

Legeros Fire Blog Archives - 2006 Postings Compiled, Part 2

July 2021

Greetings!

You have found a PDF compilation of Legeros Fire Blog Archives postings.

If you reached this document via keyword search using Google or another search site, you'll need to scroll through or search the document, to find the specific page(s) with the content that you're looking for.

Raleigh's Fire Horses

09/16/06 98 W, 1 I - + 16 - 10

Here's some more old-time trivia. Raleigh's first fire horses were placed in service by 1889. They pulled the Rescue steamer, which had been hand-pulled (!) for years. Stables were added to the Rescue engine house and the horses were kept under the control of the fire department. Two years later, the horses were placed under the control of the Street Commissioner, and were subsequently used along with other city horses for non-fire duties such as drawing street sprinklers. It seems it was another decade-ish before the department had dedicated fire horses.



To amend this information, Raleigh's fire horses continued to perform other duties until at least 1910. From the city minutes "the Chief of the Fire Dept shall each day, except Sundays, during the months of Apr, May, June, July, Aug, Sept and Oct, furnish a team [of horses] and a driver to the san[itation] dept for purpose of watering the streets." Presumably the horses were exclusively used by the fire department after it became fully-paid in 1912. This has not been confirmed, however.

Legeros - 09/17/06 - 10:20

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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The Watch Desk / Closest Unit Dispatch

09/16/06 27 W - + 12 - 8

There's a [closest unit dispatch thread](#) on the local Watch Desk discussion board that's heating up. Respond there, however, not here.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

RFD MCP

09/16/06 60 W, 1 I - + 17 - 7

The mobile command post is nearly in service. Drivers are being trained over the next week or so. The unit is still parked at Station 8, but is expected to be moved to Station 1 upon completion of driver training. The radio designation is not yet known. More info and a picture tour forthcoming.



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preferred)

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Remember personal info?

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For anyone who has ever griped about any aspect of new station construction, here's a *News & Observer* item from 1898: "Recently it was discovered that the floors of the Capital Hose Company building, on Morgan Street, were sinking so as to endanger the building. Yesterday the contract to remedy this defect was give out to Mr. Len H. Royster for 10 per cent above the actual cost of the work. The floors were found to have sunk about four inches. This will be braced. The work was imperfectly done when the building was being constructed."

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Remember personal info?

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Engine 28

09/17/06 46 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

The station hasn't been built, but the engine has been lettered. Future Engine 28 is presently serving as a reserve piece. The station, in northeast Raleigh in Forestville Road, should open in the spring. Groundbreaking should be any time now.



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Sanford FD in 1910

09/17/06 41 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

Here's a neat image of the Sanford Fire Department in 1910, found last weekend during some browsing at the New Bern public library. The building behind them, the 1909 municipal building, is still standing.



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Remember personal info?
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☐ No

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Hand Engines in NC?

09/17/06 35 W - + 12 - 14

Something else in the works, a list of all North Carolina fire departments that operated hand-powered pumping engines. Does anyone have anything to add or edit? Here's a [PDF format preview](#).

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Remember personal info?
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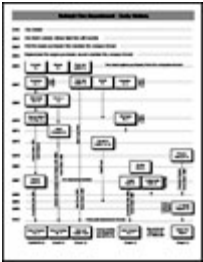
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Another Chart

09/17/06 31 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Here's [another historical chart](#), this one PDF format and showing a timeline of Raleigh's early fire companies, plus some recent decades stats on the reverse side. Click to open:



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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Saturday's Airport Alert / Camera and « Another Chart » Airport Part 2 Lenses

Saturday's Airport Alert / Camera and Lenses09/17/06 84 W, 2 I - + 15 - 9

Photos were attempted Saturday afternoon at the airport, but the bozo photographer (Mike) didn't adjust his ISO for bright sunlight. He's still trying to get into that habit, but then discovered he was shooting in the wrong mode anyway. Using a friend's 20+ year-old lens yielded blurry results even after ISO and mode were corrected. The camera was heavy-tripod mounted the entire time, with shutter triggered both by hand and timer. Time to try an IS lens...



I believe it was upgraded to a Second Alert on the EMS side but never on the Fire side...? At least thats what I heard on the scanner.

Andrew - 09/18/06 - 18:20

what lenses are you using? i'm shopping for new myself...

CFP 7021 - 09/19/06 - 19:24

Presently, the 18-50mm kit lens is doing most of the work. I have a 70-200mm zoom that a friend has loaned. It's twenty-plus years old. I'm eyeing the 28-135mm IS lens, with a 2x teleconvertor to improve the zoom.

Legeros - 09/20/06 - 21:32

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Airport Part 2

09/17/06 41 W, 1 I - + 11 - 13

Here's a wider shot of the airport fire station and control tower, after everyone was back at the base. It's better but not the best. Loved listening to the roaring diesels as they were backing in. Click to enlarge:



Mike, you should go out there around 4pm and get some good shots of the Boeing 777. It arrives daily from London at 16:20 and departs at 18:40. The 777 will always land on 5L/23R. When they are using 23R, I like to sit on the property line between Estes and RDU off of Mt. Herman Rd. It is almost in the direct flight path. The jets will fly over top of you at about 100ft. Great photo opportunities. Just be sure not to get too much on RDU's property or else they will run you away from there.

pal - 09/18/06 - 12:37

Wow- do I feel old...those trees were not there when I worked there...but then again the tower had just been built.

DJ - 09/19/06 - 15:46

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Fire Chief's Duties, 1888

09/18/06 347 W - + 16 - 11

From Section 5, Chapter 4 of the Raleigh City Ordinance, adopted October 1888: "The Chief shall have control of the engine houses, engines, apparatus, the horse of the engine reel, and all other property of the Fire Department. He shall inspect the same once in every week, see that everything is kept in a condition that is efficient service, and report all needed repairs to the Committee, who shall have authority to order the same. He shall have an annual inspection of the apparatus of the whole department, and make a report of same to the Committee on Fire Department.

"During fires and inspections he shall control all fire-plugs, maintain order among the firemen, note and report to the Mayor all violations of law or of city ordinances, and do all things property for the efficient operation of the department. He shall report annual to the Mayor the names, ages, residences and occupation of the firemen, the number and localities of the fires which have occurred during the year, the causes thereof, if they can be ascertained, the names of the owners of the property destroyed or injured, the amount of such destruction or injury, and such other matters touching its operations and organization as he shall think proper.

"He shall examine all fire-alarm boxes at least once in two weeks, or oftener if necessary, and shall have all repairs immediately attended to. He shall examine all fire hydrants at least once in three months, and shall make a report of same to the Mayor. He shall also keep a record of all accounts of the Fire Department and Fire-alarm Telegraph, showing where all material was used, and submit the same to the Committee whenever called up to do so.

"He shall give bond in the sum of \$500, subject to be increased by the Board of Alderman, for the faithful discharged of his duties, and may be suspended by the Committee on Fire Department for neglect of duty or incompetence in office until the matter can be brought before the Board of Alderman for investigation and action."

And don't drive over the darn hose!

13. That if any wagon, cart, street-car, or other vehicle, be willfully driven over the hose belonging to the Fire Department, laid in the streets, lanes, alleys or squares, at the occurrence of any fire in the city, or at any alarm of fire, the driver or owner or owners of such vehicles shall be fined for such offence fifteen dollars or imprisoned for thirty days.

Legeros - 09/18/06 - 21:19

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No

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Raleigh Fire Academy #33

09/19/06 20 W - + 15 - 15

Raleigh's newest academy started this week. Thirty-one recruits training for 24 weeks. We'll have pictures along the way.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

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No

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Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

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09/20/06 194 W, 1 I - + 23 - 10

[illegible]

- Box 13, southeast corner Johnson and Halifax streets
- Box 14, southwest corner Oakwood Avenue and Person Street
- Box 15, northwest corner Edenton and East streets
- Box 23, northwest corner Martin and Wilmington streets
- Box 24, northeast corner Davie and Bloodworth streets
- Box 25, southwest corner Wilmington and South streets
- Box 31, southwest corner Davie and Dawson streets
- Box 32, southwest corner Hillsboro and West streets
- Box 41, west side of Dawson Street midway between Jones and Lane streets
- Box 42, northwest corner of Halifax and Edenton streets.

<https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=0388>[10/13/2019 7:00:28 PM]

Heard on Scanner

09/21/06 26 W - + 12 - 11

"Hot air balloons... he's got hydrogen in the house... and it's exploding." Yikes! Then, "Apex is advising two structures fully involved." Holy cow!

Observe not one but two pieces of misinformation as heard above. Propane tanks, we learned, not hydrogen tanks. And one structure, not two.

Legeros - 09/21/06 - 18:00

Units on the first alarm assignment- Apex E1, E2, E3, Tower 1, and Batt. Chief 1; auto aid was Holly Springs E1. Second alarm brought Apex E4 and Cary E5. Morrisville initially brought E3 to the scene, but were released in order to cover the district. Units found heavy fire upon arrival with reports of several explosions having happened prior to the FD's arrival. All occupants were out prior to arrival... fire attack was strictly defensive operation.

guest - 09/23/06 - 23:19

Was riding OIC on Tower 1, there was nothing we could do with this one. We just got back in bed after a fire alarm call when we were dispatched to it. Explosion sent roof shingles to the yard of a house 3 houses down the block. Room above the garage had partially collapsed into the garage already when we arrived. There were 2 propane tanks in the garage, 150 lbs. a piece, along with a gas water heater. Occupants were very, very lucky.

Silver - 09/25/06 - 18:49

Oh yeah, almost forgot. While en-route, we were told that the fire was threatening another house, not actually involving 2 houses. Don't know who started the first rumor....

