

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

SANTA WAS A BAD LEADER

I've been to a few stations and a few calls lately and notice one very specific trait about our system. Some of us are better at some things that others are not so good at (and vice versa). The good thing? I have witnessed a lot of tolerance. Not anger, rejection, or scorn; but the ability of many of you to use certain individuals with certain talents for good use...instead of deciding they are no good for what we do as a whole and discarding them. Now that it's summer, how about a quick take on Santa Clause's bad leadership style.

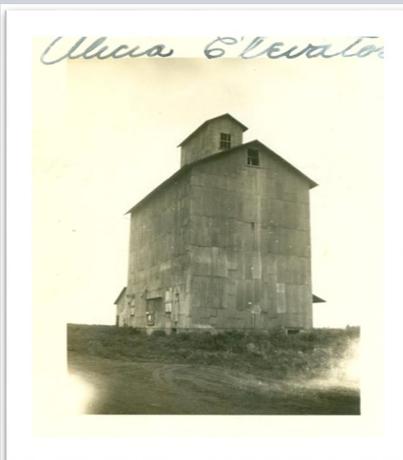


In Rudolf The Red Nose Reindeer, it always struck me how the minute Santa saw Rudolph's beaming nose, he was not happy about his disability. Being the not so great leader, he even sent a couple of his crew to deliver the bad news to Rudolph instead of doing it himself. It wasn't until later when Santa realized what Rudolph could truly offer that Rudolph was "back in" the clique. Anyway; tolerance, understanding, and many people, volunteer and career, working together, utilizing each other's strengths is a reason this system is so unique. Happy summer and be safe!

Chief Billington

EXPERIENCE LOOKS A LOT LIKE HARD WORK.....

BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF DARREN STEVENS



This past week we interviewed several candidates for the Lateral Academy Position and it was extremely impressive to speak with so many about their work/life experiences and what they felt they could bring to Fauquier County Fire Rescue. All of these folks have already found success in their careers, but for various reasons want to come here and continue to grow with us.

Many of the top candidates had one thing in common, a continued desire to grow. They each pursued additional training and they possess an eagerness to share that knowledge with others at every opportunity. To be successful you have to make the opportunities, not wait for them.

Although I am not a big fan of Ashton Kutcher, he certainly scored big points with me in his address to an audience of kids at the 2013 Teen Choice Awards ([Click Here for Video](#)). Mr. Kutcher talks about finding your opportunities, *building* a life (not just living one) and how smart is the “new sexy”. I hope you take the opportunity to watch the video, it is certainly four minutes well spent. His first point is that starting with his first job, each one served as a building block for the next; a point that was evident in some of our interviews.

So what was your first job?

My very first paying job was sweeping the floors at a grain elevator that was close to our house. I was probably 8 or 9, and at that time the building was visible from our yard. Farmers would harvest their crops and transport the product to the elevator in a dump truck or farm wagon and dump it into a grated floor. From there I would do my best to sweep the overflow into the hopper. The manager was a man named Basil Coon and we had a very informal work arrangement. If I was bored, I would ride my bike over and sweep for a few hours, and if I did a good job he would flip me a dime and sometimes a bottle of soda. I know now that I was not an integral part of the business operation, but each day I stopped in to help, he made me feel like I was. That was my first lesson in “A Fair Day’s Wage for A Fair Day’s Work.” I also learned there are no free cokes in life, so thank you Mr. Coon.

I hope everyone has a safe month, and thank you for your service.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

BY: SARA MAKELY

Do You Know the 30/30 Lightning Safety Rule? National Lightning Awareness Week is June 22-28



Summer is on the way, and that means summer storms are, too. Most lightning deaths and injuries occur in the summer months when people are caught outdoors during the afternoons and evenings.

Reduce your risk with these safety tips:

- If you hear thunder, know that lightning is close enough to strike you.
- When you hear thunder, immediately move to safe area or shelter – a substantial building or a metal-topped vehicle with the windows up.
- Remember the 30/30 lightning safety rule: Go indoors after seeing lightning if you can't count to 30 seconds before hearing thunder. Stay indoors for 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.
- If you are anywhere you feel your hair stand on end, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Make yourself the smallest target, and minimize your contact with the ground.
- Avoid contact with anything metal – tractors, farm equipment, motorcycles, golf carts or golf clubs, and bicycles.
- If you are in an open area or on open water, get to land and find shelter immediately.

Lightning is one of the top three storm-related killers. It often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. Stay informed about changing weather conditions during the summer by tuning in to local media weather reports and monitoring NOAA Weather Radio.

National Lightning Awareness Week is June 22-28. For more about lightning safety, go to www.ReadyVirginia.gov or www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov



Fauquier County is pleased to announce Everbridge, Inc. has been selected to provide emergency and mass notifications for the next year. Everbridge has been in business for over 10 years and provides a comprehensive notification system that ensures accurate, timely information is delivered.

We are currently in the implementation phase and hope to be complete in a few weeks. CodeRED will be active until June 30, 2014 and will be used to deliver messages as needed until that date.

Please stay tuned to our website for information on how to register for Everbridge.



