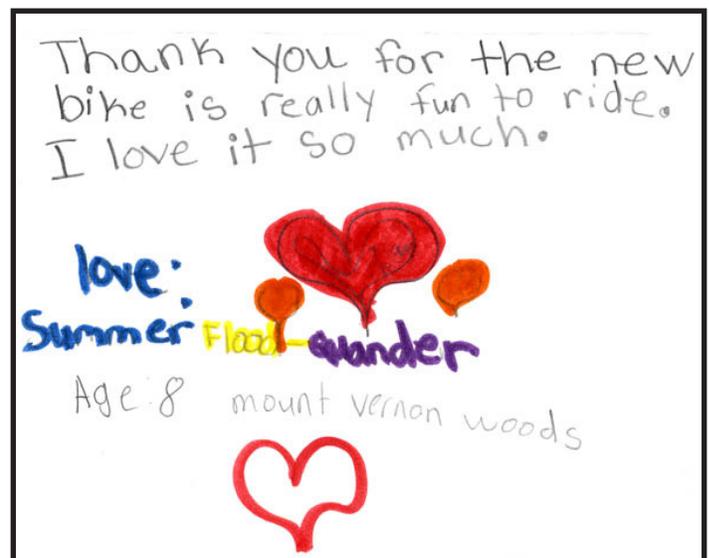
"VMS is a county-wide tool ... that provides visibility, contact information, schedules, and so much more," said President of the Fairfax County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Jonathan

Wood. This award is a direct reflection of John's initiative and hard work, and to all who have so enthusiastically supported the VMS system to improve our service delivery."

According to Wood, who is also chief of the Fair Oaks Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company 21, VMS is providing Fairfax County with an all-inclusive tool that is both user friendly and another excellent communication strategy furthering the county's mission.

The VMS system is easy to use. Anyone with internet connection can access the site at <http://vms.fcvfra.org> and follow the links. ❖

A Big Thank You



Response from a Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School eight-year-old after receiving a new bicycle from the Toys For Tots Christmas toy drive, December 2007.

Firefighters Return From New Hampshire Hike



Technicians Stephen D. McCay (left), Fire and Rescue Station 11, A-Shift, and Alexander Obert (right), Fire and Rescue Station 14, C-Shift, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, returned from a recent hiking trip in New Hampshire and made themselves available for media interviews at 10 a.m., Friday, February 22, 2008, at Fire and Rescue Station 11, Penn Daw.

Both were hiking the Presidential Trail in Crawford Notch, New Hampshire, and were rescued by helicopter Tuesday morning, February 19, 2008. Both firefighters came out unscathed. They are fine and have returned to duty. They are both skilled, avid hikers, and hiked the area last summer. ❖



"I couldn't imagine what they went through, but we had to razz them a little bit," Technician James M. Furman, Fire and Rescue Station 11, A-Shift, says of his art depicting the hike/rescue.

IAFF Local 2068 Executive Board Sworn-In For Two-Year Term



Outgoing Local 2068 President R. Michael Mohler administers the oath of office to incoming President John R. Niemiec, Vice President Richard L. Merrell, and Secretary-Treasurer Daniel V. Gray, November 7, 2007.

Bronze Star Recipients Have Coast Guard and Fairfax FRD Connection

Jack Brown, retired Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Assistant Chief, was awarded the Bronze Star by Admiral Thad Allen, Commandant, United States Coast Guard in February, 2008, for his performance while assigned to active duty in Iraq. Brown, a chief warrant officer in the Coast Guard Reserve, was recognized for his service to the US embassy in Iraq. He is Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management, Arlington County. He retired as Assistant Chief, Operations, July 14, 2000.