Silver - 09/25/06 - 18:53

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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The official radio designation for RFD's new mobile command post is Field Comm 1, we've heard. Also, the Station 28 lot is being cleared. Look for groundbreaking soon.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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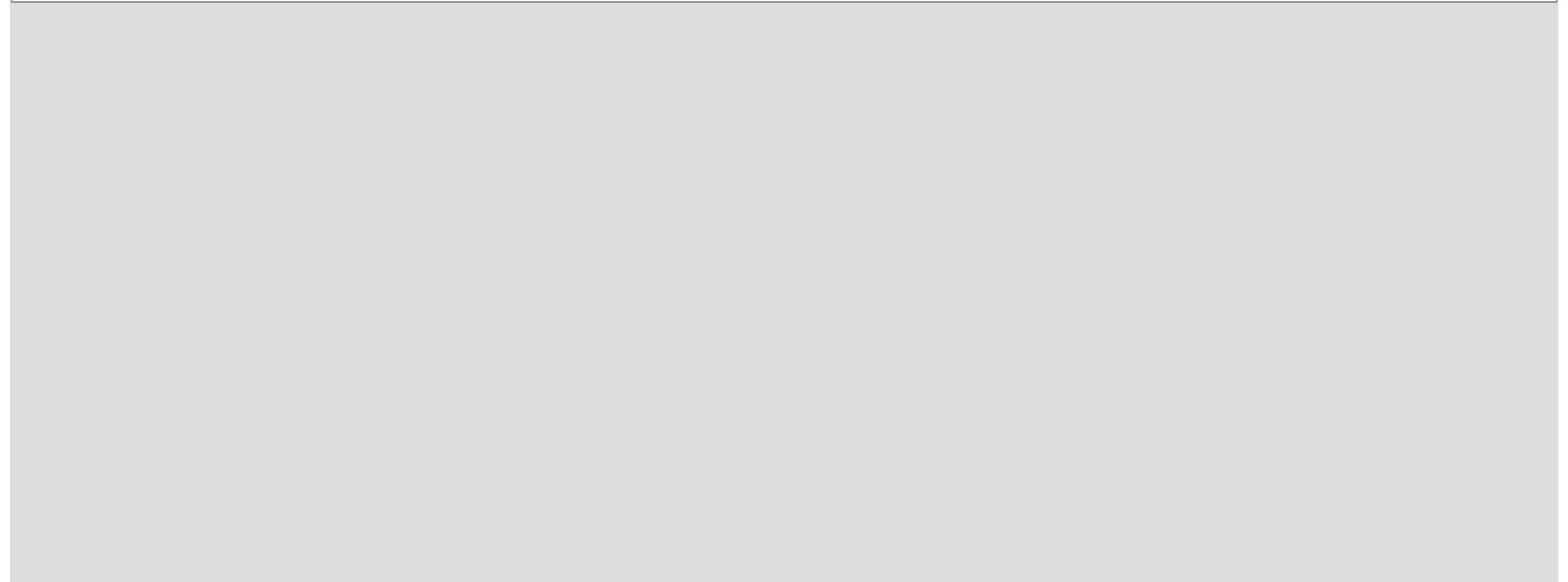
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Fayetteville Former Firehouses

09/22/06 47 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

Yet [another former firehouses piece](#), published this week on FireNews. There's only one old engine house still standing, so the article covers a number of since-demolished buildings. Next, either Asheville (three old stations + temp station + historic station) or Greenville (four old stations + old tower).



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E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Observe the dates on some of these [FireNews-cataloged](#) patches. [Charlotte, 1775](#) (Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence signed). [Fayetteville, 1791](#) (fire department chartered). [Greensboro, 1808](#) (city chartered). If Raleigh ever redesigned [their patch](#) to include a year, choices could range from 1792 (city created) to 1819 (first fire company formed) to 1912 (fully-paid fire department formed). Asheville, Durham, High Point, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem patches, by way of other examples, do not include years.

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True Confessions / Public Service

09/23/06 39 W - + 10 - 12

Be honest, who else was confused at first between Public Service the gas company and Public Service, the term by 911 to note a telephone call? That one took longer to make sense than ten codes.

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Pay Up

09/23/06 185 W - + 13 - 14

From Raleigh's *Daily Sentinel* newspaper, February 5, 1870: "Pay up. Those who have heretofore subscribed for the benefit of the Fire Department of Raleigh, [they] are requested to pay in their subscriptions to either of the banks of the city, stating also, to what particular purpose they may wish their subscription applied. If we are to have an efficient Fire Department, it is high time more effectual steps were taken to organize. There is no lack of men, and property holders must apply the means. Every property holder of the city, and every Insurance Company is interested in the matter-- will they toe the mark of duty in regard to it!"

The context of this interesting notice involves the formation of the Rescue Steam Fire Engine Company and the purchase of Raleigh's first steam fire engine. The fire company solicited funds both before and after the apparatus purchase, expecting to raise the necessary amount to pay the balance in full. They held fundraisers and solicited "subscriptions" from property owners. Alas, two years, they petitioned the city to pay the remaining balance, which the city did.

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

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Non-Red Rigs, Part 2

09/23/06 34 W, 1 I - + 14 - 6

Travel back in time to the days of yellow rigs in both [Winston-Salem](#) and [Charlotte](#), courtesy of Lee Wilson via his [photo site on Flickr](#).



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preferred)

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Mike's Airport Map

09/24/06 83 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

Something new for monitoring buffs, a [PDF-format airport map](#) added to Mike's otherwise outdated [scanner page](#). It's a composite of an FAA runway/taxiway map, a couple street maps, and aerial photos. It is version 1.1 and has not been verified on the ground at this time. Nor is it necessarily intended for responders. This is an aid for enthusiasts. Errors are entirely possible. Corrections and additions welcome. The idea came from a similiar map seen in a Phoenix-area scanning guide.



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Want Pics? Send Us Event Dates

09/24/06 55 W - + 17 - 10

Though there are usually cameras to spare at live burns, Lee and Mike are happy to photograph city and county training events when and where possible. Just send us the dates and times in advance. We'll see what we can do, and are happy to do what we can.

WCFTC Oct. 28th
guest - 09/24/06 - 18:55

Also, the Wake County FM office is already passing along key event dates at the WC training center.
Legeros - 09/24/06 - 18:57

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment:	

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MCP in Quarters

09/24/06 29 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Here are a couple shots of Field Comm 1 in quarters at Station 1. The unit isn't quite in service. Drivers are still being trained. Click to enlarge:



any interior shots yet? Thanks for the good pics guys!

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/24/06 - 16:11

See previous blog entries. Hint: Search on "MCP".

Legeros - 09/24/06 - 16:40

What determines when this unit will roll?

guest - 09/24/06 - 19:57

It will be dispatched when SR-5 is. (Haz-Mat, Working Fires, Multiple Alarms)

harkey ([Email](#)) - 09/26/06 - 17:31

I can see sending the MCP to major incidents such as HazMat, MCI's or multiple alarms, EVERY working fire? Isn't your typical working house fire a little much?

Rides A Truck - 09/26/06 - 21:32

I believe the originally conceived dispatch protocol— responds when SR5 responds— has been changed. It is now targeted for larger or more major incidents, though I can't confirm the exact parameters.

Legeros - 09/26/06 - 22:21

So this is like the 3rd life for that chassis correct?

jolson ([Email](#)) - 09/27/06 - 21:15

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Other Special Units at Station 1

09/24/06 97 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

What other special units have been stationed on South Dawson Street over the years? If memory serves, the first ones were the two Raleigh Rescue Squad vehicles, the [1954 GMC panel van](#) and the [1954 Reo Civil Defense truck](#). There was a boat trailer with the two units as well. The [1966 Chevy Rescue](#) ran there, as did the [1974 Chevy rescue](#). One of the [1960s foam units](#) was stationed there, as was a light trailer I think. And don't forget FC1's original incarnation, when the [1988 GMC extended panel van](#) started its career as SR1.



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House Fire / Second Alarms

09/24/06 62 W - + 19 - 10

Listening to Eastern Wake's house fire. Command requested a second alarm. Dispatch commenced to notify all EWFD personnel of the need for more manpower, versus dispatching another round of EWFD and other department units. That must be county protocol, though it seems kind of strange. Perhaps "second alarm" in the county translates to "second activation of department pagers."

No I believe that is more of an Eastern Wake thing. Comm. asked if they wanted a second alarm, or second activation. EW command said just to dispatch a Wendell tanker, and EW for more personel.

GFDLT1 - 09/25/06 - 08:25

As long as I have been here, he has always asked for a second alarm on working fires. I think what he is asking for is additional manpower. Eastern Wake EMS took some great pictures of the fire last night. Mike, I will get those to you as soon as I can. Overall, everyone did a great job last night.

ewfd200 - 09/25/06 - 09:14

There was and has been some talk, at the Chief/County/RWECC level, about what a "second alarm" means. I think there might be some standard terms coming in the future, like second alarm, water task force, additional manpower, working fire, etc. Hard to say at this point what any of those will translate to, but it would provide a standard for both field units and the ECC.

Griggs - 09/26/06 - 11:14

I think that would be a good idea. That way when you call for a 2nd alarm you get 2 more engs, truck and rescue from the next closest departments. If you need water because there are no hydrants and you don't need manpower, you call for a tanker task force. If you only need 1 additional truck, then you don't call a second alarm, you make a speciality call. I also then that we need a working fire dispatch, that being an additional eng and ladder company when a working fire is confirmed. The county should also start doing move ups. I know many departments do it on their own at this time. That being asking for another department to send an eng company to stand by.

