



Fully Involved



A Newsletter of the Henrico County Division of Fire

January 2018

New Year - New Alerting System

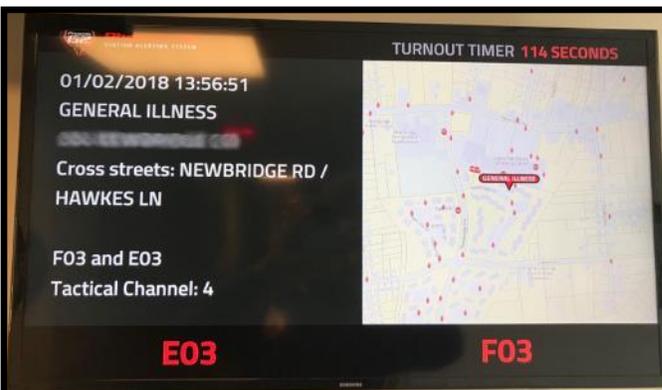
Early 2017, Henrico Division of Fire began implementing the Phoenix G2 Station Alerting System; requiring every station to be outfitted with the necessary equipment such as, monitors, speakers and remotes. Changing over to an electronic dispatch system was a huge change for the Division as not only did station personnel need to adjust to the system, but communication officers who previously dispatched all calls needed to adjust as well.



The Phoenix G2 Station Alerting System was created by US Digital Designs in efforts to improve response times of fire/EMS responders. Dispatchers can transmit information within seconds without placing callers on hold, first responders receive visual and audio alerts regarding the dispatched call, administration can watch response times decrease and ISO ratings improve and most importantly, community members benefit from quick response times and lower insurance rates.

In addition to being alerted at the station, the Phoenix G2 Station Alerting System also provides an app for responders to be notified of calls via cell phone. This feature is particularly beneficial when responders are away from the apparatus and station monitors (i.e. participating in community outreach activities, gathering meals at the grocery store, training offsite or at the drill facility, etc.).

Although some minor glitches occurred in 2017, we are happy



to announce the system has been up and running successfully to bring in the new year. There has already been a noticeable reduction in response times after the system was installed.

In This Issue

- 2 County Incidents
- 5 Task Force 2
- 6 Ask a Firefighter
- 8 Department News
- 12 Awards
- 13 Fire Fitness
- 14 FMO Corner
- 15 Faces of 911
- 16 The Way it Was
- 18 Upcoming Events

Top Photo: Station Alerting Remote located in station bunk rooms

Bottom Photo: Large Screen Monitor located throughout stations. Provides info such as, map of location, address, cross streets, turnout time, TAC channel, and which apparatus are assigned

For more information: <https://stationalerting.com/products-for-fire-stations/>

House Fire on Bromby Street



On Oct 24th, Henrico firefighters responded to the report of a house fire in the 2200 block of Bromby Street in the county's east end. First units arrived in less than five minutes and found heavy fire in the rear of the home, as well as in the attic and second floor. Crews moved quickly to knock down the fire in the rear while additional crews searched the house for victims and extinguishing the fire in the attic and second floor.

Because of the firefighters' skill and speed, the fire was quickly controlled. The occupants were able to escape unharmed but were displaced.



Henrico Fire used the incident as a chance to remind residents about the importance of working smoke alarms in the home, and that if they can not afford one, to please reach out to use on our website: henricofire.org.

Garage Fire on Brilland Ct.

On Sept 10th, companies in Henrico County's north side were dispatched for a garage on fire in the 1900 block of Brilland Ct. Units were on scene within 4 minutes and found an attached garage with heavy fire throughout. Firefighters immediately stretched hoselines to knock down the fire while other personnel went inside the home to check for extension and to ensure everyone was out.



Once the fire was brought under control, it was determined to be accidental in nature.



Warehouse Fire at Fareva Facility

Oct 9th, Henrico County firefighters were notified of a possible fire in a manufacturing facility in the 2300 block of Darbytown Road, near South Laburnum Avenue, in the county's east end. Units arrived in less than five minutes, and were notified by plant employees that there was a fire inside the building. Due to the potential complexity of the fire, a second alarm was called, bringing nearly a dozen additional firefighters to the scene.

Personnel entered the building with hoselines and found heavy smoke conditions throughout. Making their way through the low-visibility conditions, they were able to find the fire, which was located at a piece of machinery. The building's sprinkler system was keeping the fire from spreading as rapidly, but two fire department hoselines were required to fully extinguish the blaze.

Ventilation of the large business was a challenge, requiring of smoke removal through the roof. Four companies partnered together to strategically place their fans to move the air, a task which took nearly three hours to fully accomplish.



Because of the amount of smoke, it took about two-and-a-half hours to mark

the incident under control.

Over 25 employees were inside at the time of the fire, and they were all able to safely escape. No injuries were reported to occupants or fire service personnel.