Additionally, Coast Guard Lieutenant Holly Harrison, volunteer firefighter, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, was also a recipient of the Bronze Star for the Coast Guard. She was awarded the medal in August of 2003 by then Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. She was one of three officers who helped ensure the safety of coalition forces working to clear mines in Iraq. ❖

Awards & Presentations

Unit Citation

Beulah Road and Mill Races Estates Drive

Medic 429

Technician Rony E. Avalos
Lieutenant Mark A. Schroeder
Firefighter Medic Christopher M. Kroboth

Medic 439

Lieutenant John N. Oudekerk, Jr.
Technician Todd M. Young

Rescue 439

Lieutenant Pete J. Bendo
Technician William E. Teal
Technician Samuel L. Poles, Jr.
Firefighter Lloyd W. Coburn, III

Rescue 401

Lieutenant Joseph M. Kratochvil
Technician Joel M. Fry
Technician John J. Loss
Technician Mark C. Baban

7721 Saratoga Ridge

Engine 422

Captain II David L. Warner
Firefighter Nathaniel R. Moore
Firefighter Jarrod A. Schmidt

Truck 422

Captain I Charles R. Cunningham
Lieutenant William T. Hyden, Jr.
Master Technician John L. Capps
Firefighter Mark E. Huehn

3701 Lockheed Boulevard

Truck 411

Lieutenant Dennis M. Kotecki
Technician Robert J. Williams
Technician Robert E. Pickel, Jr.

Ambulance 411

Master Technician John G. Adams
Firefighter Gustavo Cambronero-Vargas

Highland Street and Hanover Avenue

Medic 422

Lieutenant Jennifer L. Svites
Lieutenant William D. Vance
Firefighter Medic John P. Powell

871 Grace Street

E404

Captain II Tony C. Kostecka
Lieutenant Tie L. Burtlow
Firefighter Medic Damian C. Ripley
Firefighter Miguel Obleas

Ambulance 436

Technician Kathleen M. Vorbau
Technician Michael S. Eddy

Team Performance Awards

Haz-Mat Course Instructors

Battalion Chief Craig N. Buckley
Captain II Milton L. Painter
Master Technician Christopher M. Morgan
Master Technician Jeffrey L. Smith
Master Technician Clifford A. Watson
Master Technician Richard C. Vannoy
Master Technician Hector J. Rivera-Flores
Master Technician Thomas A. Zirkle
Master Technician Britt M. Lauler
Technician Joseph P. Gorman
Technician Smith T. Banks, II
Technician Brian P. Jenkins
Technician Lillie Allen-Peyton
Technician Kenneth W. Cornett, Sr.
Technician Kevin J. Steinhilber

Beulah Road and Mill Races Estates Drive

Engine 429

Captain II James J. Masiello
Technician Ronald B. Evans
Firefighter Roger A. Perdomo-Cortes

Ambulance 412

Master Technician Randal A. Leatherman
Firefighter Kate Weatherby

Highland Street and Hanover Avenue

Engine 426

Master Technician Ronald J. Kuley

Engine 422

Firefighter Brian M. Chinn

Ambulance 408

Firefighter Richard M. Tamillow
Volunteer Andre Pennington

Rescue 426

Lieutenant John W. Richter
Master Technician James E. Wilkerson
Master Technician Rodney H. Woodward, Jr.
Technician David A. Neilan

9475 Harrow Hill Lane

Fairfax County Police

Officer Anthony Capizzi
Officer Stephen Foley

E414

Captain II Samuel L. Gray
Technician Daryl T. Casey
Technician Trish A. Danula
Technician Robert C. Schoenberger

R414

Lieutenant Mark J. Plunkett
Technician Juan C. Ayala
Technician Patrick S. Devera
Technician Brenden J. Petersburg

A414

Technician Juan D. Campodonico
Firefighter Baatarjav Javkhlan

M427

Captain I Natalie D. Robb
Firefighter Brian R. Steele
Acting Technician Joe L. Vogttembing

Station 4 Projects

Lieutenant Svenja E. Leyden
Lieutenant Tie L. Burtlow
Technician Robert E. Wells
Firefighter Miguel Obleas
Firefighter Romulo O. Maciel Filho
Firefighter Medic Damian C. Ripley

Meritorious Service Award

Captain I David L. Prohaska
Lieutenant Michael J. Greulich

Career Achievement Awards

3 Year Safe Driving

Technician Robert E. Wells
Technician Edwin E. Flores
Firefighter Brian T. Wood

6 Year Safe Driving

Technician Stefan S. Dedes
Technician Roosevelt Carson, Jr.