GFDLT1 - 09/27/06 - 08:09

Photos of this fire has been posted @
<http://www.geocities.com/ncfireart/ewfd1>

Photos from EMS OnScene

Chris (Email) - 10/01/06 - 17:50

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Fire Prevention Week Events?

09/26/06 95 W - + 15 - 9

What's happening for Fire Prevention Week around the area? **Garner** [annual fireman's day](#) is Saturday, October 7, which includes a parade that commences with the station siren roaring to maximum effect. That's always a blast, pun intended. Looking around at the other FD web sites... **Apex's** annual open house is also Saturday, October 7 from 0900 to 1600. **Morrisville's** [annual fire safety day](#) is also Saturday, October 7, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at Park Place Shopping Center, 9545 Chapel Hill Road. **Bay Leaf's** annual open house is Sunday, October 8 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. What else is happening?

Durham Highways is holding a public safety day this Saturday September,30 from 10am-4pm with many events such as vehicle extrication, burn cell, and many displays from an abundance of agencies(There will be FREE food and drinks).

Dhfde3 ([Email](#)) - 09/26/06 - 18:08

Knightdale Public Safety is holding its open house/fire prevention week kick-off Friday, October 6th, 2006 4pm-6pm, 5pm is the hose-cutting celebration.

Guest - 09/27/06 - 19:56

Raleigh's events:

The Raleigh Fire Department will hold their annual Fire Prevention Week "Open House" at all Fire Stations, Sunday, October 8 through Saturday, October 14, 2006. Citizens of all ages are encouraged to visit their Fire Stations to learn more about home fire safety and to meet their local firefighters.

Fire prevention displays are planned at two locations:

Crabtree Valley Mall, in the Promotional Court, October 6, 7, 8
Triangle Towne Center, next to Curiosity Creek play area, October 13, 14

Displays will include:

Puppet Shows
"Sparky," the Fire Dog
"Pluggie," the Robotic Fire Hydrant
Each Saturday is "Kids' Day" – Face Painting – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Educational Materials/Giveaways (while supplies last)

Legeros - 10/03/06 - 19:37

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Links Added on Right Side of This Page

09/26/06 40 W - + 11 - 12

We've added a bunch of links to the right side of this blog page. One is the WC fire contacts list, which includes links to all the official or unofficial FD sites.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Web Sites / Useability / Some Thoughts

09/26/06 332 W - + 13 - 11

Since the morning was spent clicking around the county's assorted FD sites, here are some random, generic usability observations. Web team members reading this are welcome to mail Mike privately for more information, suggestions, etc. He also apologies in advance for any personal offense taken by page designers or web folks. It's great to see so many web sites associated with all or nearly all of the county fire departments and related organizations. Kudos all around. .

URL as UI.. It is helpful to be able to truncate a web site address and still navigate the site. For example, if <http://www.sometown.com/depts/fire/webpage.htm> (fake address) is the address of the fire department's section of a town web site, it is helpful if shortened versions of that address open valid pages. Such as <http://www.sometown.com/depts/fire/> or <http://www.sometown.com/depts>.

Above the Fold. It is helpful to locate the most important information on a web site in the top of the browser, e.g. in the area that the user sees before they start scrolling. Since users have varying screen resolutions and desktop sizes, consider testing pages with different screen resolutions and desktop sizes to see the variations in just how much information is displayed before scrolling is started.

Above the Fold, Part 2. As screen real estate is valuable, consider shrinking some of the elements on the top or very top of the pages. Such as large or giant banners, or patches, or other graphics. Experiment with a couple versions, and using a couple different screen resolutions or desktop sizes. Let other members, or family members, or visitors try the thing.

Alpha Ordering. It is helpful to order a vertical list of navigation links alphabetically. That is the ordering method that users most easily and quickly comprehend.

Update Dates. Easily visible "this page / site was last updated on..." dates are usually useful, especially on sites that are infrequently updated.

Postscript. See <http://www.useit.com/> for an introduction, albeit perhaps a complex introduction, to the wonderful world of useability. On good days, my own sites observe such best practices.

Legeros - 09/26/06 - 08:15

I'll add my \$.02 in here:

- o I agree with Mike on alphabetizing lists (navigation), so I'll take it a step further. Most people can't comprehend past about seven things, so when grouping navigation, do so in groups of about five to seven elements.

- o Each page should have a link back to the home page of the site. I also thinks it a good idea to graphically reinforce the url of the site (hence the name "firenews.net" and "ncsfa.com").

- o From a design standpoint, there's no need to come up with a unique design for each page. In fact, it's my opinion that your interior pages should be poured into a template. The homepage can be different, but just slightly so.

- o And please do everyone a favor: no Station 51 tones, no Federal Q's, the theme from BackDraft and/or Rescue Me, your favorite song, etc. It's a fire department web site; it isn't a "my space" page.

- o And while picking sites apart, here's a checklist of things that I personally do not like: Dancing flames, a little fire truck that comes out and extinguishes a house fire then drives away, just about ANY clip art you got from another site, simulated Fire Scene tape, the aforementioned wav files, Firehouse's ticker (he he), .gif files when you should be using .jpg files, flat flashing lights, and maybe the dumbest of all: the National Security Threat Status.

o Remember: less is more. Use some restraint. If you think it’s “cool”, you may be the only one.

Maybe next convention we should hold a FD web site class?

harkey ([Email](#)) - 09/26/06 - 17:26

Harkey – that was worth much more than 2 cents. Good stuff.

reader - 09/27/06 - 08:03

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info?
E-mail: (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Web Site: (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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Non-Red Rigs, Part 3

09/26/06 22 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Now [Greensboro](#), again by Lee Wilson on his [photo site](#). Love those LaFrances...



Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mill Village / New Lens

09/26/06 63 W, 1 I - + 16 - 10

Pics from the major fire on Mill Village coming from Mike. No action shots, alas, though a new lens was on the scene. Canon 28-135mm with IS. Big, heavy, with good zoom. Not nearly as wide as the 18-55mm kit lens, however. Thus not sure if it'll be the walkaround lens.



the boys did a hell of a good job on that one!

pal - 09/26/06 - 21:15

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Rescue Engine House Cornerstone

09/27/06 13 W - + 16 - 8

Random historical fact found Monday: the cornerstone of the [southwest corner of the courthouse lot](#) and served as the original Station 2 beginning December 1912. .

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Bahamas New Engines

09/27/06 32 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

Bahama's new engines, a pair of 2006 Ferrara's as photographed by Lee. Fairly rare apparatus brand in these parts, and with Roto-Rays no less!



What’s with the diamond plate air dam on the roof?

jolson (Email) - 09/27/06 - 21:12

protection of the light towers it looks like

CFP 7021 - 09/27/06 - 22:53

Lee’s photo site has larger versions. Those are pumper-tankers and thus probably benefit from protection against low-hanging branches that might otherwise tear up the roof A/C and light-tower. Plus, it looks cool!

Legeros - 09/28/06 - 08:42

Those are some great shots! Fantastic pieces of apparatus.

Chris (Email) - 09/28/06 - 17:01

Corinth-Holders Fire dept(Johnston County) has a 2004 and Archers Lodge also has a brand new pumper-tanker. Those are some sweet engines. The one that Corinth-Holders has is 6 man cab, waterous 1250 single stage pump, roll up comp doors. And is great to drive handles good. Firenews.net has pictures of it under app delivered.

Jason Lane - 10/03/06 - 21:12

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

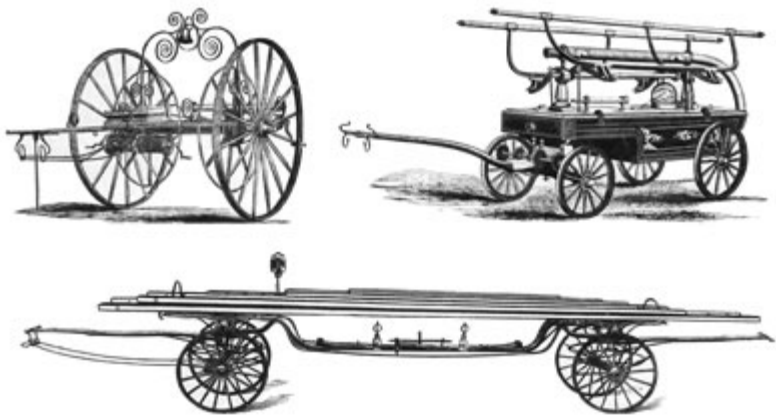
Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Early Raleigh Apparatus

09/28/06 149 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Toward the end of the 19th Century, Raleigh's volunteer firefighters operated these types of apparatus, among others. The **hand reel** was also called a jumper reel. One end was connected to the hydrant and the hose was laid right to the fire. Next, the **hand engine**, also called a hand tub. The Victor Company used one of these, and from this manufacturer, until the 1880s or so. They would also pull a hand reel to the scene, with hose for the hand line(s). The suction hose was a fixed attachment. Hand-drawn **hook and ladder trucks** were used until about 1890. The type shown is both front and rear steer, which may or may not have been the type used in Raleigh. The images are from a Rumsey and Company reproduction catalog from 1878, available at a cool site called [Handtub Junction](#).