The cause of the fire was investigated by the fire marshal's office and was determined to be accidental.

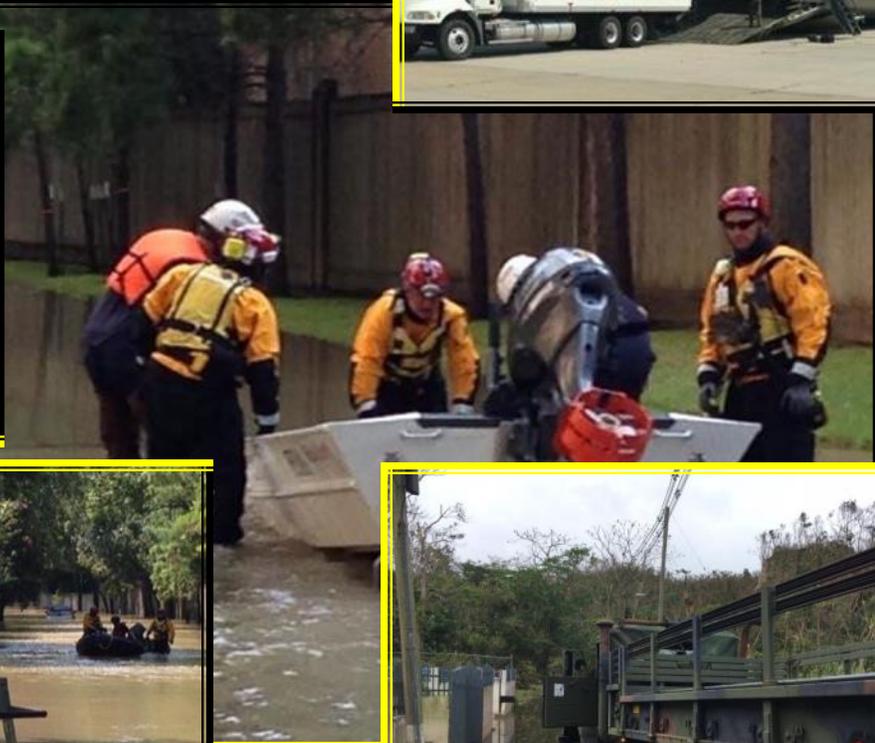
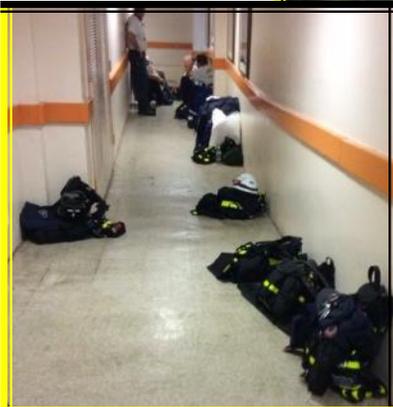


USAR/VA Task Force 2 Hurricane Harvey and Irma



Record-breaking hurricanes hit Texas and Puerto Rico late August, early September. The USAR/VA Task Force 2 deployed several members to provide help with rescue services to these areas. Henrico's Captain Mark Cumashot, Captain Scott Kincaid, Lt. Bruce Ivy, FF Mike Bassett, FF Jay Hudnall, FF J.J. Leach, FF Thomas Pollard and FF Grayson Elam were part of these deployments.

*Photos courtesy of Virginia Task Force 2 Urban Search and Rescue Team
www.vatf2.com*



Ask a Firefighter



If you could ask a firefighter a question what would it be? Mrs. Robinson's 1st grade class from Highland Springs Elementary School had a few questions for firefighters. Thank you **Firefighter Kelsey Thomas** from Firehouse 7A and **Firefighter Cory Wonson** from Firehouse 16B for your responses!

Jayla wants to know... Do firefighters like to take naps?

K: Most firefighters enjoy a good nap. I love to take naps, however I do not do so at work.



Evan asks... Do you like coffee? Do you have a puppy?

K: I do like coffee, but mostly iced. I do not currently have a puppy but I want one!

Serenity has a very important question... Do firefighters like bacon egg and cheeses?

K: I love bacon egg and cheese on a fluffy biscuit.

Andre wants to know if you play football.

K: I like to play soccer (but its called football in other countries)

Jaxson wants to know do firefighters do a lot of work?

K: A lot of us firefighters do a lot of work because we want to be safe and to be able to help a lot of people.

Ron'azya asks... Why are firefighters cool?

K: Firefighters are cool because you get to be a part of two families instead of just one.

Mackensey asks... Where do firefighters get their supplies?

K: Luckily, we are given our supplies by the county. A bunch of different stores make them for us and then ship them to the county.

Genesis is worried about his family. How do we get out of a fire if the fire is in the front door and we don't have another way out? We have a window, but no ladder.