9 Year Safe Driving

Lieutenant Tie L. Burtlow

Excellence in Virginia Fire Service Management Award

Deputy Volunteer Fire Chief
John Morrison
Vienna Volunteer Fire Department

The award recognizes any Officer or Fire Department that has demonstrated exceptional dedication to sound management principles and excellence in fire service leadership not only in their own department, but for greater good of other fire departments within the Commonwealth.

Paul E. Carlin Receives 2008 Don Smith Award



Paul Carlin received \$1,000 and a plaque from the Employees Advisory Council and was recognized before the Board of Supervisors on January 28, 2008. Left to right: Anthony H. Griffin, County Executive; Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman, Board of Supervisors; Anita Baker, Chair, Employee Advisory Council; and Paul E. Carlin, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. The Don Smith Award honors one or two employees who have contributed in an outstanding manner to the well-being of their fellow employees.

Beth Adams Receives the Keith Neely Outstanding Contribution To EMS Award

The National Association of EMS Physicians® (NAEMSP®) is pleased to present the 2008 Keith Neely Outstanding Contribution to EMS Award to Beth Adams, MA, RN, NREMT-P. This award is presented to an active or past member of NAEMSP® (physician or non-physician) who has provided significant leadership to the association. Beth has been co-director of our National EMS Medical Directors Course and Practicum for the past three years, has served as past program committee chair and was on our Board as our Professional-at-large Board member for two terms.

Beth joins recent recipients Lawrence Brown, EMT-P, Dr. Ray Fowler, Dr. Rick Hunt, and Dr. Ted Delbridge in this recognition from NAEMSP® and we thank her immensely for her contributions to NAEMSP®.



The Women's Recognition Luncheon held June 20, 2007, honoring female officers in the fire service with 20 years or more. Assistant Fire Chief Brian Lee, Planning and Policy, District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (left) presents certificates to Deputy Chief Christine N. Woodard, EMS Operations (top); Captain II Felecia L. Edwards, EEO Office (center); and Captain I Sandra K. Caple, Women's Program Office (bottom), Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. Battalion Chief Edith Eshelman, Battalion 3, A-Shift and Master Technician Barbara Schirmacher, Fire and Rescue Station 12, C-Shift; were also recognized but were unable to attend.



111 Michigan Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20010-2970
(202) 476-5000

January 17, 2008

Fire Chief Ronald Mastin
Fairfax County Fire Department
4100 Chain Bridge Rd 7th floor
Fairfax, VA 22030

Dear Fire Chief Ronald and friends at Fairfax County Fire Department,

Thank you for the generous donation of toys. Once again the holiday toy drive was a huge success. More than two hundred seventy five families in the inpatient setting and over a thousand children in the outpatient setting have enjoyed a wonderful holiday thanks to your generosity and kindness. Clearly, you share our passion and commitment to easing the stress on all of our families during this time of year.

Dr. Bear's Toy Store allows every parent in the inpatient setting to choose gifts for their sick child and siblings. It would be difficult to overstate how much this means to each and every parent. The children in chemotherapy, dialysis, surgery, radiology, ER, orthopedics and those served by the Mobile Medical Unit in the community, all receive something from their wish list and more! In addition, on Christmas Day, Santa and his elves visit every child to wish them a Merry Christmas. The attached picture truly captures the joy of children and their parents; each year the smiles get bigger!

As we move into a new year we are thrilled to report that the toy closet is full and all playrooms restocked. In addition, the monetary donations allow us to provide toys for children and meet the needs of families all year round. On behalf of all of us in the department of Consumer Support and Volunteer Services thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We wish each and every one of you many blessings throughout the year.

