

THE FIRELINE NEWSLETTER

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**FAUQUIER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT
OF FIRE RESCUE
& EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

Phone: 540-422-8800

www.fauquierfirerescue.org



FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF THOMAS M. BILLINGTON



There are several assurances' this time of year: some good football, the gym will be crowded and weight loss commercials are on every channel. It's that time when we start to think about New Year's Resolutions. The statistics are bleak: only 8% of people who make New Year's

resolutions stick to them, and those who don't usually abandon them after just one week. This year (in my professional capacity) I am going to try the "One Word" resolution. Instead of a list, paragraph or sentence. You pick one word and maintain your commitment throughout the year. My word? "Transcendent". Remember unrealistic resolutions are fated to fail, so fight the gravitational pull of today. Our role is to create the future. We must invest enough time and mental energy to see it, marshal the resources to fund the journey, and help chart the course to make it a reality. Be careful...without focused effort, today always pushes out tomorrow.

Happy New Year!

Chief Billington

2013: THE YEAR OF CHANGE

BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF DARREN STEVENS

As I look back on this past year I am amazed at the changes we have seen within our department.



Four of our staff members tied the knot in 2013, while four new babies were welcomed into our DFREM family

(don't overthink that, just a coincidence).



In March we watched the recruits from 2012-2 graduate and start their careers at their first assignments as 13 new employees were clearing their last few hurdles before starting Recruit School 2013-3.



Our Training Division was joined by Lt. Matt Shields and Lt. Mary Hart and bid farewell to Lt. Tim Kimble,



who after several years of service to Fauquier Fire Rescue moved to Maryland.

This fall we also welcomed Ms. Liz Bisutti to our administration office, replacing Ms. Danica Low who moved to Parks and Recreation.



Other great accomplishments this year included our much improved ALS Compensation Package, VRS Hazardous Duty Retirement, and we even finished the year off with a salary increase from our Board of Supervisors. Thank you, Mr. McCulla and our Board members.

Around the corner we are preparing for Chief Clayton's Retirement, RS 2013-3's Graduation and we are currently working with our partners in Human Resources to freshen-up our recruitment materials so we can tell everyone why... **Fauquier County is the place to work.**

I have high hopes for 2014, but professionally speaking 2013 is going to be a hard one to beat.

Thank You and stay safe.

If you haven't already,
sign up for CodeRED and CodeRED Weather Warning.
Click on the logo below.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Resolve to Prepare Your Family for Emergencies in 2014

There is no more important resolution to make than to renew our personal efforts to be sure our families are ready for whatever 2014 will bring. Everyone can do something to prepare for emergencies.

Consider this: disasters can happen at any time, and families may not be together. Power could be lost, and cell phones may not work. Families should decide in advance what they will do.

Some questions to discuss include:

- Do you and your family members have contact phone numbers memorized or written down and placed in backpacks and wallets?
- Do you have a plan on how to meet up with family if you are separated?
- Do you know how to contact your children's school in case of an emergency?
- Do you have three days of emergency supplies and water set aside?

Families and individuals can fill out an emergency plan, post it in homes, and share it with family and friends. Get free plan worksheets, wallet cards, and emergency supply checklists at www.ReadyVirginia.gov or on the free Ready Virginia app for iPhone and Android devices.

Take a few minutes in the new year to decide who to call, where to meet, and what supplies to have at home or in your office in case you can't get out or you have to evacuate because of a bad situation. Don't try to wing it, like [this family](#) did.

For tips and testimonies about being prepared for emergencies, follow the hashtag #Prepared2014 throughout the year.

Prepared by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, December 2013

(804) 897-6510

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www.ReadyVirginia.gov

Happy Birthday!



- 1/07 - Andrea Schaeffer
- 1/08 - Thomas Shiflett
- 1/11 - Charles Hunter, Sr.
- 1/13 - Liz Bisutti
- 1/16 - Sam Miller
- 1/17 - James Wyne
- 1/19 - Katherine Chrismer
- 1/20 - Christa Brown
- 1/23 - Giles Bryant
- 1/27 - Battalion Chief Clayton
- 1/28 - Donald Jackson



Mark Your Calendar!