K: The best advice I can give is to close the door to the room you are in and open the window to get someone's attention. We have plenty of ladders and will come get you immediately.

Gabrielle asks...**Why do firefighters wear badges? Do firefighters take breaks?**

C: Our badges symbolize the oath we swore to always help and protect people when they are in need. We take breaks to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner; however, any time someone calls 911 we will stop whatever we are doing to help them.

**Madison, and the general public, ask do firefighters eat donuts and drink coffee?**

C: Firefighters prefer ice cream, but we never turn down donuts. I like to have a cup of coffee every morning at the firehouse.

Mackensity wants to know... Do firefighters like to read?

C: I love to read! I read something every day. My favorite books are science fiction.

Braylen wants to know if you are a person who takes the fire hose? And do you go real fast?

C: When something is on fire I move faster than The Flash to grab the fire hose and put it out!

Davion, and your coworkers, are curious to know... Can you slam dunk?

C: I used to be able to slam dunk easily, but I hurt my knee playing basketball and cannot dunk anymore. I still love to play though and my jump shot gets better every day. Practice makes perfect.

Kymani asks... Do you have a brother? Do you have a puppy?

C: I have a big family with three brothers and two sisters. I don't have a dog right now, but my wife and I asked for a new puppy for Christmas.

Serenity doesn't understand why firefighters are important?

C: I think firefighters are important because we help people every day who are having an emergency. Whether someone is sick or something is on fire, we will be there to help!

Jakiyah needs to know... Where does fire come from?

C: In order for something to catch on fire there has to be a source of heat, oxygen and something to burn. Some common causes of fire in a house are: the kitchen stove, candles and the fireplace. So you should always be careful around them.

Friends and Family



Firehouse 5C is happy to announce the arrival of our newest member of the family. **Jordan Brian DeLaney** was born at 0640 this day Sept 25 coming in at 7 lbs 12 oz and 20 inches. Everyone is doing well. **FF Brian DeLaney** now has enough to field his own co-ed basketball team.

Firehouse 21C is proud to announce the arrival of **Lila Grace Weinstein** born Oct 22 at 09:22 ... 6lb / 9oz .. 19.5 inches long... which is actually taller than her daddy **FF Nathan "Goop" Weinstein**.. mom and dad are doing great!!! Congrats!!!!!!!

Firehouse 6B is happy to announce the arrival of our newest Eastover Gardens Team Member. **FF Doug Pyne** and his wife are the proud parents of a new baby boy. **Declan Edward Pyne** was brought into this world around 7pm this evening Oct 25 at St Mary's, and weighed in at a healthy 7 lbs and 9 ounces. Doug's wife and the baby are doing well.

Firehouse 22C would like to congratulate **FF Joe Green** and welcome **Nash William Green** to the DOF family. He surprised everyone a week early at 7:55am Dec 3 weighing 6lbs 10.7oz. Immediately after delivery he asked his big brother, Knox, to tell his dad to stop yelling on the radio.

Jul 27 retired **Lt. Bernard Agee** passed away. He was a long term member Babcock Lodge No. 322 AF & AM and the Scottish Rite Bodies.

Aug 10 **Lt. Chris Burnett 2B** his dad Louis E Burnett Sr. passed way

Aug 16 **FF Robbie Bailey 12A** his stepmother Bernadette Corrigan Bailey passed away

Sep 18 **Retired Lt. Rich Williams** lost his son and **Professional Development Lt. Shawn Williams** lost his brother Michael Williams

Oct 31 **District Chief Eugene "Cricket" Gerald** lost his mother-in-law Rosemary Emerson

It is with deepest sympathies, that we pass on the death of Madison McKay Smorto. Madison is the infant daughter of **Volunteer Firefighter Aaron Smorto** and his wife Devin who works in police communications. Madison and her twin sister Savannah Elizabeth made an early entrance into the world at 24 weeks on September 3, 2017. Madison fought a hard battle in her short 10 days and her sister continues to fight. Please keep Aaron, Devin and Savannah in your thoughts and prayers as Mom and Dad go through this difficult time and Savannah continues her stay in the NICU.

Dec 15 **FF Mark Germeroth 13A** mother Ruth Germeroth passed away

Dec 15 **Retired FF Scott Lafoon** father Maryland Donald "Bill" Lafoon passed away

Congratulations

30 Years of Service

Lt. Terry Lipscomb Firehouse 6B
 Lt. David Harmon (R) Firehouse 18B
 Lt. Willis Barnes (R) Firehouse 21A

25 Years of Service

Deborah Langford IT Specialist
 FF Susan Caskie (R) Firehouse 14A
 FF Tom Denson (R) Firehouse 15C
 Lt. Scott Henderlite Firehouse 8C
 FF Jerome Jenkins Firehouse 10B
 Lt. Russell Lanham Firehouse 4C
 Lt. Robert Marshall Firehouse 4-B
 Chief James Miers Battalion 1B
 Vern Miller (R) Firehouse 13C
 Lt. Kendall White Firehouse 17C
 FF Allen Williams Firehouse 4A