With Gratitude,



Terry Orzechewski
Director, Consumer Support and Volunteer Services

Large Loss Fire Investigations

| |
|--|
| Date: 11/2/2007 Box: 1094 Address: 3804 Munson Road Type: Residential Cause: Undetermined Value: \$95,130 Loss: \$95,130 Status: Inactive |
| Date: 11/5/2007 Box: 1122 Address: 4335 Rolling Stone Way Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$314,340 Loss: \$314,340 Status: Closed |
| Date: 11/7/2007 Box: 2404 Address: 3801 Maryland Street Type: Residential Cause: Undetermined Value: \$547,500 Loss: \$547,500 Status: Inactive |
| Date: 2007 Box: 1710 Address: 5105 Myrtle Leaf Drive Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$757,890 Loss: \$400,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 12/1/2007 Box: 3906 Address: 1512 Summerch Drive Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$1,650,000 Loss: \$300,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 12/2/2007 Box: 2219 Address: 7396 Ward Park Lane Type: Commercial Cause: Undetermined Value: \$3,700,000 Loss: \$3,700,000 Status: Inactive |
| Date: 12/7/2007 Box: 1206 Address: 912 Jaysmith Street Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$645,040 Loss: \$400,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 2007 Box: 3005 Address: 9205 Santayana Drive Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$545,205 Loss: \$100,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 2007 Box: 0100 Address: 1301 Dolly Madison Boulevard Type: Commercial Cause: Accidental Value: \$1,598,580 Loss: \$200,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 2007 Box: 1136 Address: 2421 Popkins Lane Type: Residential Cause: Under Investigation Value: \$432,585 Loss: \$150,000 Status: Open |
| Date: 2007 Box: 3216 Address: 5416 Colchester Meadow Lane Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$570,000 Loss: \$350,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 1/4/2008 Box: 3410 Address: 3538 Marseilles Drive Type: Residential Cause: Undetermined Value: \$95,210 Loss: \$95,210 Status: Inactive |
| Date: 1/7/2008 Box: 3800 Address: 14408 Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$2,334,060 Loss: \$750,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 1/13/2008 Box: 0500 Address: 6214 Franconia Forest Lane Type: Residential Cause: Incendiary Value: \$373,660 Loss: \$150,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 1/14/2008 Box: 2127 Address: 3162 Mary Etta Lane Type: Residential Cause: Under Investigation Value: \$1,500,000 Loss: \$1,500,000 Status: Open |
| Date: 1/25/2008 Box: 3515 Address: 7833 Mulberry Bottom Lane Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$498,960 Loss: \$100,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 2/3/2008 Box: 1831 Address: 3222 Locker Street Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$400,000 Loss: \$400,000 Status: Closed |
| Date: 2/5/2008 Box: 0404 Address: 709 Birch Court Type: Residential Cause: Accidental Value: \$418,230 Loss: \$100,000 Status: Closed |

30-Year Awards



Lieutenant Michael P. Regan, Fire and Rescue Station 18, B-Shift, (left) receives his 30-Year Award from Deputy Chief Duane M. Dodwell, Operations, B-Shift.

Paul E. Carlin, Apparatus Supervisor, receives his 30-Year Award.

Top 10 Activity Report

2007 Totals

| Ambulance | | Engine Company | | Rescue Squad | |
|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls |
| A 408 | 2,066 | E 410 | 3,156 | R426 | 1,395 |
| A 413 | 1,935 | E422 | 3,142 | R421 | 1,332 |
| A 410 | 1,767 | E408 | 3,034 | R418 | 1,304 |
| A 430 | 1,758 | E409 | 2,958 | R401 | 1,300 |
| A 409 | 1,724 | E429 | 2,729 | R411 | 1,038 |
| A 411 | 1,653 | E401 | 2,676 | R419 | 940 |
| A 428 | 1,483 | E413 | 2,667 | R414 | 808 |
| A 414 | 1,434 | E425 | 2,576 | R439 | 801 |
| A 431 | 1,272 | E411 | 2,553 | | |
| A 436 | 1,153 | E404 | 2,542 | | |

| Medic | | Battalion Chiefs & EMS Captains | | Ladder Company | |
|-------|-------|---------------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls |
| M418 | 3,181 | EMS 404 | 2,213 | T429 | 1,925 |
| M422 | 2,903 | EMS 402 | 1,766 | T425 | 1,896 |
| M408 | 2,821 | EMS 405 | 1,629 | T410 | 1,684 |
| M410 | 2,736 | EMS 403 | 1,428 | T422 | 1,617 |
| M429 | 2,699 | EMS 401 | 1,282 | TL436 | 1,507 |
| M426 | 2,624 | EMS 406 | 1,096 | TL440 | 1,341 |
| M425 | 2,576 | EMS 407 | 938 | TL408 | 1,335 |
| M404 | 2,528 | BC 404 | 828 | TL401 | 1,316 |
| M401 | 2,393 | BC 402 | 731 | TL430 | 1,105 |
| M411 | 2,383 | BC 403 | 650 | TL405 | 1,102 |

Unit activity is compiled from the event history file. A unit must be dispatched to a call or added on to be counted. Mutual aid dispatches are included in the activity report.

Line Copy Submission Deadlines

Volume II..... May 15

Volume III..... August 15

Volume IVNovember 15

Send to dan.schmidt@fairfaxcounty.gov or Jacqueline.Pitkin@fairfax-county.gov

Line Copy can be viewed on the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire>



Firefighters Help Needy Children By Collecting and Distributing Toys



Over 40,000 toys were collected for the 2007 Fire and EMS regional toy drive. Warehouse personnel loaded the toys for delivery to deserving children throughout the metropolitan region.



The Fairfax County Firefighter and Friends toy drive coordinated the delivery of over 100 bicycles at Penn Daw Fire and Rescue Station 11. Lieutenant Bailey assists a representative from the Fairfax County Schools system in selecting a bicycle for a deserving child.

Top 10 Activity Report

November - December 2007

| Ambulance | | Engine Company | | Rescue Squad | |
|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls |
| A 413 | 309 | E 408 | 502 | R401 | 227 |
| A 410 | 283 | E 410 | 502 | R426 | 224 |
| A 430 | 282 | E 422 | 502 | R418 | 206 |
| A 409 | 274 | E 409 | 474 | R421 | 204 |
| A 411 | 256 | E 429 | 440 | R419 | 151 |
| A 428 | 243 | E 401 | 430 | R411 | 151 |
| A 414 | 227 | E 404 | 418 | R439 | 140 |
| A 431 | 201 | E 405 | 407 | R414 | 129 |
| A 434 | 182 | E 413 | 404 | | |
| A 436 | 177 | E 425 | 391 | | |

| Medic | | Battalion Chiefs & EMS Captains | | Ladder Company | |
|-------|-------|---------------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls | Unit | Calls |
| M 422 | 474 | EMS 402 | 276 | T 429 | 306 |
| M 408 | 457 | EMS 405 | 259 | T 410 | 281 |
| M 410 | 437 | EMS 403 | 218 | T 422 | 262 |
| M 429 | 434 | EMS 401 | 176 | TL 408 | 236 |
| M 404 | 428 | EMS 406 | 149 | TL 430 | 232 |
| M 426 | 421 | BC 404 | 128 | TL 436 | 214 |
| M 401 | 419 | EMS 407 | 125 | TL 401 | 213 |
| M 425 | 401 | BC 405 | 120 | TL 440 | 198 |
| M 409 | 387 | BC 402 | 116 | TL 405 | 193 |
| M 411 | 374 | BC 403 | 108 | T 438 | 162 |

Unit activity is compiled from the event history file. A unit must be dispatched to a call or added on to be counted. Mutual aid dispatches are included in the activity report.



Firefighter Horace C. Pendergrass, Woodlawn Fire and Rescue Station 24, B-Shift, and other Santa helpers sort and bag toys for delivery to children in Northern Virginia at Penn Daw Fire and Rescue Station 11.