January 9, 2014, 6:30 PM
Warren Green Building

Battalion Chief Justin Clayton's Official Proclamation of Service recognizing his retirement to be presented by the Board of Supervisors.

This month, the Employee Service Awards will honor the following individuals for their continued service to the county!

- 5 Years—Eric Neese
- 5 Years—Andrea Schaeffer
- 10 Years—Lynne Clegg
- 10 Years—Lieutenant Grogan
- 10 Years—Lieutenant Moznich
- 25 Years—Assistant Chief Stevens

Thank You!

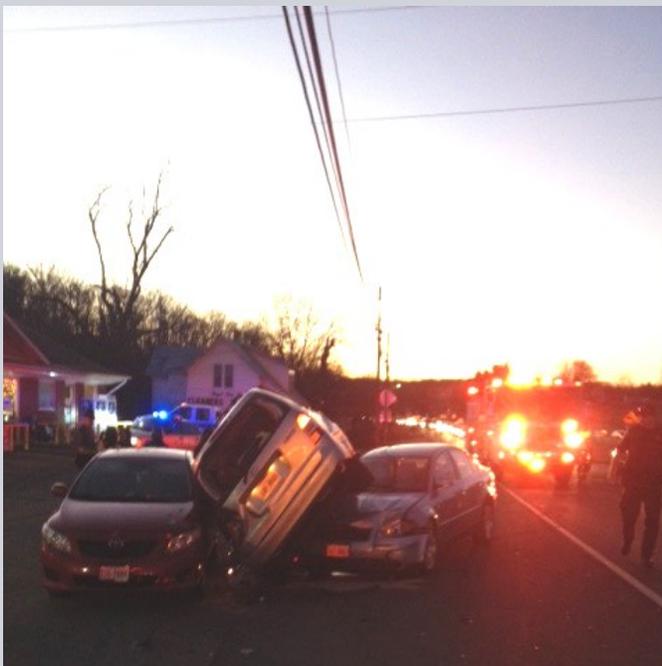
INSIDE BATTALION 1

BY: BATTALION CHIEF ARFT

By the time everyone reads this, the holidays will have come and gone and in their wake will be a bunch of high credit card bills and empty boxes lying around the house.

As I write this I sit back and think about a few of the things that our department has accomplished and a few of the incidents that we have run, I realize that we have a very special system here. We seem to always come out on top and I attribute this to the hard work and dedication of the guys and gals out in the field making it happen every day.

So this is my hats off to all of you for selfless work and time all you of you put in to keep the system running. So here is to 2014; stay safe and I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.



A bad accident on Route 29 earlier this month left vehicles piled on top of each other.

MEDIC 1

BY: LIEUTENANT BATES

It has been a busy month in the Central Battalion and here at Medic 1 getting ready for the holidays. We have had some very interesting and unusual calls this month including an entrapment in the Fauquier Emergency Room parking lot, a few working structure fires, and six motor vehicle accidents in a row all in the same day. Medic 1 hopes that everyone had a safe and fun holiday and a happy New Year!



THE SOUTHERN VOICE

BY: BATTALION CHIEF LIGHTY

Boy what a year, with so much accomplished and so much on the horizon. This past month has been no exception. Units in the Southern Battalion have been busy with over 130 EMS calls and nearly 50 fire calls. These calls have ranged from commercial fires, single family dwelling fires, multifamily dwelling fires, and vehicle accidents with entrapment, and even a little stokes basket work as well. Even with the busy month the Southern Battalion continues to train hard (see pictures right) and prepare for the next big call while finding ways to keep the units clean and dry even in the most rainy of days.

We hope that even with the busy month everyone had a little time to spend with their families outside the fire house. We thank everyone for their hard work this past year and look forward to another great year ahead.



NORTHERN LIGHTS

BY: BATTALION CHIEF RANDALL

The Northern Battalion has been busy with the arrival of old man winter these past couple of weeks. Some days we believe he is not sure what season it is but it is nice to have a few warm days sprinkled throughout the month. On those cold, snowy days, we would like to remind everyone to use caution when operating on slippery roadways and interstates and to use caution around the station or on emergency scenes. In addition to motor vehicle accidents; slips, trips, and falls are also a serious concern. Remember to use proper footwear, salt icy areas, use adequate lighting, and always be cautious of possible icy areas.