Happy Birthday!

6/4 Jonathan Frinks
6/6 Anderson Weeks
6/8 Sandy Chamberlin
6/28 Robert Willis



Congratulations!

Fauquier ER Nurse, Brandi Trotman, received the Regional Award for Nurse with Outstanding Contribution to EMS at last month's REMS Award's Ceremony. This award was presented to a nurse who exemplified outstanding service in emergency medical services, knowledge and performance of EMS nursing skills, and high standards of cooperation and leadership with EMS personnel and agencies. Brandi has proven to be a wonderful liaison for hospital staff and all EMS providers. Congratulations and thank you for all of your hard work!



Did you know who this was in last month's issue? It was CJ Hunter!



This Muppets character bears a close resemblance to one of our newest technicians. Can you guess who it is?

THE SOUTHERN VOICE

BY: BATTALION CHIEF LICHTY

Spring is here with a lot of rain and a quickly rising temperatures. This is the time of year we think about vacation spots, relaxing in the sun, and barbeques galore. As we begin into what is bound to be a warm and busy summer, please remember to stay hydrated. We have already started to see an increase in the number of fire and heat-related calls.

The training continues in the Southern Battalion as our newest Technicians inch ever so closely to their EMS and Driver release. Crews from both Company 7 and Company 2 work diligently to get these Technicians their needed time behind the wheel.

We would also like to remind everyone that the Remington Carnival starts this week and we look forward to seeing some great pictures from the parade and a week full of fun, food, and entertainment.



Pump Training at
Company 7

NORTHERN LIGHTS

BY: TECHNICIANS SMITH AND TROILO

This month has been a busy month up north. We have said goodbye to some of our new Technicians and now have some new ones on board. Most have completed their EMS release and are working on their engine/tanker driver release requirements. We have been training every day to get these new technicians ready to be on their own, and they are just about ready. We have also had some pretty good calls this month. From car fires, to triple fly-out MVC's and everything in between. Thanks to everyone that has come out to help on some of these challenging incidents. Teamwork at its best has prevailed!

Everybody is excited that the weather is getting warmer. Remember to have water on all the rigs if you can and stay hydrated. Also, Twilight Polo has started and the Upperville Horse Show is about to begin so sign up for overtime; we look forward to seeing you there!



Crews from Marshall, The Plains, and Warrenton work on a difficult extrication.



INSIDE BATTALION 1

BY: BATTALION CHIEF ARFT

It is the end of an era. In 1992, I started as a member at the Warrenton Volunteer Fire Company and some of my earliest memories involve Dale and his family. You see, Jason and I are the same age so we used to wait on the front apron for the Car 1 to pick us up and take us on the run (we were not allowed to ride in the open bucket of Wagon 1-1 until we were 16 and Firefighter I). Now, let me try to set the stage...it was a snowy night, the wind was blowing and the Engine Company was dispatched for a building collapse across from Station 6 (now EMS 1). Car 1 with AC Hitt and the pack of Junior Members arrived first and noticed that the three-foot ditch was covered by a nice fluffy blanket of snow. There was so much snow on the ground, that you could not tell where the ditch was verses the road. Wagon 1-1 arrived with Dale riding the right front seat. As the Wagon came to a stop Dale went to the exit and...well...the driver parked very close to this ditch. When Dale jumped out of the Wagon he sunk in the snow to close to his neck. Of course Jason and I did what any 14-year-olds would do, we laughed and pointed. Dale God speed to you, you will not be forgotten...plus, I will always need help with my trains!

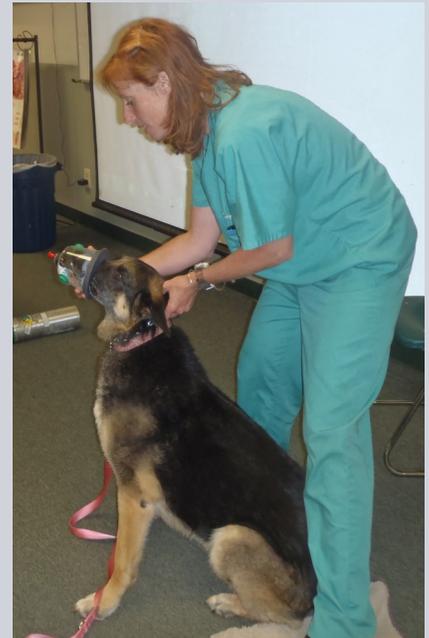
TRAINING

BY: LIEUTENANT HART

The EMT class recently had training with the new Pet Oxygen Masks that were recently placed on the ambulances.



Dr. Carolyn Olech, DVM, was kind enough to come in with Jewels, her German Shepherd, and provide us with hands on demonstrations of the devices. Jewels was great with all of the students. She enjoyed all of the attention she was getting and in return, she allowed us the opportunity to hear, feel and learn about where her heart beat was and her pulses were. A huge thank you to Dr. Olech and Jewels for their time, knowledge, and contribution to the class.