Community Program Highlights



WESTLAWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

3200 Westley Road
Falls Church, Va. 22042

January 2, 2008

Dear Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department,

Thank you very much for sponsoring the Fire and Rescue Holiday Toy Drive. Nine students from Westlawn Elementary School benefited from your generosity. Your efforts brought much happiness to the children and their families.

I admire your contribution to this service and the support you provided for our community.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Lawrence
School Counselor



THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your donations to the Fire Station 11 Toy Drive. So much joy was brought to our holiday season because of your generosity. We wish you and your families a holiday full of blessings and a happy new year!

Many Thanks,
*The students, parents, faculty, and staff of
London Towne Elementary School*



December 19, 2007

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department

Dear Fire Chief:

On behalf of Glassmanor Elementary School, I would like to thank you for your generous Christmas gifts. Your commitment to helping the children in our community is sincerely appreciated.

Seeing firsthand the work that you do to make a child's Christmas special may make all the difference in the world. Each year that Glassmanor has been selected to participate in your Christmas Drive continues to be cherished in the hearts of our students. Through your Holiday toy drive we have seen many lives affected by the thoughtfulness of your giving.

With the help of donations from supporters such as you, we know that the children from Glassmanor will have something under the tree this holiday season.

Thanks again for your generous support and your continued efforts to bring happiness to the children of Glassmanor Elementary on Christmas morning.

Best wishes,

Diane Jones, Principal



FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Francis Scott Key Middle School

6402 Franconia Road
Springfield, Virginia 22150
(703) 313-3900

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Dept.
Attn: Fire Chief
4100 Chain Bridge Road
Alexandria, VA. 22030

1/8/08

The Staff at Key Middle School Would like to thank you for all the children and families that you were able to help this holiday season. Because of your generosity, and commitment to help our children, we were able to help more than 10 families at Key Middle School this year.

Thank You.

Rosa Pereira-Bull
School Social Worker

“Taking Up”



Captain II
Charles Rick Atkins

Entry Date: December 5, 1977

Retirement Date: January 4, 2008

Recruit Class: 42

Assignments: 24, 34, 11, 20, 5, 22, 27, SAFO, FC Aide, and 31

Likes about Fire Department:

Satisfaction of providing service to the community; being part of the greatest profession on earth; physical fitness training; 24-hour-shifts; four day breaks.

Will miss about Fire

Department: Camaraderie; being part of the greatest profession on earth.

Plans for the future: Work part time for the National Firefighter Near-Miss Reporting System (Don't forget to enter your near-miss report). Build a house on property we own in South Carolina. Play golf and spend more time with the family.

Words of wisdom: The pain of change is easier than the pain to remain the same. Do not stay in one station for more than five years. Move and grow. Safety is the mission, walk the talk, train, train, train, so everyone goes home. Always have God, Grace, and Gratitude. Learn something from everyone and every experience, even the

bad ones. Remember that scar tissue has memory.

What got you interested in the fire service: Growing up across the street from an Alexandria firefighter, Bob Childress, and after high school, working with a DC firefighter, Jerry Deer. Best choice of my life. I have actually lived my dream.

Who or what made an influence in your career: My wife, Linda, and son, Rick, for their support. Local 2068: Eric Lamar, John Harris, Pat Morrison, Mike Mohler, Kevin Kincaid, and Phil Pommerening. The fire and rescue department: Doug Turner, John Kimball, Lester Devers, Roy Pierpoint, Ashby Thompson, Carl Maurice, Jeff Donaldson, Larry Fox, Charlie Wilkerson, Don Sheads, Eric Walker, Bill Bullock, Mark and Bart Wheatley, Clayton Thompson, Michael Neuhard, Jeff Coffman, and Mike Deli. Working as a field safety officer, USAR training, Fire Chief's aide position, and working as safety advocate for Local 2068.



Captain I
Jay D. Braithwaite

Entry Date: June 2, 1980

Retirement Date: February 28, 2008

Recruit School Number: 51

Assignments: 21, 31, 17, 36, 4 31, 25, 22, and 31

Likes about the Fire

Department: Teamwork on the incident scene, in the station, within the battalion, and then out of the department.