On another note, we would like to thank the training division for the CEU classes they have offered all providers. The hands-on portion of the classes and quality of instruction was greatly appreciated by all of us! The pig heart and lungs gave providers a different look and understanding of the physiology and the anatomy involved, although we were not very hungry later; it was very well worth it. This was a great learning opportunity for everyone who took part in them and we all hope for continued success and the growth of this program.

Lastly, we would like to recognize and congratulate a couple of people for their years of service to our community. Battalion Chief Justin Clayton and Warrenton Fire's Rodney Woodward were recently recognized during the Board of Supervisors meeting. These two have provided countless hours of service to the county and we greatly appreciate it. Chief Clayton will be retiring shortly as well, but I am sure we will continue to see him around the county. After all there will always be a "So a horse walked into a bar" story that he will want to share! Thank you Chief Clayton for all that you have done, for your years of service, and the paths you paved to make help our system grow into what it is today!



FIREFIGHTER I NIGHT ACADEMY BY: LIEUTENANT SHIELDS



Click on the image above to see a video of the burn site!

The Firefighter 1 Night academy is in full swing with the class conducting their Firefighter 1 burn on January 25th . The class consists of sixteen of the county's newest volunteer members. This type of course is new to many students. The course assignments are all conducted online through the Pearson My Lab website. This gives the class more time to focus on the hands-on experience. It also provides a structured study session through assignments. This is a great help to the older learner who has maybe been away from organized education for a few years and to the learner who has not always conformed to traditional ways of learning.

TRAINING BY: LIEUTENANT HART

BY: LIEUTENANT HART



We are finishing up the ALS CEU recertification modules the second week in January. It has been a busy time in the training department with that going on. We had Dr. Jenks (pictured above) come in for one of the lectures. He discussed respiratory emergencies. For those in attendance, it was very informative. Dr. Jenks did a fabulous job and we look forward to many other lectures from him in the future.

We have had several other Doctors visit our training department in the last month. Dr. Honeycutt, visited the EMT-B class and discussed Pediatric emergencies and Dr. Hodgson came in and lectured on OB/GYN for the EMT-B students. We are very fortunate to have them share their time with us.



RECRUIT SCHOOL 13-03

BY: LIEUTENANT BAKER



Recruit School 13-03 is in its 17th week and has completed Firefighter I. Only ten more weeks remain until graduation day, which will take place on March 14, 2014. Mark it down on your calendar and we hope to see everyone there.



Sara Makely, Liz Bisutti, and Christa Brown brought some delicious holiday grub to the burn site for our instructors and recruits to snack on when they were finished for the day.

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

We have developed and will deliver 4 ALS CEU series for a total of 48 hours in each series. This ALS CEU series is open to ALL Fauquier Fire Rescue ALS providers and will be offered in 5 modules. Module 1 will be ACLS and offered only 3 times over the 4 session series. Module 2 will be PALS and will be offered 4 times over the 4 series offerings. Modules 3, 4, and 5, will offer the remaining CEU hours to meet category 1 hours if needed by the provider. The sessions will be offered in a 4 series delivery with the various modules being offered on varying days within each series. Please contact either Lieutenant Hart or Lieutenant Shields should you need additional information or have any questions about these upcoming training events!



Click the training website link [here](#) to register.

TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING

In a partnership with Virginia Department of Fire Programs and Virginia Department of Transportation, we are proud to announce the implementation of SHRP2 Traffic Incident Management Training in the Commonwealth of Virginia. With the current amount of traffic on the roadways these days, public service personnel are always reminded of **Safe, Quick Clearance**. This training is designed to inform attendees of procedures on clearing incident scenes quickly with a well coordinated, multi-disciplinary teams of first responders and transportation personnel, in an effort to reduce the risk of injury to those on-scene, reduce the risk of secondary crashes, and reduce delays due to congestion. This is open to ALL Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, EMS, Public Works, Transportation (State and Town), Towing and Recovery, and Communications Personnel. Please click on the following dates and times to register to attend these trainings.

[January 28 - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM](#)

[January 28 - 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM](#)



[January 29 - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM](#)

[January 29 - 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM](#)



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