5 Years of Service

FF Reginald Bennett Firehouse 12A
 FF Bradley Bishop Firehouse 2B
 FF Travis Bowling Firehouse 5C
 FF Eli Boylan Firehouse 1A
 FF Adam Corwin Firehouse 1B
 FF Steven Doney Firehouse 11A
 FF Brandon Foster Firehouse 10B
 FF Harrison Goff Firehouse 6B
 FF Michael Gouldin Firehouse 7A
 FF Matthew Johnson Firehouse 6A
 FF Edward Johnston Firehouse 3C
 FF David Lewis Firehouse 2A
 FF Brian Martin Firehouse 10A
 FF Stephen Moran Firehouse 14C
 FF Daniel Myers Firehouse 5A
 FF Joseph Oakley Firehouse 6C
 FF Michael Pratt Firehouse 10C
 FF John Skinner Firehouse 22C
 FF Robert Taylor Firehouse 12C
 FF Matthew Wells Firehouse 1C

1 Year of Service

Hilary Holman Fire Staffing Manager
 Anna Lindstrom Fire Admin

20 Years of Service

Paula Henry	Logistics Mgr.
Chief William Aiken	Battalion 4-C
FF Darrel Broughton	Firehouse 21A
Lt. Sterling Dunn	Firehouse 13A
FF Randolph Goll	Firehouse 22B
FF Alan Grossnickle	Firehouse 17C
Lt. Michael Hodges	Firehouse 2A
FF Stephen Johansen	Firehouse 12B
Capt. Justin Madren	Firehouse 4
FF Ryan Mallory	Firehouse 21A
Chief Anthony McDowell	Fire Chief
Lt. James Nevius	Firehouse 7B
Capt. David Newell	Firehouse 13
Capt. Dennis Page	EMS2-B
FF Thomas Pollard	Firehouse 1C
Lt. John Reeves III	Firehouse 11A
Chief Jeffrey Southall	Battalion 2-A
Lt. Allen Starrett III	Firehouse 14B
Capt. Kenneth Stone	Firehouse 18
Robin Sullard	Mgmt. Specialist
Capt. William Tucker	Logistics Capt.
Lt. Ralph Whaley	Firehouse 13C

Career Development Promotion to Senior Firefighter

FF Sean Anderson	Firehouse 3A
FF Gavin Bowie	Firehouse 13A
FF Justin Brittle	Firehouse 9A
FF Brandon Coates	Firehouse 5B
FF Timothy Custalow	Firehouse 6B
FF Thomas Davis	Firehouse 3B
FF Eric Donley	Firehouse 9A
FF Richard FitzSimmons	Firehouse 22A
FF Rudolph Fletcher	Firehouse 10A
FF Luke Gill	Firehouse 22B
FF Joseph Green	Firehouse 22C
FF Alexander Hall	Firehouse 10C
FF Eric Lehmann	Firehouse 11A
FF Benjamin Swinson	Firehouse 6C
FF Joshua Windom	Firehouse 12B

(R) = Recently Retired

Promotions

Battalion Chief Vernon Crumpler

Vernon Crumpler has served the Division for 19 years. He has served at Firehouses 8, 2, 16 and 6. As a Captain he was assigned to EMS2 C-Shift, Station 13 and Station 16. Vernon was part of the Search and Rescue Dive Team, 4th grade instructor Cadre and the DPO Cadre. He has been a member of the Virginia Army National Guard since 1990. During this time, he has been on 3 combat deployments and numerous federal and state relief missions. He has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, 4 Air Medals, the Naval Unit Citation along with several other awards. Vernon has completed 2 years at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and 2 years in the Warrant Officer Career College.



Captain William “Billy” Cheeley

William “Billy” Cheeley has served the Division for 16 years. Billy has served at Firehouses 15, 6, 22 as a firefighter. As a Lieutenant Billy has served at Firehouses 13, 10 and 11. He began his fire service career as a volunteer with Lakeside Volunteer Rescue Squad. He is a National Registry Paramedic and serves as a Field Training Medic and an RSI Paramedic. He is a member of the Burn Team and the Chairperson of the Awards Committee. He is a graduate of the 2015 Virginia Fire Officer Academy and is currently in the process of completing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire Administration.



Captain Gary “Rob” Rowley

Gary “Rob” Rowley has served the Division for 17 years. He served as a Firefighter in both the Western and Eastern Battalions before spending 4 years as an instructor in the Training Section. As a Lieutenant Rob served at Firehouses 8, 2, 1 and 18. Rob was a member of the Technical Rescue Team and Search and Rescue Dive team. His most recent position was the Emergency Communications Center Liaison. Rob is an active member of Henrico County and Central Virginia Incident Management Teams and has supported local, regional, state and national incidents. Rob has earned two Associates Degrees from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Old Dominion University and is completing his final semester for a Master Degree in Emergency Management.