Will miss about the Fire

Department: Everything this department has to offer, the unity, the calls, the family, and all of the opportunities that were available to me.

Plans for the future: Riding motorcycles with my children.

Words of wisdom: Give credit to those who came before us and to those who served with us. We as a department are recognized and admired. Conduct yourself as to not tarnish our reputation.

What got you interested in the fire service? Several high school classmates and I joined John H. Enders, Fire Company in Berryville, Virginia.

Who or what made an influence in your career?

Everyone who came to work with a positive attitude and was willing to give credit to others for our successes.



Lieutenant
Douglas A. Shaw

Entry Date: September 24, 1979

Retirement Date: October 2, 2007

Recruit School Number: 49

Assignments: 12, 31, 1, 4, 36, 4, 18, 22, 35, M407, 1, and 2

Likes about the Fire

Department: Shift work, four-day breaks, good pay for what we do, camaraderie, meeting new people every day, and the DROP program.

Will miss about the Fire

Department: Shift work, four-day breaks, good pay for what we do, camaraderie, meeting new people every day, and the DROP program.

Plans for the future: To get in the boat delivery business and substitute teach when not

doing that. I will continue to swim in the World Police and Fire Games.

Words of wisdom: Don't forget where you came from when you get to where you are going.

What got you interested in the fire service? My father was a volunteer in Ohio for about ten years when I was little.

Who or what made an influence in your career? My grandfather who taught me how to treat and respect people at an early age.

Firefighters Lay Wreaths at Arlington National Cemetary



Firefighters from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department participated in the Wreaths Across America event at Arlington National Cemetary in December 2007.

Fourth Quarter Promotions



Individuals promoted at the Fourth Quarter Promotion Ceremony (back row left to right): Lieutenant Adam C. Brock, Technician Rodney D. Snapp, Captain I Oscar L. Beasley, Jr., Lieutenant Yolanda Hartwell, Lieutenant Emily L. Murphy, Captain I Scott L. Kraut, Lieutenant Steven T. Henry, and Captain I Daniel D. Shaw. Front row: Lieutenant William D. Vance, Captain I Sean T. Evans, Battalion Chief Charles W. Ryan, Captain II George O. Gonzalez, Jr., and Captain II James J. Masiello.

Retirements

Captain II

Charles L. Atkins, Jr.

December 5, 1977 - January 4, 2008

Captain I

Jay D. Braithwaite

June 2, 1980 - February 28, 2008

Deputy Chief

Jeffrey B. Coffman

August 1, 1977 - January 30, 2008

Captain I

Ronald Deskins

February 26, 1975 - December 17, 2007

Master Technician

David P. Gaber

January 28, 1980 - February 1, 2008

Robert J. Mizer

Management Analyst III

July 1, 2000 - January 4, 2008

Captain II

Lawrence Nyers

January 3, 1977 - January 4, 2008

Lieutenant

Mark D. Stone

May 4, 1981 - February 29, 2008

Lieutenant

Russell L. Strube

May 21, 1979 - January 28, 2008

Captain II

Anne L. Tennant

October 13, 1986 - January 3, 2008

New Hires

Antemira G. Elliot

Anniversaries

5 Years

Firefighter Edgar Torres, Jr.

10 Years

Lieutenant Allen R. Batson
 Technician Michael D. Brown
 Technician Robert S. Browning
 Lieutenant Tie L. Burtlow
 Lieutenant Laurie E. Byrne
 Firefighter Jose Calderon, Jr.
 Lieutenant Keith W. Cerzullo
 Master Technician Donald R. Crum
 Technician Alfred M. Doughty
 Lieutenant Terrance L. Fayson
 Technician Thomas A. Ferguson
 Firefighter Stefan C. Gansert
 Lieutenant Todd R. Gorham
 Firefighter James R. Hill, II
 Master Technician Timothy D. James
 Master Technician Timothy M. Kelly
 Lieutenant Jeffrey L. Mongold
 Lieutenant Bryan J. Nix, Jr.
 Firefighter Robert J. Pilsucki
 Technician Samuel L. Porter
 Master Technician Clifford A. Watson
 Captain I Oscar T. Wells, IV