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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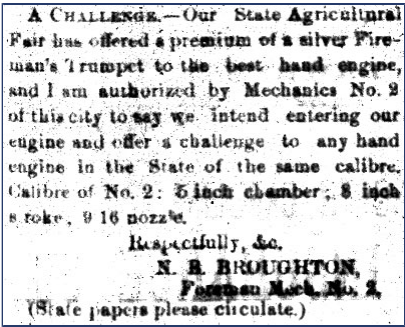
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Speaking of the State Fair

09/28/06 64 W, 1 I - + 14 - 14

This appeared in Raleigh's *Daily Standard* in September 1870. Two decades before the State Fireman's Convention started their annual tournaments, it appears fire engine competitions were conducted at the State Fair. In 1870, premiums were awarded for both Best Hand Engine and Best Steam Engine. The notice below is signed by the Foreman of the Mechanics Fire Company. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

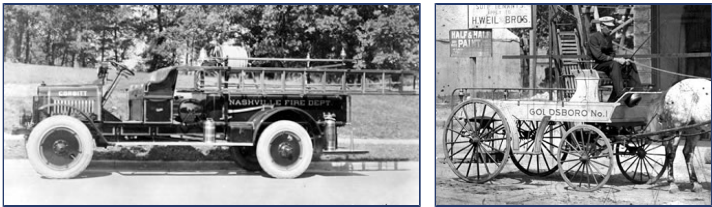
Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Old Fire Engines

09/29/06 24 W, 2 I - + 14 - 13

Couple of neat new old pictures from the State Archives. Nashville, NC (left) and Goldsboro (right). Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Old Station 6

09/29/06 92 W, 2 I - + 10 - 15

Also recently unearthed at the Archives is a rare view of old Station 6 that occupied a rented building on Fairview Road on the opposite side of Oberlin Road as the present station. Observe that it had what appears to be a picture window in the front and bay doors to the right of the picture window. It served as a drugstore before the city rented same in 1943. It's presently a restaurant. The building to the right of the fire station is labelled "Hayes Barton Grocerteria." Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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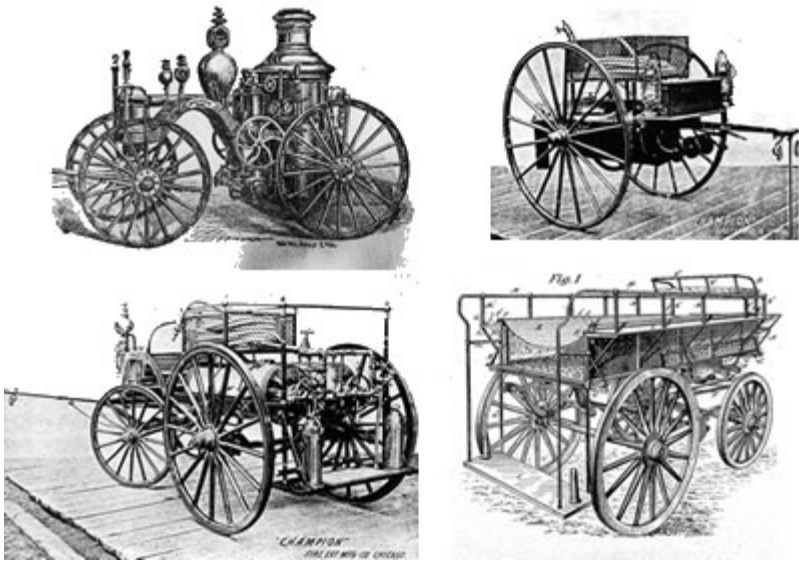
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Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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Early Raleigh Apparatus, Part 2

09/30/06 78 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Lest we leave out the other types of early Raleigh fire apparatus, the early volunteers also operated a Gould steam engine that hand-drawn for the first nine years. Two Champion chemical engines were operated, the small one hand-drawn and the larger one horse-drawn. They probably looked like these. And starting around 1890, hose wagons were utilized until the early 1910s. This wagon drawing is from the [US Patent Office](#).



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Behind Services

09/30/06 38 W, 1 I - + 24 - 10

What's presently parked behind the Support Services Center on New Bern Avenue? Truck 20, still out of service for repairs, plus two reserve engines, a reserve truck, and the reserve rescue:



Has the shop ever thought about installing a carport or something in that nature, to keep the apparatus parked at services somewhat out of the weather?

Adam Brown - 10/01/06 - 10:07

Municipal calculus compels the question: does the cost of accelerated environmental wear (on mostly but not exclusively reserve rigs), spread over a number of decades, surpass the one-time cost of constructing a giant carport? e.g., faded paint and gold leaf, UV deterioration of rubber parts, etc.

Legeros - 10/01/06 - 10:42

A shelter would provide a long term service time, where as you could use it for many years to come.

Adam Brown - 10/01/06 - 12:54

Yes, a big, honkin' car port could be used for decades to come. But would its construction cost be ultimately cheaper than the extra cost (whatever it is, however it is calculated) of storing said apparatus outdoors over all those years? That's what Powers That Be would ponder, I suspect.

Legeros - 10/01/06 - 13:01

What is that building to the right that we are seeing?

Chris King ([Email](#)) - 10/01/06 - 13:21

That structure is used for washing vehicles and is part of the city's Heavy Equipment Depot, which shares the lot with (and is structurally connected to) the RFD services center.

Legeros - 10/02/06 - 06:27

Here's an aerial view of the depot, prior to the construction of the RFD services center (which was connected to the right/east of the main structure):

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&...>

Legeros - 10/02/06 - 06:27

Adam, Yes a carport would help. But just for info parking the reserve vehicles behind services is something new and not 100% of how we do things. Majority of our reserve fleet is parked in the single company stations. And during cold weather they park the ones at the shop inside their 3 double bays.

Jason Lane - 10/03/06 - 00:18

Ahhhh I didn't know that information. Would be kinda pointless then. thanks

Adam Brown - 10/03/06 - 01:02

Jason is correct. There is additional/assumed information about this entry, notably that Raleigh has seven (or so) reserve engines, three reserve ladders (well, two platforms and one ladders), and one reserve rescue. Nearly all are housed at stations. When Station 28 opens next year, that facility will have three bays and will increase the department's indoor storage capacity accordingly. Raleigh's three antiques are also stored at the stations, the 1906 steamer (Station 8), the 1926 American LaFrance (Station 27), and the 1950 Mack (Station 25). I've also heard that two of the old Macks will be retained, one for preserving as an antique and one for parts.

Legeros - 10/03/06 - 06:44

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Non-Red Rigs, Rocky Mount and Wilson

09/30/06 19 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

More from Lee, via his [photo site](#):



Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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The Nicest New Station Around?

09/30/06 40 W, 1 I - + 19 - 12

...on the outside, at least. Holly Springs new central station is something to see. More exteriors coming from Mike. Didn't get inside as, alas, we were just passing through.



I wonder if that station has poles?

pal - 10/01/06 - 10:46

Couple more exteriors posted to photo site...

Legeros - 10/01/06 - 10:49

If a driver of the Engine parked in the middle bay ever hits either side of the building while backing in/pulling out, it will truly be a sad sad day. There's PLENTY of room on each side!!

guest - 10/02/06 - 03:14

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

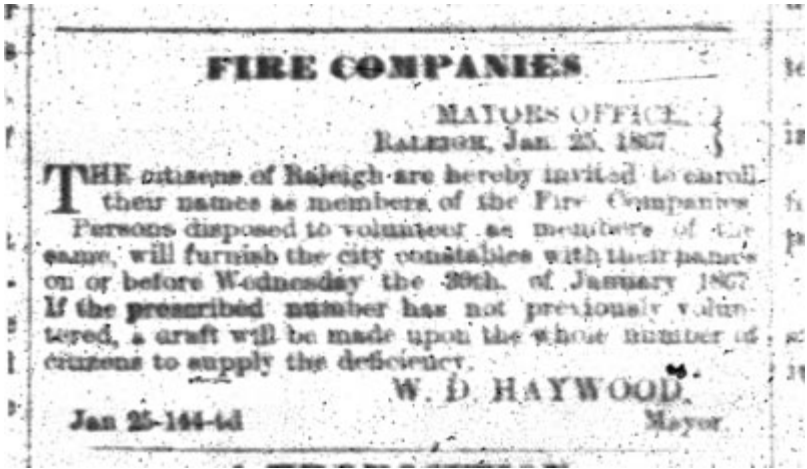
Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Enroll Or Be Drafted

10/01/06 51 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

From an 1867 newspaper. By order of the mayor, citizens are invited to join the city's fire companies. And, "If the prescribed number has not previously volunteered, a draft will be made upon the whole number of citizens to supply the deficiency."



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Heard on Scanner

10/01/06 24 W - + 17 - 12

Reports of motorcyclist who has gone off the bridge from Walnut Street in Cary and into the lanes of US.1. Yowza.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email:

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RFD Academy Group Photos?

10/01/06 40 W - + 15 - 14

Raleigh firefighters from all years (except 1989, his, which he has), do you have a copy of your academy's group photo? Mike would like to make a copy at your convenience, if possible. [Drop a line](#). Thanks.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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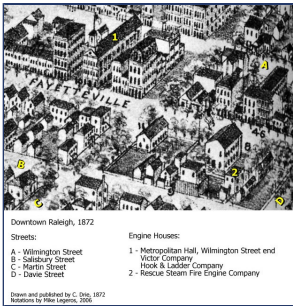
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Where Was Raleigh's Original Station 2?

10/01/06 54 W, 1 I - + 13 - 16

The original Station 2, formerly the 1870 engine house of the Rescue Company, was located on the courthouse lot, in the southwest corner but facing Fayetteville Street. Here's a neat new [bird's eye view](#) of the building from 1872 as well as Raleigh's other engine house of the time. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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Chicago Style Q+A

10/02/06 54 W - + 16 - 16

For fans of the written word, the [Chicago Manual of Style Online Q&A](#) was described in a recent [New York Times article](#) as "Car Talk for Writers." And indeed it is. Read, enjoy, and learn how to express yourself with consistency and accuracy. Even your blog postings will benefit.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	
<div>/ Textile</div>	

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Non-Red Rigs, Durham

10/02/06 16 W, 1 I - + 19 - 15

More from Lee, via his [photo site](#):



...and remember their Public Safety stations (like this one: <http://legeros.com/history/stations/durh..>), initially designed with two bays and practically zero living space? Talk about tiny!