Captain Zachary “Zach” Zellner

Zachary “Zach” Zellner has served the Division for 11 years. Zach has served at Firehouses 12, 5 and 9. As Lieutenant Zach has served at Firehouse 9. He began his fire service journey as a volunteer with Evergreen Volunteer Fire and Rescue and earned his National Registry Paramedic. He coordinates the Teen Summer Fire Academy and the Firefighter Club at Wilder Middle School. Zach is a member of the Richmond Metro Traffic Incident Management Committee and a Traffic Incident Management instructor. He is an active member of the Henrico County and Central Virginia Incident Management Teams and has supported local, regional and state incidents. He has earned a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Study in Public Policy from Virginia Commonwealth University.





Lieutenant Brian "Jason" Blankenship

Brian "Jason" Blankenship has served the Division for 9 years. Jason has served at Firehouses 4, 13 and 21. He began his career as an EMT with Hanover County Volunteer Rescue Squad. Jason has completed the Division's Basic Truck School, Crisis Intervention Team program and is a cleared Squad Operator. He recently obtained his Hazardous Materials Technician certification and is an active member of the Hazardous Materials Team. He has earned two Division of Fire Lifesaver Awards. He is a member of the DPO cadre and the Burn Team. Jason holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and Management.



Lieutenant Dave Jaconski

Dave Jaconski has served the Division for 9 years. Dave has served at Firehouses 12, 5 and most recently Station 13. Dave also served in Training Section as an Instructor for two recruit schools. He is a Peer Fitness Trainer, a WPE, CPAT proctor and an adjunct instructor for EMS in the Training Section. Dave also served as a member of the Burn Team. Prior to Henrico Fire Dave began his career as an athletic trainer at Mercyhurst University. He moved to Richmond in 1997 where he accepted a position of Athletic Trainer at the University of Richmond. Shortly thereafter he was promoted to Director of Sports Medicine where he oversaw the health care of the universities athletes. He left the University of Richmond in 2006 and became the Supervisor of Chippenham Sports Medicine Outpatient Physical Therapy Clinic. Dave earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Mercyhurst University and a Master Degree from the University of Virginia in 1990 specializing in Sports Medicine.



Lieutenant William "Billy" Myers

William "Billy" Myers has served the division for 16 years. Billy has served at Firehouses 3, 6, 11, 21, 22 and most recently returning to Firehouse 21 to help put Fire Medic 19 in-service. Billy started in fire service as a volunteer in Goochland County for 10 years. He is currently a member of the Hazardous Materials Team as a Hazardous Materials Response Specialist and a National Registered Paramedic. Billy serves on the Apparatus Committee and Mayday Cadre. He has previously managed the Saw Specialty Shop. Billy has additional certifications and training in electrical repair, welding and automotive repair. He was an electrical foreman for wiring commercial building prior to joining Henrico Fire.



Lieutenant Mikel Scott Redford

Mikel Scott Redford has served the Division for 13 years. Mikel has served at Firehouses 1, 6, 13, and 22. He has been a member of the Technical Rescue Team, Annual Compliance Testing Team and the Urban Mixed-Use Committee. He previously served the United States Navy from August of 1997-2001, he was assigned to the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower on the flight deck as a crash and salvage Aircraft Firefighter. He worked as a Deputy Sheriff for Henrico county from 2001-2004. He is currently working towards completing his Fire Science degree at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.



Lieutenant Charles "Nic" Wood

Charles "Nic" Wood has served the Division for 14 years. Nic has served at Firehouses 13, 16, 22, 4, 10 and 15. He started his career as a volunteer for 6 years before getting hired by the Division of Fire. Nic is a current member of the MCI/SET team and a RSI Paramedic. He is a member of the Chief's Advisory Committee, Emergency Medical Services Work Group and the Budget Committee. Nic has previously served on the Firehouse Naming Committee and the Image Trend Conversion Group. He is currently enrolled at Columbia Southern University working towards completing a Bachelor Degree in Fire Administration.



Lieutenant Mathew "Clint" Wyatt

Mathew "Clint" Wyatt has served the Division for 17 years. Clint has served at Firehouses 10, 11 and 21. He is a cleared aerial truck operator, squad operator, and tanker operator. Clint is a member of the Hazardous Materials Team as a Hazardous Materials Response Specialist. He was an instructor for the implementation of the G1 SCBA and currently part of the instructor cadre for Truck Basic School. He was a member of the Promotional Process Committee and the Decal Shop while assigned to Firehouse 10. Clint currently manages the Saw Specialty Shop. He earned an Associate Degree in Fire Science from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

Photo: www.klcc.org



Holder Leadership Award

Assistant Chief Chris Buehren DC3-A has demonstrated the outstanding qualities of formal leadership over the course of his career. Recipients of this award have positively impacted Division members through effective leadership and have earned the respect of his/her peers by consistently demonstrating extraordinary professional leadership, knowledge and skills. Recipients must have a minimum of 20 years of service with the Division of Fire to be eligible.