15 Years

Technician Lillie Allen-Peyton
 Technician William D. Brinton
 Firefighter Marlon J. Crockett
 Captain I Colin D. Flanigan
 Master Technician Charles W. Horton, Jr.
 Master Technician Ronald J. Kuley
 Captain I Steven T. McFarland
 Captain I Victor M. Miller, Jr.
 Lieutenant Matthew J. Nancy
 Master Technician H. Timothy O'Toole
 Captain I Ronnie A. Rodriguez
 Captain II Robert P. Ruwe
 Master Technician Marc L. Straubinger
 Lieutenant Rex E. Strickland, III
 Captain II Kenny J. Wolfrey

20 Years

Master Technician Michael C. Lewis

25 Years

Technician Clayton L. Beall, Jr.
 Captain I Paul T. Beardmore
 Lieutenant Edward D. Bowman
 Battalion Chief Edward M. Brinkley
 Gary L. Buckley, Engineer III
 Firefighter Kenneth W. Clark
 Technician Kurt A. Hoffman
 Lieutenant Richard L. Johnson
 Lieutenant Michael W. Landstreet
 Technician Andrew Makuch
 Master Technician David J. May
 Lieutenant Mark A. Nash
 Lieutenant John N. Oudekerk, Jr.
 Captain II Gary D. Pemberton
 Captain I Thomas W. Ryan
 Firefighter Brian L. Saunders
 Captain II James A. Sobota
 Technician Leo T. Sullivan
 Lieutenant Warren J. Trice
 Lieutenant Danny R. Urps

30 Years

Captain I Gary B. Bunch
 Paul E. Carlin, Apparatus Supervisor
 Lieutenant Alan G. Gray
 Lieutenant Michael P. Regan
 Technician Michael J. Stock

31 Years

Captain I Robert M. Mohler

34 Years

Captain I Thomas J. Wealand



Vienna Fire and Rescue Station 2

Captain II
George O. Gonzales, Jr.
Station Commander



**Volunteer Chief
Jeff Gray**

Station constructed: The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1903, and was the first volunteer fire department in the area. The department purchased the first motorized fire protection in Fairfax County - a 1919 Model T Ford truck. In September of 1929, the department received its Charter and was established as Company 2. In 1958, the station was located to Center Street South. In 2006, the station was rededicated after an extensive remodeling.

Station specialty: Canteen unit, field decon unit (engine), brush unit

Square miles in first due area: 10

Specific hazardous/target areas: W&OD Trail, Historic Church Street, large elderly population, large commercial area, Waters Field, town activities involving large gathering of people. Older homes, some possible balloon frame and rural water supply areas.

Total calls in 2007: 3,690

Equipment assigned to station: Engine, reserve engine, medic, ambulance, brush, canteen unit

Station personnel: **A-Shift:** Captain I Rebecca P. Kelly, Lieutenant James T. Martin, Lieutenant John M. Yadlosky, Technician Eric J. Bartholomew, Technician Michael E. Duffy, Technician Giovanni Vasquez, and Firefighter Anthony M. Clayborn. **B-Shift:** Captain II George O. Gonzales, Jr., Lieutenant Lonnie G. Belk, Jr., Master Technician George C. Hood, II, Acting Technician Mica A. Bland, Acting Technician Duane P. Tenney, III, and Firefighter James M. Taber. **C-Shift:** Captain I Roger T. McGehee, Lieutenant Lisa M. McCauley, Technician Robert Arnone, Sr., Technician Michael R. Worthington, Acting Technician Easton Peterson, Firefighter Douglas M. Washington, and Firefighter Crystal L. Zorich.

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department

Attn: Public Affairs and Life Safety Education

4100 Chain Bridge Road

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 45
FAIRFAX, VA



A publication of Fairfax County, Virginia