Legeros - 10/02/06 - 05:42

The picture of the firehouse is the old quarters of Engine 8. Shortly after Engine 8 moved out, a medic unit was placed there. In '98, Durham had an old 2 man cab Chevrolet (?) lime green pumper, that was still in service as a reserve, and I got to ride tailboard!! That lasted about 3 hours until admin. found out we were riding tailboard and that was stopped. It was fun while it lasted!

Silver - 10/02/06 - 13:15

Hey Jeff those were the days.I remember riding that piece also out at sta. 10 a few times,however I did get the pleasure of riding tailboard,only in full turnouts on the 2nd shift out due to the Capt's orders.Was not much fun on trips to the store.

Dekalb County Fire Rescue

Jim Kay ([Email](#)) - 10/02/06 - 16:48

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Did you know that old Raleigh Beach, site of many a water rescue, er, recovery in its heyday, has a dam upstream with a small hydroelectric plant? The generated power is sold to Progress Energy, we're told. A reader was inquiring and a little Google searching yielded both an [aerial view](#) and a [ground-level picture](#).

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

RFD Bike Team in Action

10/04/06 23 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

[Lee's photo site](#) has pics of RFD's new bike team in action:



A fire bike team? How much water can those bags hold?

Old Guest - 10/05/06 - 23:45

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

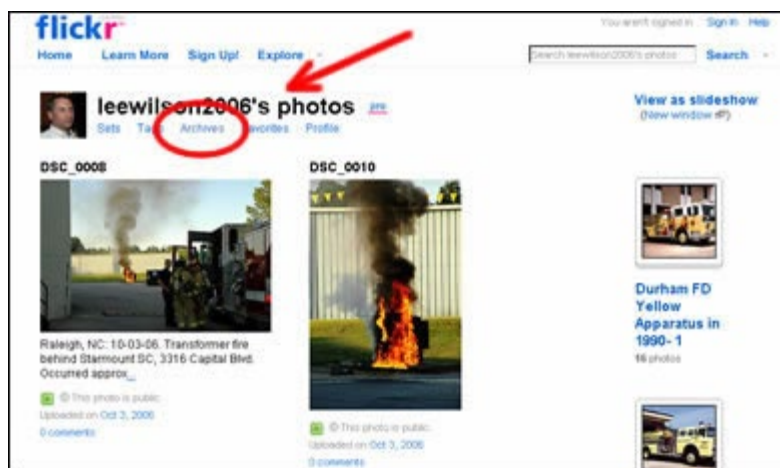
Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Tip For Browsing « RFD Bike Team in Acti... » RFDs Old Cascade Syst... Lee's Photo Site

Tip For Browsing Lee's Photo Site

10/04/06 105 W, 3 I - + 13 - 15

Here's a tip for browsing [Lee's photo site](#).

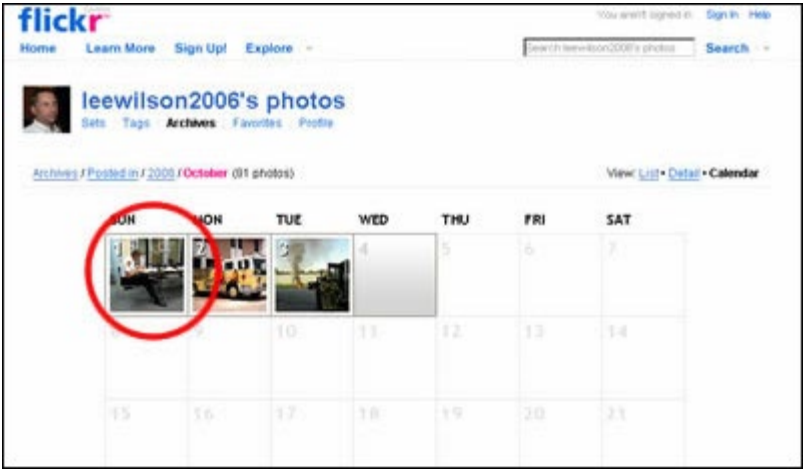
First, click the **Archives** link located near the top of the page:



. Second, click the **October** (or other month) link on the resulting page:



Third, click on a particular date in the resulting calendar view:



As Lee is presently uploading incidents, events, and series on seperate dates, this is an easy way to see the different things (or groups of things, if he uploads multiples on a single day) that he is uploading.

This is a fantastic site he is using. It has easy navigation & bundles of photo archives. great work lee!

Chris (Email) - 10/04/06 - 20:08

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

RFDs Old Cascade System

10/05/06 62 W, 1 I - + 18 - 14

Raleigh's old cascade system, removed from old SR5 when that unit was converted to a haz-mat support unit (prior to its recent remodeling as a mobile command post), now resides inside the old smokehouse at the training center. Refurbished by Safe Air Systems Inc., the unit was installed yesterday. [Pic from Lee](#):



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

RFD Apparatus Bid Awarded

10/05/06 130 W - + 16 - 12

The city of Raleigh has awarded the latest fire apparatus bid to Triad Fire, a Pierce dealer. The bids were for two rescue trucks (custom cab, non-walk-in body), one engine, and one 105-foot ladder. Timeframe for delivery is not known, but we would speculate 9 to 12 months.

Answer to frequent question/comment #1: The rescues will replace the department's two oldest units, presently operating as Rescue 14 and Rescue 19.

Answer to frequent question/comment #2: We are not at this time aware of plans to increase staffing of either or both units. Nor does this fiscal year's budget indicate appropriations for such additional positions.

Answer to frequent question/comment #3: We are not aware of the department's long-term plans for additional aerial apparatus, and if future apparatus will be "sticks" versus "platforms."

That's great Raleigh has finally decided to go with true rescue trucks. I'm glad to see that the new chief is making great progress in a positive direction.

Adam Brown - 10/05/06 - 18:38

The new aerial apparatus will replace the oldest frontline aerial apparatus, presently operating as Truck 16.

Legeros - 10/05/06 - 20:34

Yes Adam we are very pleased with the backing we get from Car 1. It is awesome to have a Chief that looks at the big picture!!! But we also have a good asst. chief in services that has worked hard on the right bids. Now for staffing issues, the budget might not have it planned but that doesn't mean anything. In the past the PD Chief has asked for extra money for staffing during a already existing year. So I will always stay positive that staffing will come!

Jason Lane - 10/06/06 - 00:50

I just realized that there's a local version of a Pierce rescue with a non-walk in body, Garner's 1997 unit:

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/..>

Legeros - 10/08/06 - 06:21

Swift Creek Truck 1 as well. I it's a 2000 <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/..>

Durham Highway Rescue 5 is also a Pierce non-walkin, I think a 2000 or 2001 <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/..>

CFP 7021 - 10/08/06 - 06:28

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Black Mountain / Old Fire Station

10/05/06 34 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

Mike is headed west in a few weeks for a belated honeymoon slash research trip. One stop will be Black Mountain, which has a cool [former firehouse built in 1921](#).



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

State Fair Entry

10/05/06 47 W, 1 I - + 19 - 16

Mike has entered a photograph in this year's State Fair. It's not fire-service related, however, just a good picture. (Though smoke and flames could be added using Photoshop...) Space permitting, it may even be displayed in one of the exhibit halls. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Cary's Ladders

10/05/06 26 W, 1 I - + 11 - 14

Here's something you don't see every day, all three of Cary's ladders in one location. Pic by Mike:



Fire Officer Certification class...

CFP 7021 - 10/06/06 - 00:20

so on another note anyone know when the new truck will be in?

Adam Brown - 10/06/06 - 21:16

hasn't been ordered yet.. i believe it either has or is very soon to be going out to bid

CFP 7021 - 10/07/06 - 09:44

New service truck, right? Replacement for Truck 7?

Legeros - 10/07/06 - 09:52

The new truck will be a new city service ladder, (squad by Wake County Term). Basically a heavy rescue body with all ladder truck equipment with exception of aerial device. Full complement of Vent, Ladder, Salvage, Overhaul, Air Supply with Compressor, some Technical Rescue (rope and water). Spec is calling for extended custom cab with seating for six, (although considered a 10 man cab). Light tower, awning, LED package, some extrication equipment and new graphics package. The unit, although a very dated concept, will be very nice. Bid specs have been sent out, opening first of Nov.

fireone - 10/07/06 - 18:37

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Big Honkin' Haz-Mat Call

10/05/06 21 W - + 13 - 13

Moving vapor cloud, mass evacuations, *and* a working fire at a haz-mat facility. All ears are glued.

Good coverage on WTVD...

JOlson ([Email](#)) - 10/05/06 - 23:03

Fantastic work between all departments. Hope that all public safety personal will be ok from the exposure from the vapor cloud.

Chris King ([Email](#)) - 10/06/06 - 15:15

The radio system(s) (and different communications centers) seemed to work like a charm as well.

Legeros - 10/06/06 - 17:19

It was a long night last night for many of us. Good job!

Griggs - 10/06/06 - 17:29

More than once during the initial radio traffic I wondered if the thing was a drill. The “perfect storm” of fire, haz-mat, and a population center could have come straight from a textbook.

Legeros - 10/06/06 - 22:45

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Apex Pics Coming

10/06/06 48 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

...from both Lee and Mike. The latter's still on scene, the former has to get to bed. Here's one quick shot of his, relatively early into the incident and after the command post was moved for the third (?) time:



Who grabbed that N&O picture I see on CNN.com and Foxnews.com. Looks like they had to be TOO close...