Greenwood Mentorship Award

Firefighter Thomas "Ogar" Pollard Firehouse 1C has demonstrated the outstanding qualities of informal leadership over the course of their career. Recipients of this award have positively impacted Division members through their effective mentoring abilities and have earned the respect of his/her peers by consistently demonstrating extraordinary professional knowledge and skills. Recipients must have a minimum of 20 years of service with the Division of Fire to be eligible.



Community Service Award

Firefighter Stephen "Eric" Armstrong Firehouse 14C was awarded for successful performances of continuous, dedicated and professional service in the area of community service (Citizen CPR program, Fourth Grade Fire Safety Awareness program, etc.).



Firefighter Troy Barnes 18C was awarded Firefighter of the Year by the Varina Ruritan Club.



Capt. Joe "Bart" Bartos of Firehouse 9 received the 2017 IAFC - International Association of Fire Chiefs "Emerging Leaders" scholarship in Clearwater, FL. Bartos also serves as the Chief of the West Point Volunteer Fire Department.

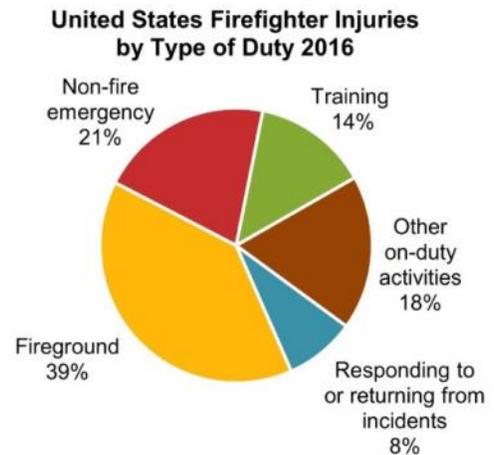


The Division of Fire's Medical Director Deputy Operational Medical Director Dr. Jeff Ferguson received the Governor's Award for Physician with Outstanding Contribution to Emergency Medical Services.

Fire Fitness

The NFPA published firefighting injuries that occurred in the year 2016. The study found:

- An 8.8% increase in injuries from 2015
- A firefighter injury occurred every 8min 28secs
- 39% of the injuries occurred during firefighting operations
- The leading cause of injuries was overexertion or strain
- 13.7% of injuries occurred during training activities
- 21% of injuries occurred during non-fire emergency incidents
- 30.6% of all firefighter injuries resulted in loss of time in 2016



“The more fit and prepared the body is, the less pain and/or damage it will incur when the incident that causes the injury occurs”

FirefighterNation.Com published an independent study in 2011 that listed three common causes of firefighter injuries.

1. Ego - The ego will cause you to do too much, too fast and too urgently. If you haven't lifted weights in a while, start with lighter weights. Haven't run in a while, run at a slower pace for a shorter distance. It takes time to build strength and endurance. Avoid injuries by checking your ego and moving at a safe pace.
2. Improper Form - Form affects range of motion and path of movement. When your back is not aligned, feet are too far apart, hands too close together,

More info: <http://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Fire-statistics-and-reports/Fire-statistics/The-fire-service/Fatalities-and-injuries/Firefighter-injuries-in-the-United-States>

Creamy Garden Turkey Roll-ups

Per Serving: 81 Cal; 10 g Protein; 1 g Tot Fat; 7 g Carb; 0 g Fiber; 4 g Sugar; 578 mg Sodium



Ingredients:

- One 8-ounce pkg fat-free cream cheese
- 1/4 cup finely shredded carrot
- 1/4 cup finely shredded zucchini
- 1 tablespoon dried No Sugar Added cranberries, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon dill weed
- Pinch of garlic powder
- Kosher salt and black pepper to taste
- Six ounces roasted turkey breast, deli sliced

Directions:

In a small bowl combine cream cheese, carrot, zucchini, cranberries, dill weed, and garlic powder. Season with salt and pepper if desired. Place 2 tablespoons of cream cheese mixture onto each slice of turkey. Roll up tightly and wrap in plastic wrap. Allow to chill for two hours. Makes six servings.



FMO Corner

The Fire Marshal's office is responsible for enforcing the current Statewide Fire Prevention Code, as well as: issuing permits, performing safety inspections, reviewing plans for development, investigations of incidents involving fires, environmental crimes and bombings, as well as public education, public information and other related issues.