FIREFIGHTER II CLASS

BY: LIEUTENANT SHIELDS



The Night Academy Firefighter II Class conducted their final burn on May 17th, 2014. Many of the students have been in training since September 2013, where they started with Firefighter I. The burn evolutions conducted on May 17th consisted of assuming command, advancing hose lines, connecting to standpipe, and victim removal. The day was a success and all students conducted themselves with professionalism. The class completed the VDFP test for FF II on Monday, May 19th and we are pleased to say they have all passed and will be certified at the Firefighter II level. We would like to congratulate the students and wish them the best of luck in the future!

HIGH SCHOOL FIRE SCIENCE

BY: LIEUTENANT BAKER

The 2014 High School Fire Science students have completed the requirements for Fire Fighter I. If you see them in the field please congratulate them.



From left to right:
Donovan Withrow,
Dominic Mahn, Joseph
Stribling, Hunter Baker,
Tyler McCuin, Dakota
Petrie, Jacen Rohwer

IAFF LOCAL 3762

BY: SAM MILLER, UNION PRESIDENT



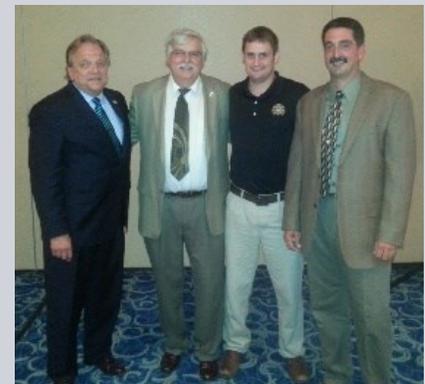
Our local is gearing up for a busy summer. As we grow in membership, we are embracing the opportunity to engage in fundraising efforts. Our Operation Warm Fundraiser is in full swing, an effort to provide coats to those in need within our county. Please see the flyer on page 10 and give if you are able to!

On May 22nd, I attended the biannual Conference for the Virginia Professional Firefighters in Portsmouth, VA. This was an extremely positive opportunity for our local to network with other locals as well as state and national officers. I had the opportunity to represent Fauquier County Professional Firefighters as a delegate in the State Officer and Trustee elections, offices which hold a two year term. As our local continues to grow, our interaction on the state level will continue to grow with it. This can provide countless opportunities as well as a stronger relationship with other locals and state representatives.



IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger speaking to the VPPF

Swearing in of newly elected VPPF officers



VPPF President Mike Mohler, VPPF Secretary/Treasurer Mike Hanks, Local 3762 President Sam Miller, Prince William President/District Vice President Paul Hebert

fauquier county | OPERATION firefighters | warm

www.operationwarm.org/fauquiercounty

Who's Involved

Operation Warm, Inc.: [501(c)(3) public charity EIN 38-3663310]
A nationally active non-profit focused on providing new winter coats to children living in need so that they may attend school with pride on cold winter days. Since 1998, Operation Warm has provided over 1.4 million children throughout the U.S. with the happiness and warmth provided by a new coat. In 2013, 210,000 children received a new coat from Operation Warm and its partners.

Fauquier County Professional Firefighters, Local 3762: Leading this mission in Fauquier County, VA for the benefit of local children in need.

Fauquier County Public Schools: Identification of children, families, and schools most in need of the program

Program Overview

Fauquier County Professional Firefighters, Local 3762, in partnership with Operation Warm, will provide new winter coats to 600 Fauquier County Public School students living in impoverished conditions.

American-Made, American Jobs

Coats distributed through this program are 100% American-made. Help us continue to support over 200 jobs for Americans.

2014 Program Goals

With your help, Fauquier County Professional Firefighters will raise \$20,000, and provide dignity and warmth to **600 FCPS children** in need. Schools will be selected in consultation with FCPS based on highest percentages of students qualifying for free and reduced lunches, an indication the family is hovering at the federal poverty guidelines. Coats will be distributed at special events in which firefighters and volunteers chosen by corporate supporters interact with the children and witness their unforgettable reactions.

Donations

Donations can be made @ www.operationwarm.org/fauquiercounty or by check made out to **OPERATION WARM** in memo slot please note "FAUQUIER COUNTY, LOCAL 3762".

Checks can be mailed to:

Operation Warm, Inc
PO BOX 822431
Philadelphia, PA 19182

Contacts

Fauquier County Professional Firefighters/ Local 3762:
Brian Latham 703.220.5327, secretary@iafflocal3762.org
Operation Warm: Renee Koerner, Program Manager
610.388.2500, ext. 108, renee@operationwarm.org.

more than a coat

**We've got a spot for you
at Fauquier County Fire and Rescue!**



- Volunteer firefighters and EMTs are needed throughout Fauquier County. 16 years and older. Free training.
- Cadet members (14 and 15 year olds) are welcome at New Baltimore, Catlett, Marshall Fire, and Lois.
- Visit FauquierFireRescue.org or call Shirley Allen at 540-422-8808.



FIGHT FIRES. SAVE LIVES.
Be more than you were yesterday

firejobs@fauquiercounty.gov



COURAGE



HONOR



TEAMWORK



FAUQUIER COUNTY
FIRE RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT