



Fully Involved

A Newsletter of the Henrico County Division of Fire



Three DoF Members Added to VATF2

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Three veteran members of the Division of Fire have been selected to serve as members of FEMA's prestigious Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 2. This Task Force is housed in Virginia Beach and consists of representatives from several different disciplines including professional engineers, physicians, firefighters, and communications and logistical experts.

The Division of Fire became a participating agency with this federal asset in 2009. Henrico County now has a total of six members on the team, and we are the only agency from Central Virginia that is represented. The competition for these positions was extremely tight, and our success speaks highly of the quality of training and experience offered by the Henrico personnel who were accepted onto the Task Force.

Two of the Division of Fire's existing team members, Captain Mark Cumashot and Lt. Scott

Kincaid, responded with the Task Force during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. They brought back incredible experience in wide area search & rescue operation, integration of hazmat with TRT, and other components that will help them train others.

The Henrico members who were accepted onto the team include

Lt. Bruce Ivey, FF Jay Hudnall, and FF Thomas Pollard.

These members will join Captain Mark Cumashot, Lt. Ed Dunnivant, and Lt. Scott Kincaid as our representatives on this highly prestigious assignment.



Fire damaged area of New Jersey in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. VATF-2 members were deployed to this area.

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!! Kudos !!

The following individuals have been accepted to the **Virginia Fire Officer Academy**:

- Lt. Mike Crawford, 10-A
- FF Casey Barden, 1-A
- FF Price Dunn, 16-C
- FF Tim Farrar, Fire Training
- FF Phil Lathrop, 10-B
- FF Patrick Sheehan, 1-C

The following individuals have advanced to **CDP-Career**:

- FF Phillip Elliott, 17-C
- FF Ben Nuckols, Fire Training
- FF James Stenhouse, 21-B

Training, Training, and more Training

Henrico Firefighters take on ambitious spring and summer training schedule

Active Shooter awareness training. Standards of Response Cover (SORC) and Continuous Improvement Strategy. Spring live-fire training evolutions.

These are just a few examples of extra training that has been scheduled or completed for this spring and early summer training season. The active shooter training was completed in April and included an innovative joint effort to train all Henrico Police Officers and Firefighters together side-by-side.

Preparations are well underway to conduct the first set of live fire drills that have been offered since 2010. This training will include a traditional live fire component, but will also focus on the new SORC standards for moderate risk response, and will contain a command and control component.

Together, these training initiatives will have accounted for more than 6,000 man-hours of training by Henrico Firefighters in a matter of just three months.



Henrico Police officers and Firefighters take a break during joint active-shooter training.

Innsbrook Rotary, Henrico Fire Launch the First-Annual VA Firefighter Skills Competition *by Mark Wilson, 5-C*

The 1st Annual Virginia Firefighter Games event was held on Saturday, April 20, and anyone who was there can tell you it was a great event. The planning stages for this day began over 20 months ago and it all came together Saturday for a day of fun. The Innsbrook Rotary Club was the organization behind getting the event together. They truly know how to put on a 1st class event. I want to personally thank everyone from Henrico Fire who helped out with the planning of the event to make it a success. I also want to thank all the Henrico Fire folks that came out to show their skills in Truck operations, Vehicle Extrications, Kids Fire Safety, and everything else that made the day fun for all the public that attended.

The firefighter competition was where most of my planning was focused and I would like to let everyone who competed know I am very proud of each of you for coming out and representing Henrico Fire so well. I know leading up to the event many folks were thinking this was going to be a super competitive and intense competition like the Combat Challenge.

Although we modeled the course to match the Combat Challenge, our focus on Saturday was a fun and relaxed atmosphere where firefighters could come and have a good time showing off their skills for friends and family. There were no strict rules or penalties for slip ups, just good fun. Many competed in the individual and relay races and I think everyone seemed to have a great time.

A great display of leadership was displayed by your



own Chiefs 1, 2, 4, and 5 as they ran an impressive relay. This is something I have never seen from any department in the 8 years I have been competing in the Combat Challenge. So, a big thanks to our administration for not only supporting Henrico Fire's role in the entire event, but for coming out and showing off their skills too.

Another relay that needs to be acknowledged is the HazMat team. They not only completed the relay

competition, but did it in their Level A suits. Very Impressive!

Overall, this was a perfect day. From the weather, to the attendance of the public, to the firefighters attendance and participation. The Rotary Club and Short Pump Town Center could not have been happier with the results and we already have begun planning for the 2nd Annual VA Firefighter Games to be held May 3, 2014.



FF Kevin Kump (16-C) cheers up Buckets the Clown, a special guest from the Virginia Beach Fire Dept.

"Firefighters could come and have a good time showing off their skills for friends and family."



Chiefs Baxter, Dunn, McDowell, Cox get psyched up for the competition

Retirement Dinner Scheduled for Friday, May 10

Every spring we gather as a fire department family to celebrate the careers of those who have retired from the Division of Fire. This is always a wonderful evening of food, fun and storytelling at its best. This year will be exceptional as we celebrate 495 years of service of 18 division employees.

Please join us on May 10th, 2013 at St. John's Catholic Church. 811 West Nine Mile Road. Social begins at 5:30 pm.

Let us show our appreciation to the following

individuals for their years of dedicated service.