The office conducts an average of three hundred fire investigations annually, with a clearance rate well above the national average. Assistant Fire Marshals conduct well over a thousand business inspections each year. In the average year, they issue over a thousand certificates of occupancy, as well as permits for burning, blasting and welding. The office has a Fire Protection Engineer, who performs the review on all plans of development; these amount to several hundred a year. In addition, personnel assigned to our fire stations perform approximately three to four thousand inspections of small businesses annually.

Burn Laws

Burning of leaves is only permitted in areas of Henrico County that do not have bagged leaf pickup service.

This burning can only be done from 8 AM to 8 PM.

For more information on pickup schedules and areas not covered see:
<http://henrico.us/services/bagged-leaf-collection/>

No other open burning is allowed without a Permit

Fireworks

It is **illegal** to possess, display or sell fireworks in Henrico

Contact

FireMarshal@henrico.us
 804.501.4900

Congratulations



We're extremely proud to recognize two members of our department who recently graduated from the Virginia Fire Marshal Academy. The VFMA is a focused, intense 10-week school in which fire marshals from across the Commonwealth become certified as law enforcement officers to better prepare them for their investigations. Graduating were **Investigator Justin Finan (L)** and **Lieutenant Glenn Campbell (center)**, who are pictured here with Fire Chief Tony McDowell, Lieutenant Rick Chappell and Investigator Chuck Mumford.

For more information visit www.nfpa.org

Faces Behind 911

Ever wonder who you are speaking to after dialing 911?
Meet the Communications Officers of Henrico County.

Each edition of Fully Involved will feature an employee until all the faces behind the calls have been revealed



Jeff Ashworth has been employed by Henrico Police Communications since July 1995 (22 years with the county). In 1999, he was the first recipient of the Communications Officer of the Year award with Henrico Police.

Jeff was a volunteer firefighter for Hanover Fire and Ems from 1988 until 2010 and is a life member. Most of that time he was in charge of the fire prevention section of Station 7 in Mechanicsville. He also became a volunteer fire prevention officer for the eastern half of Hanover County for several years working out of the Fire Marshal's office. During that time, Jeff had a take-home fire car and responded

to working fires either to the scene or to Station 5 at the courthouse to pick up the Fire Marshal's Investigation Unit and take to the scene.

Jeff has taken several FEMA classes, including Leadership and Influence (IS-00240) and Developing and Managing Volunteers (IS-00244). He has also completed courses ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS-300, ICS-305, ICS-700, and ICS-800; and is also a General Instructor I.

Jeff has been at the top of the Career Development ladder as a Career Communications Officer for about 13 years. He has worked at NASCAR races for many years as a Fire/EMS dispatcher at the track. Prior to the races, Jeff worked Fire and EMS radios when the State Fair of Virginia was held at the raceway complex. In his early years 1986 -1992, Jeff was a volunteer with Henrico Fire at Station 5 and Lakeside Volunteer Rescue.

Recently, Jeff has been accepted as a member of the Henrico All-Hazards Incident Management Team. He has been a part of various events such as, the 2015 UCI Bike Race and both rally events in the City of Richmond and Charlottesville in August 2017.

The Way it Was: 1970-1980

Building Upon the Foundation Laid by Our Predecessors

This section of the newsletter is inspired by Retired Volunteer Firefighter David Nowell. Nowell was a volunteer at Engine Company #8 from 1971-1979 and transferred to Engine Company #9 from 1979-1982. In 1975 he was certified as a pump operator by Battalion Chief Dawson and also certified as a Class 3 volunteer firefighter by Chief Fisher. In 1977, Nowell became an EMT.

As the Division of Fire and fire services in general continue to evolve, we would like to take a moment to remember what it was like "back in the day" by highlighting a photo, along with its story, to help some reminisce about, or to be inspired by, Henrico's historical moments.

When Henrico went From Red to Yellow

Argument blazes over color of fire trucks
31 Oct 1983

By Richard E. Gordon
Times-Dispatch state staff

Ask if Richmond's fire trucks should be yellow, and Fire Chief Ronald C. Lewis sees red.

"Ours are the traditional red," he said last week. "As long as I'm fire chief, they'll stay traditional red."

Despite claims that yellow fire trucks have fewer accidents, Lewis and many other fire chiefs won't give up on their old standby, Dr. Stephen S. Solomon, an optometrist and volunteer firefighter in New York who has carried on a 15-year campaign for yellow fire engines, understands.

"Red will always be popular," he said in a telephone interview. "If you were to ask me my favorite color, I'd probably say red. But I also have enough common sense to know that it won't keep me alive in a fire truck."