Andrew ([Email](#)) - 10/06/06 - 08:12

also a certain news agency is in a deep bunch of stuff this morning for being too close, and as heard on "Ops 1", "the Channel # news crew refuses to leave their vehicle until their general manager and attorney arrive" command followed by "PD is on the way and they have advised the crew not to leave, and not to transmit anything from their vehicle. We need to confiscate their equipment for decon and put them through decon." wow...

CFP 7021 - 10/06/06 - 11:00

[Channel #] had a video feed from what looked like the actual plant site... [Remaining question removed. Take discussion and comments on specific media organizations off-line, or perhaps to a discussion board. Thanks]

CPF743 - 10/06/06 - 12:54

That picture was snapped by a veteran newspaper photographer and appeared this morning as a gloriously enlarged image on the front page of the print edition. Neither Lee nor Mike submit their photos to local media outlets, firenews.net excepted.

Legeros - 10/06/06 - 22:29

At least one reader has expressed an interest in discussing the media and their presence (and actions) at incidents such as these. Start a thread on the Watch Desk Raleigh-Durham forum for that and see what happens. (Yeah, you have to register there, but it's painless. And your userid on the board doesn't reveal your identity unless you want it to.) Here's the link to the RDU forum:

<http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/forumd..>

Closing this topic to additional comments at this time. This is a likely loaded issue and one our blog goals is to refrain from and prevent posted criticism at specific individuals, agencies, and organizations.

Legeros - 10/06/06 - 22:35

Apex Pics Posted

10/06/06 24 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Mike's pictures from last night and this afternoon [have been posted](#). Lee's pictures are forthcoming.



About these pics... nearly everything at night was shot at 1600 ISO, which helped keep blur to a minimum for the hand-held shots. A tripod was utilized about halfway into the series, as was a wider lens. The higher ISO also translates into more noise in the pictures. And I'm still getting the hang of the new camera, notably how it "meters" for exposure. This is probably one of my first night scene shoots. What a way to start.

Legeros - 10/06/06 - 22:26

great shots, who knew all of the resources that would respond to an incident like this! From the sounds of things everything went as well as could have been expected.

CFP 7021 - 10/07/06 - 09:52

Lee's pictures have been posted: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a..>

Legeros - 10/07/06 - 21:54

anybody else see this yet? <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/>

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15163609/sit..>

pics of local trucks on MSNBC's front page is never good...

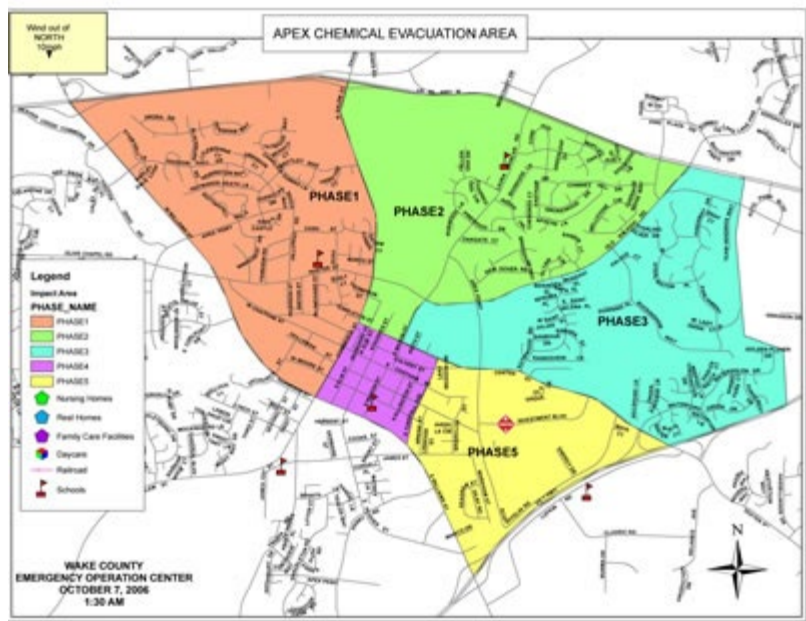
CFP 7021 - 10/07/06 - 22:46

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Fire Out, Reentry Started

10/07/06 48 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

Local media is reporting that the Apex fire has been extinguished and a phased reentry has started. Here's a [cool map](#) detailing the phased reentry areas. That map is also appearing in non-PDF format on various media sites.



Discuss this incident at the Watch Desk, <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/forumd..>

Legeros - 10/07/06 - 08:12

Robots

10/07/06 50 W, 1 I - + 15 - 17

The Tokyo Fire Department comes to mind in the context of promixity and the Apex fire. They and other Japanese departments use remote-controlled apparatus for high-hazard environments. Don't know how well they work addressing the seat of a fire after a collapse, however.



Good idea Mike. Wonder if they could have used the Bomb Robot that RPD or SBI has to roll into such scenes, shoot some video (or feed it back live) and carry a monitor or two see what is actually going on in close proximity to the scene?

Jon Olson (Email) - 10/09/06 - 23:23

As this page demonstrates, Japanese departments (or at least the biggest cities) are very big on specialized apparatus:

<http://www.city.yokohama.jp/me/anzen/veh..>

More robots:

http://homepage3.nifty.com/eiji_ito/fir..

<http://www.tfd.metro.tokyo.jp/ts/soubi/r..>

Legeros - 10/10/06 - 05:30

I love the 救助作業用アーム, and the 作業用アーム is impressive lifting the barrel. Odd how they have the name emblazoned in ENGLISH. Wonder if these are made in the US and exported?

Jon Olson (Email) - 10/10/06 - 09:31

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

This Blog vs. That Forum

10/07/06 339 W - + 13 - 15

As the comments to the Apex entries indicate, we're attempting to redirect any detailed discussion of this incident to the local Watch Desk forums. Whether it takes remains to be seen. How does this blog differ from that forum (and similar discussion boards)?

Blog: Only Mike can start topics.
Watch Desk (WD): Anyone can start topics.

Blog: Anyone can post comments.
WD: Ditto.

Blog: Registration NOT required.
WD: Registration required.

Blog: Users choose their screen name per posted comment.
WD: Users choose their screen name at time of registration.

Blog: Users can hide their identity, or choose semi-private screen names such as CFP-____.
WD: Ditto.

Blog: Users can NOT edit their comments after posting (though they can contact Mike and request changes).
WD: Users can edit their comments after posting, but only their last comments or perhaps until someone posts a comment to the topic. Still figuring that out.

Blog: Mike can (and often does) edit the original topic after posting.
WD: Users who start topics can edit their original topic after posting, until someone posts a comment to the topic.

Blog: Mike reads every posted comment and babysits as necessary, notably removing or changing criticism directed at specific individuals, agencies, or organizations. Let someone else wrestle with libel law. Anonymous trash talk is removed as well.
WD: The forum has a moderator who presumably takes action in worst-case scenarios.

Blog: Mike performs other edits on comments at times, such as fixing spelling or typing errors from certain, ah, repeat offenders.
WD: Not performed.

Blog: Postings and comments can be viewed by anyone with access to the Internet.
WD: Ditto.

Blog: Forum has one single fall guy (Mike) who could be blamed, or at least targeted for criticism, for anything bad or perceived bad that happens as a result of his or other people's comments.
WD: Forum does not have a single, obvious fall guy.

Blog: Forum is overseen by known and likely trusted entity (Mike).
WD: Forum is overseen by someone else, elsewhere.

This Blog vs. That Forum, Part 2

10/07/06 38 W - + 18 - 8

Also, the operator of [firenews.net](#) reports that they are assessing their own solution for location-based discussions. Their present forums are topic-based, versus location-based. More information on that as it is known.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

This Blog vs. That Forum, Part 310/07/06 98 W - + 14 - 14

Basically, on this blog, we're trying to get everyone to play nice. Firefighters are their own worst enemy when it comes to speaking before thinking. Add the Internet to that equation and it's a seeming recipe for disaster, or at least at whatever point the forum becomes popular and/or addresses heated issues. Feel free to agree or disagree and comment here accordingly. However, we are determined to preserve civility, and keep ourselves and everyone else out of trouble. We are here to help the helpers. It remains our pleasure and privilege.

Mike-

Thanks for taking the time to maintain an excellent site filled with great information. It really is eye-opening to browse around other 'firefighter' forums and see how other departments continuously bash each other. Thank you for *not* allowing that to occur on this site. It truly is refreshing to come to this site and find firefighters discussing their opinions, not degrading each other in an "attempt" to prove their point(s). Keep up the good work, we appreciate it!

Luke - 10/07/06 - 16:32

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Garner Fireman's Day

10/08/06 59 W, 1 I - + 22 - 10

Though the weather wasn't the best, Garner's parade was fun as always. Not as many rigs as prior years, perhaps because of the Apex activity? Good barbeque, too. Nice slice of Americana. Mike's pics coming, as well as ideas for umbrella mount. Jumpsuit breast pocket + head/neck strap = hands-free photography?



Bay Leaf open house photos also added to the photo site.