Edwin Smith
Wayne Baber
Rocky Hudson
Lloyd Runnett
David West
Butch Jones
Gayle Jewell
Stan Tinsley
Mike Parsley

Randy Davis
Brian Ramsey
Doug Davies
JD Jenkins
William Packett
Bobby Baber
Deborah Wilmoth
Leslie Taylor
Linda Kastelberg



St. John's Catholic Church in Highland Springs

Accreditation site visit scheduled for May 13-17

The Division of Fire will participate in an accreditation site review during the week of May 13-17, 2013. During this time, five assessors will be visiting fire stations and fire department facilities throughout the County. They will be validating information the Division submitted in response to performance standards that are required by the Accreditation Commission. All five assessors are fire service professionals who have volunteered for this duty, and who have received extensive training from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

During their visit, the assessors will conduct both formal and informal interviews of Division personnel. The purpose of these interviews is to validate that the way we do business is consistent with the information that was provided in the self-assessment documents.

During their visit, the assessors will be given an aerial tour of the County, and will visit local landmarks such as Richmond International Raceway, West Broad

Village, and the Richmond International Airport.

The Division of Fire was first accredited in 1998. That accreditation has been upheld after subsequent site visits in 2003 and 2008. Henrico Fire was the 9th fire department in the nation to be accredited, and Henrico was the first local government to have Police, Fire, and Sheriff agencies all accredited by international bodies.

A critical component of the Division's accreditation effort over the past year has been the update of our Standards of Response Coverage (SORC), which resulted in significant changes to call processing and alarm assignment to various types of structure fires. That effort, which was completed over the past six months, has been credited with allowing us to ensure a more robust level of fireground staffing during the initial phases of a structure fire.

The accreditation process also drove the recent

development of our Continuous Improvement Strategy (C.I.S.). For the C.I.S., both internal and external stakeholders were engaged to help identify critical objectives, service gaps, and opportunities that should be pursued over the next 2 to 5 years.

The Community Risk Assessment and Standards of Response Coverage (SORC) document and the Continuous Improvement Strategy plan are both posted on the intranet.



Commission on
Fire Accreditation
International

FMO personnel undergoing extensive training

Fighting to prevent and investigate the devastating and costly effects of fire, fire marshals serve as the law and code enforcement arm of the Division of Fire. After receiving extensive training in conducting fire inspections and investigations, fire marshals attend the 10 week VFMA Law Enforcement School. This program, which is modeled after the course given to Federal investigators, is offered at Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia. The Henrico personnel stay on site each week, only returning home on weekends.

Currently, Captain Scotty Roberts, Lt. Brent Boshier, and Firefighter Jim Mullen are attending this program. The course began on April 1, and does not conclude until June 7, 2013.

The Virginia Fire Marshal Academy recruits instructors who are subject matter experts in their particular fields. Course work includes civil and criminal law, laws of arrest, arson law, fraud investigation, search and seizure, use of force,

"The course began on April 1, and does not conclude until June 7, 2013."

defensive tactics, weapons qualification, interview/interrogation, traffic stops, gang investigation, narcotics investigation, surveillance, major case management and criminal profiling. This training meets DCJS training requirements and allows the fire marshal to operate within the authority granted them under Title 27 of the Code of Virginia.

Attending a course of this length presents a number of challenges both to the students and to their families, considering the time away from home.

Chief Hudson honored by friends, peers at R.I.R.

On April 27, 2013, District Chief Herman "Rocky" Hudson was honored by the unified Police/Fire Command Staff at Richmond International Raceway (RIR) for his 18 years of commitment to making the track the safest place in Virginia during the NASCAR race events.

Chief Hudson has announced his intention to retire effective June 1, 2013, after nearly 37 years of service with Henrico Fire. During those years of service, Rocky has been instrumental in the implementation of ICS in Henrico County.

Rocky fought back a tear in his eye as he and the other command staff told and re-told stories of their past adventures at the track.

Major Jim Fitzgerald from the Police Division presented Chief Hudson with a shadow box framed with the words "Unified Command." Good job, Rocky.



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We're on the Web!
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Board of Supervisors adopts budget for Fiscal Year 2014

Spending plan includes additional funding for public safety

On April 23, the Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2014 operating budget for Henrico County. The spending plan includes funding for nine additional firefighter positions to provide permanent staffing for Fire Medic 2, as well as additional funding for emergency overtime and training. The budget also provides funding for ten additional positions for the Police Division to expand patrol operations. The 19 public safety positions were created by eliminating 19 positions from other County departments.

Construction of new Fire Station 10 to begin this summer

During its April 23 meeting, the Board of Supervisors awarded a \$4.4 million construction contract to Haley Builders as the general contractor for the re-construction of Fire Station 10. The new station will be 12,200 square feet, with three drive-through bays. It will be constructed while the existing station 10 remains fully operational. The compact site is 1.17 acres in size and the construction of the new station will occur in five phases. Construction is expected to begin by June and be completed within 18 months.

New Stations Under Construction



News from Henrico Friends & Family

FF **Maurice Kiely** (10-C) announced his intention to resign from the Division effective June 2. Maurice has been fortunate to develop a very successful tree cutting business, and has chosen to pursue this business full time. Best wishes for great success and happiness. We'll miss you.

Richmond Firefighter **Tracy Schrage** lost her battle against cancer on April 28. She had been with Richmond Fire for 12 years.

Lt. **Kendall White** (9-C) lost his father on April 20.

FF **Russ Hancock** (16-B) lost his father to cancer on April 26.

Thomas Allen O'Kelly, who volunteered at Station 11 from 1961 – 1974 passed away from a sudden illness on April 9.

Retired Firefighter **Marty Getz** recently suffered a stroke and is undergoing rehab.

Director of General Services **Chris Winstead** has accepted a position as VDOT Regional Administrator for the Lynchburg region. His last day with Henrico will be May 24. Best wishes to Chris, who has been a strong supporter of Henrico Fire.

The Seattle Fire Department has named former Henrico Firefighter **Hilton Almond** as "Firefighter of the Year." Hil worked with Henrico Fire from 1997 to 2003, serving at Stations 5 and 9. Way to go, Hil!