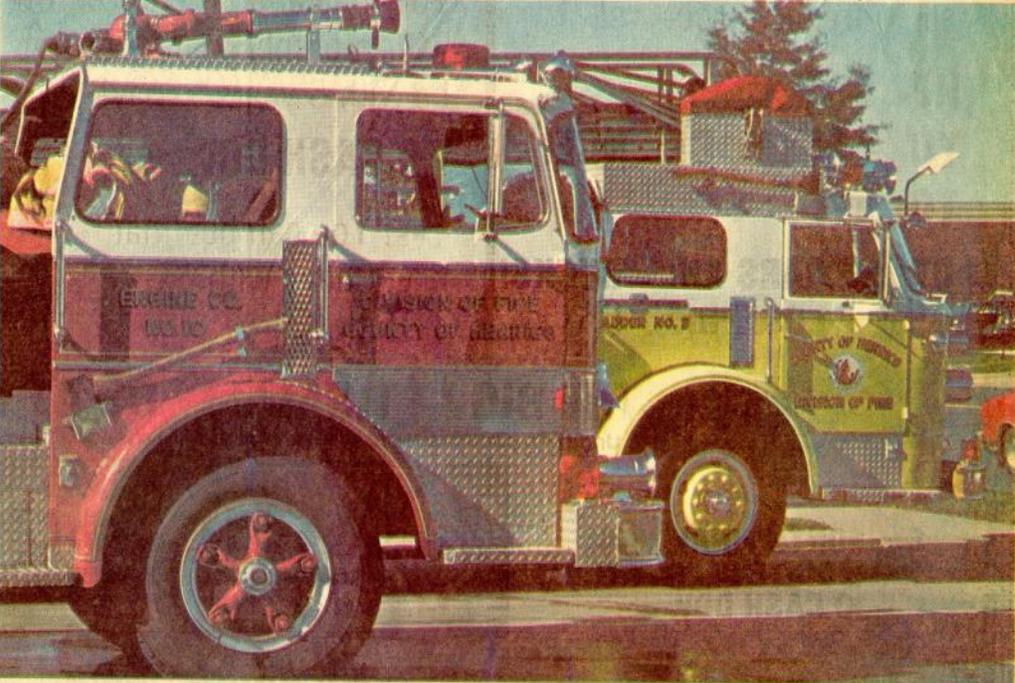
For the better part of a decade, differing views have been flying like sparks in what one firefighters' publication has termed "the great debate." At issue is a question that used to have just one answer.

"It's as if God made fire trucks red. But no one knows why," said Wesley Dolezal, assistant chief of the Chesterfield County Fire Department.

Whether divine in origin or not, the prevailing color for fire trucks came into question about 15 years ago. The strongest challenges came in a series of articles by Dr. Solomon in firefighters' magazines.

As a student in optometry school, Dr. Solomon said, a professor told him that red was among the least perceptible colors during the day and was almost invisible at night. Dr. Solomon

Continued on page 4, col. 3



Staff photo by Gary Burns

Older fire trucks in Henrico County are traditional red, but new ones are lime yellow

Dr. Solomon, an optometrist and volunteer firefighter in New York at the time, carried a 15-year campaign for yellow fire trucks. "As a student in optometry school, a professor told him that red was among the least perceptible colors during the day and was almost invisible at night."

Truck 10 Transitions from Red to Yellow



1964 International Grove Ladder



Aerial 3



Aerial 3



Ladder 3



Truck 10



Current Truck 10 and New Station 10

**HENRICO COUNTY
DIVISION OF FIRE**

**FULLY INVOLVED
NEWSLETTER**

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**Fully Involved
Editor
Firefighter Ronny Martin**

UPCOMING EVENTS	DATE(S)
January Retiree Breakfasts	West: January 3 (0800-0930) East: January 18 (0900-1100)
Dr. Gasaway: Flawed Situational Awareness	January 10 or 11
County Holiday: Martin Luther King Day, county offices closed	January 15
Recruit Academy 70 begins	January 22
February Retiree Breakfasts	West: February 7 (0730-0930) East: February 15 (0900-1100)
County Holiday: President's Day County offices closed	February 19
Virginia Fire Chief's Assoc. Conference	February 21-25
RA 69 Retiree Legacy Luncheon	February 26 (1100-1300)
Recruit Academy 69 Graduation	February 28 (1800-2000) Glen Allen High School
Central Virginia EMS Expo	March 3 and 4
March Retiree Breakfasts	West: March 7 (0730-0930) East: March 15 (0900-1100)

Kitchen Table Topics

- 2018-2023 Continuous Improvement Strategy completed with input from many internal and external stakeholders
- All firehouses have Station Alerting tool, which has already helped in regards to improving response times
- Annual Hazmat refresher was completed by all sworn personnel
- March 3rd, Firehouse 19 will become operational
- Division of Fire has reached an agreement with Priority Dispatch for a new Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) system... a huge milestone for the Division
- Community Risk Reduction Section reports all Accreditation documents are on track to be submitted by Feb 15th.
- Firehouses 13 and 18 will become a part of the Hazmat Team. Timeline for full implementation will be fluid and based on transfers, training and the recommendations of the team leadership.



ISO CLASS 1