Legeros - 10/08/06 - 18:40

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Found this description of Raleigh's first steam fire engine, as appeared in an 1870 newspaper: The engine has an upright tubular boiler, containing 315 inch and a quarter tubes, 16 inches long. Boiler and steam cylinder and covered with German silver. Dome and mouldings [sic] are Princess metal, smokestack German silver, all the iron work is polished; the pumps are cast, and gun metal and highly polished; air vessels and vacuum chambers are copper, burnished and surmounted with a handsome Princess metal signal lamp, side glass blue, with the words "Rescue 1" engraved thereon, back glass white, front light red, with the figure of a fireman descending a ladder with a child in his arms. Two handsome lamps, with side red and white glass, with the word "One" engraved. The front of the Engine is mounted with a Princess metal and German water-tank--brass rope reel--an iron hand tongue--hung on gum and valute [sic] springs--hind wheels 60 inches--front 54 inches--painted maroon striped with gold, blue and white, with a brake and two glass hand lamps.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Bay Leaf's New Air Truck

10/08/06 33 W, 1 I - + 15 - 14

...is expected in January. It'll be a International/Hackney unit, two-door, and with a light tower. Will look like this, except red:



It was rumored that wake forest would also be getting a new air unit...Does anyone know the story?

Chris King ([Email](#)) - 10/08/06 - 16:12

I haven't heard anything about it, but the chief has a lot of things going right now, so who knows.

Wayne - 10/08/06 - 17:35

That mobile air service was, if memory serves, the first mobile air service in Wake County. A number of years before RFD had its SR1 unit, the Six Forks FD had their air trailer. Same was towed by a brush truck and often responded to major RFD incidents. Pic: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/appa..> It was transferred to a step van and, I believe, a second step van, the present unit.

Legeros - 10/08/06 - 18:33

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

The Real Old Station 6

10/09/06 182 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Credit Lee Wilson, who is also a history buff, for finding the biggest historical mistake of Mike's publishing career. The original Station 6, a rented building on Fairview Road, is not the two-story building presently occupied by the Red Dragon Chinese restaurant. Rather, it is the smaller single-story building directly south of that structure. The below pictured shows those buildings now and then. The "then" picture, recently uncovered at the State Archives, isn't the first representation of the original Station 6. A [newspaper photograph](#) was printed when the station was opened. However, Mike didn't examine that picture clearly enough. The roof line says everything. Kudos to Lee, and great humility for Mike. Please promptly ignore the picture on 32 of *Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting*. Or, better, print [this picture](#) for that page. Alas, as the publisher has no present plans for a third printing, don't expect a corrected print version. Maybe in another decade or less, Mike will compile and expand his photos into an all-new book. For now, watch for updated web pages.



State Fair Fire Protection

10/09/06 132 W, 1 I - + 10 - 17

The State Fair Fire Brigade is, alas, no more. Western Wake Fire Rescue has been contracted to solely provide 24/7 coverage that started yesterday (Sunday) and is running through the 22nd. Four personnel are on duty until the 13th, after which the numbers increase to 12 during the day and 6 at night.



Apparatus are Engine 196, Tanker 198, Brush 299, and two golf carts designated Car 19 and Car 29. They will be dispatched as "State Fair Fire." They're also based in the same place as last year, beside the Village of Yesterday as well as Gate 11 (tanker only). They'll be handling all inspections, EMS, fire, rescue, and haz-mat needs. Basically, they're operating a third station for about two weeks. And they can eat Fair food at every meal.

I actually thought that the Fairgrounds FD had been deactivated several years ago. To raise a question though, why wouldn't RFD engine 14 be given that responsibility, or why not have the city provide protection for the event?

toofarfromhome - 10/09/06 - 21:58

Fairgrounds FD and YRAC FD's merged into the department known now as Western Wake Fire Rescue, the NC State Fairgrounds (along with some of the surrounding area) lie within their fire district, not within the City of Raleigh, so they actually have an obligation to provide protection as they do the other 350 days of the year. Firefighters from their own department as well as surrounding departments will be used to staff the trucks at the fair. They will continue to operate their other two stations as normal during the fair. To address as to why E-14 doesn't cover it, simple it's not in their district and it requires more than a 3-4 man engine company. And to boot E-8 is actually closer.

CFP 7021 - 10/09/06 - 22:08

In 1957, a volunteer fire department was organized to protect the unincorporated areas of Raleigh around Western Boulevard and Hillsboro Street. The department was named Western Boulevard Fire Department. After most of its territory was annexed by the city in 1960, its members reorganized as the Fairground Fire Department. The station was relocated to a state-owned (?) site on Blue Ridge Road, across from the State Police complex. In 1998, the Fairgrounds (now plural) Fire Department and the Yrac Fire Department merged and formed the Western Wake Fire Department.

Fires during the time of the State Fair were answered both by the above departments and, if large enough, by the Raleigh Fire Department. In the late 1960s, a dedicated fire brigade was established during the time of the State Fair. It consisted of off-duty firefighters from Raleigh, among other individuals. Their first apparatus was a pumper borrowed from Garner. In more recent decades, they used apparatus loaned by

regional dealers. Or apparatus slated for sale by a department. Such one of the Six Forks Mack pumper-tankers that was for sale at the time.

Legeros - 10/09/06 - 22:09

...and though the fairgrounds is already covered by WWFD, the State Fair sees an obvious value in paying for additional on-site personnel and equipment. They get a faster response, and higher level of protection and safety.

Legeros - 10/09/06 - 22:15

I anticipate gaining 10 pounds during my couple of days that I am working. Man, those miniature donuts are dangerous!!!! Any chance we can move a treadmill and some weights out there?

Silver - 10/09/06 - 22:23

Just to clarify...Western Wake has always staffed the fair with manpower and apparatus. This is the first year that they are the sole providers as the fire brigade was disbanded.

CFP743 - 10/11/06 - 08:23

or at least since 1998...

CFP 7021 - 10/11/06 - 13:32

But before that...wasn't Fairgrounds FD staffing the fair?

CFP743 - 10/11/06 - 20:04

no, it was covered by the fire brigade, Fairgrounds FD was only called onto the grounds if the incident exceeded the brigade's capacity.

CFP 7021 - 10/11/06 - 22:26

Okay...learn something new everyday. So what does everyone think...is this a good move?

CFP743 - 10/12/06 - 19:01

There is no move. For decades, the State Fair has hosted (and contracted, at least in recent years/decades and maybe all along) supplemental fire protection. This year, the contract was awarded to a single group (WWFD) instead of two groups (WWFD and the State Fair Fire Brigade).

Legeros - 10/12/06 - 19:39

So... who exactly did Fairgrounds protect?

toofarfromhome - 10/12/06 - 20:41

The Fairgrounds FD protected unincorporated areas due west of Raleigh, from the city limits west to the Yrac fire district in Cary.

Legeros - 10/12/06 - 20:52

It's one of those things that drive the name of the local fire department/company- geography. For example, the old Six Forks VFD was actually started as the Six Forks Road VFD. Another note, the SF VFD was never actually located at Six Forks- an intersection on Six Forks Rd where Six Forks, Strickland, and alas, my fading memory fails me as to the rest... Durham Highway VFD was originally located along what was then the Durham Highway (now Glenwood Avenue), but now is located far from the actual 'Durham Highway'.

DJ - 10/12/06 - 23:12

...but the Six Forks Road FD **was** located on Six Forks Road for the first couple decades.

Legeros - 10/13/06 - 05:22

True, and Durham Highway was located on US70 West for years as well. And it was true to its name up until the 70s. But they are not now. Six Forks EMS/Rescue has never been actually located at the intersection that bore the name Six Forks. Swift Creek VFD has never been all that close to the actual Swift Creek, although it does run through their district. I guess Swift Creek sounded better than 'Macedonia', which was the name of the area where Tryon Rd split into Holly Springs Rd and Apex-Macedonia Rd, and Cary-Macedonia Rd came to. The names of some of the country's EMS/fire/rescue units has always interested me. The one that comes to mind is Frog Level VFD and Frog Level Rescue in Virginia.

DJ - 10/13/06 - 13:37

the term Six Forks derived from the intersection that provided "six different directions" e.g. Six Forks Rd north and south(1&2), Strickland Rd. east and west (3&4), [old]Lead Mine Rd. (5), and Bailywick Rd (6).

pal - 10/15/06 - 12:57

The old fire tower was located just north of the intersection on Six Forks Road. It was relocated to its present location on Howard Road.

Legeros - 10/15/06 - 13:04

Thanks pal. always wondered how Six Forks got it's name.
and Mike is correct. EMS Station 3 was originally a Fire Station
for Six Forks Fire Dept., if my memory seves me correctly.

Jon C - 10/17/06 - 21:41

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/stat..>

...and before that, SFFD was located another mile south on Six Forks Road:

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/stat..>

Legeros - 10/17/06 - 21:46

here is a website that talks about the history of some of Raleigh's roads. I've lived here all my life and reading this site really makes me say,
"Oh yeah, I remember that.". kinda cool.

<http://www.gribblenation.com/wakeco/nwc/..>

pal - 10/18/06 - 08:23

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Detective Work

10/10/06 507 W - + 16 - 14

For a few decades now, those documenting the early history of the Raleigh Fire Department cited 1851 as the last year that hand engines were purchased by the city. The machines were named the Rescue and the Excelsior and two new fire companies took those names. The next new pumping engine cited was the Rescue steam engine, delivered in 1870. The Victor Company, however, still operated a hand engine until the 1890s. An annual report from 1891 identified the hand engine as made by Rumsey, a shortened version of the name Rumsey and Company.

These facts seemed fine for Mike, who started his historical research a few years ago. The last hand engines were purchased in 1851, and one of them was still seemingly used as late as 1891. No problem. Fast-forward to this summer and Mike was again immersed in research. Combing through a newfound cache of local documents, he discovered a reference to a fire in 1871. As an ice house burned, the hand engine of the Mechanics Fire Company No. 2 stopped working. They soon abandoned the engine and dissolved the fire company. It was said to have been left in the street.

Also at this time, Mike found that the Hook and Ladder Company had an earlier truck than the one obtained in 1890. An earlier piece of apparatus was purchased in 1872. Between the failed hand engine, and the replacement hook and ladder truck, Mike started thinking. Would the second 1851 engine really have continued working past 1871, into the 1880s and even into the 1890s? It didn't make sense. Mike had also started searching for images of Rumsey and Company hand engines on the Internet. What he found were considerably larger rigs than the "small engines" described as obtained in 1851.

The next piece of the puzzle was found at [Handtub Junction](#), a web site about hand engines. Rumsey and Company, they note, produced hand engines from 1863-1890. Thus, the Rumsey engine cited in the city's 1891 annual report could not have been built in 1851. With this piece of information, Mike started reading newspapers. If the Mechanics Company 1851 hand engine failed in 1871, it stood to reason that the city's other 1851 hand engine was replaced around the same time. And since Mike was researching the Raleigh Fire Department from 1867 forward, he started that year and worked his way forward.

Glued to a microfilm machine at the Olivia Raney local history library, Mike methodically paged through filmed issues of the *Daily Standard*, the *Daily Sentinel*, and other newspapers. He focused on the "local" section of each paper, watching for mention of fire topics as well as the minutes of the City Commissioners meetings. It was slow going, requiring an hour or two per newspaper year. Plus the time to scan individual articles, which numbered over 250 by the time he was reading issues from 1873. That was today, and that's where he found the following entry in the city minutes recap: "Mr. Clawson, the City Treasurer, instructed to purchase for Victor Fire Company a No. 1 side-stroke hand engine [at a price] not to exceed \$1,500." Mystery solved.

...or not. Subsequent issues of that era's newspapers did not reflect a purchase of a new hand engine for the Victor Company. No news items indicating same, nor any of the customary parades that were conducted when a fire company placed a new piece of equipment in service. Researching forwarding, the following entry appeared in the recap of the city minutes from August of the next year: "[Committee] instructed to inquire into the practicability of obtaining a new hand engine for the Victor [Company]." So... something seemingly happened in 1873 that prevented the ordered purchase. Unfortunately, the remaining 1874 issues don't detail the delivery of a new engine. Worse, one of the dailies of the era is missing most of its issues from the second-part of 1874. Maybe there are clues in the 1875 papers, which will be read next. It never ends.

Legeros - 10/15/06 - 13:53

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

What have been the great fires of the State Fair? Here are a few:

- October 15, 1946** - Raleigh Fire Department responds to 5:06 a.m. alarm. Two lines and 1,110 feet of hose are used.
- October 10, 1958** - Tin cattle barn burns. Workers assist Western Boulevard and Raleigh firefighters. Fueled by 1,500 bales of straw inside the building, blaze takes two hours to control.
- October 13, 1964** - Portable restaurant burns. Located between Dorton Arena and the Red Cross Lounge, the 50 by 100 foot eatery catches fire with around 6:20 p.m. Between 70 and 150 people are in the restaurant when the fire starts. First fire truck arrives at 6:32 p.m. Raleigh, Cary, and Apex respond as mutual aid. Fame of building collapses at 6:45 p.m. Damage is estimated at \$100,000. Fire is watched by thousands of spectators.

Other fires on the grounds, but not during the Fair:

- September 22, 1962** - Three rows of display booths destroyed. Worker at Red Star Oil Company spots blaze in exhibition building. Firefighters, including two Raleigh units, bring blaze under control in less than 20 minutes.
- September 29, 1965** - Concession stands burn. The 4 a.m. fire alarm sweeps through 315-foot stretch of stands. Public address system tower also gutted. Damage to stands is about \$25,000. Three units and 22 volunteer firefighters battle blaze. Raleigh Fire Department also responds with five men and a pumper.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

Station Tours

10/11/06 58 W, 1 I - + 18 - 11

Mike is touring at least one station a day during Fire Prevention Week. Most are Raleigh houses, though a visit was paid to Cary today. Check out that dormitory on Harrison Avenue! Not everything is being photographed, however. He's only shooting what the public is shown... Enjoy your virtual visits.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Apex, Media, Points, Counterpoints10/12/06 87 W - + 17 - 12

Point and counterpoint regarding media photography at the Apex fire, as expressed in a pair of letters to the editor of the *News & Observer*. [Point](#), written by a responder. [Counterpoint](#), written by a photographer. Alas, the letters are more apples to oranges. The first is more broadly directed, while the second is more a defense of a single person. This week's Independent also offers a perspective on the Apex fire and the many issues therein. [Here's that article](#). Discuss at the [Watch Desk](#).

Postscript. The N&O Public Editor summarizes their efforts, though more on the publishing and editorial front: <http://www.newsobserver.com/691/story/49..>

Legeros - 10/15/06 - 07:32

Night Photography / Footman Way

10/13/06 95 W, 1 I - + 16 - 13

Another camera report, this time trying action photography at night. The goal was low blur and high mobility, e.g. no tripod. The kit lens, used first, was wider (nice) but slower (not so nice). Switching to the newer faster lens seemed to help. (Slower lens equals longer exposure equals greater blur if subjects are moving.) ISO was at 1600, highest for the camera. Tried for available light were possible. Shooting into a light source seemed to help. Saved the external flash for building shots, mostly.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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More Yellow

10/13/06 29 W, 1 I - + 20 - 13

Lee continues to parse his archives and presents more yellow rigs from around the state. These are from his [photo site](#):



Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Newly found historical tidbit. On October 11, 1872, the offices of the *Daily Sentinel* newspaper were sabotaged with explosives. The resulting early morning blast also damaged the adjoining Rescue Company engine house. The damaged was recounted in the next day's *Raleigh Daily News*: "The shock from the explosion of the 'Sentinel' office has injured this building much more than was at first supposed. Last evening the building was examined, and we were informed by a judge, that the damage cannot be repaired for \$1,000. No only were the doors, sash and windows smashed and destroyed, but the end walls so cracked and broke that it will be necessary to repair them."

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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The Hook

10/14/06 144 W - + 16 - 17

Regarding Raleigh's volunteer hook and ladder company (circa 1870s), recalls a 1944 historical sketch: "As most of the houses, at that time, were constructed of wood, fire, if not promptly checked, would jump from house to house. To overcome this much work was done [using] the 'hook'. This hook resembled a large grab-hook and to it was attached about fifty feet of chain and a hundred or more feet of rope. The method used to sop the fire from spreading was to throw the hook through a window and then [have] all hands pull the house down. This, however, was seldom done without the consent of the owner. To the keep the owner remind of the willingness of the company, their slogan on a big sign was attacked to the [hand-pulled] truck and was 'SAY THE WORD AND DOWN COMES YOUR HOUSE!'"

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment: / Textile	

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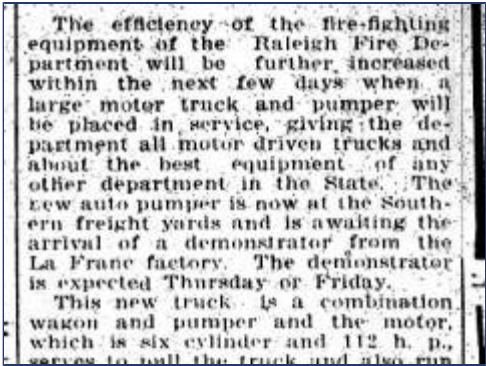
Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

The First Engine One

10/14/06 49 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Saturday is research day and today's library visit yielded this *News & Observer* clipping on the subject of Raleigh's first pumper. Though the first motor hose cars were delivered a year earlier, the first motor pumping engine wasn't placed in service until November 1914. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment: / Textile	

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

High Level Rescue

10/15/06 38 W - + 17 - 7

Those words will rouse you from a Sunday stupor. Western Wake nearly immediately rescinded its request for one aerial each from Raleigh and Cary, after reporting all subjects safely removed from the reportedly malfunctioning ride.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

50-210

10/15/06 57 W, 1 I - + 17 - 21

Here's a neat old truck at 50-210 Fire Department in Johnston County (just down the road from delicious Stephenson's BBQ), a 1967 Chevy van that originally saw service in Garner. Pic is from Lee's [photo site](#), which also has shots of this truck's replacement as well as the new replacement's replacement:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Drink 1

10/16/06 48 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

Speaking of Johnston County, there's also this gem that an Elevation firefighter fixed up. Select a drink and the lights and siren go off. Yee-haw! (But be honest, wouldn't you love to have one yourself?) Again courtesy of Lee's [photo site](#).



This would be great, but only as a Pierce or Seagrave...or maybe a Wheeled Coach.

DJ - 10/16/06 - 13:02

I was with you until "Wheeled Coach"....

Silver - 10/16/06 - 21:11

I was with him until Seagrave :-)

CFP 7021 - 10/16/06 - 21:14

Now if we could just get an audio clip...

Legeros - 10/16/06 - 21:16

So... with it being an E-One it must mean that the [snip]. Free drinks! "Wheeled Coach"??? nice..

Luke - 10/17/06 - 01:20

OK...so I am a paramedic...I like the Wheeled Coaches...and the absolute best fire apparatus I have ever operated, driven, and rode on were two Seagraves and one American LaFrance (Odenton, MD E-283 (1989 Seagrave) and E-281 (1969 Seagrave)) and Yrac E-291 (the 1962 Chevrolet/ALF).

DJ - 10/17/06 - 10:12

Would a fire truck named "Drink 1" have a "waterous" pump?

Jon Olson - 10/17/06 - 22:48

The guy who built that can just about build anything. He built the boxes in the back of smithfield fire chiefs expedition and smfd car 2s expedition. Very talented man.

Adam Brown - 10/18/06 - 17:32

Does it dispense PEPS"E-One"? Can you tell I am enjoying this??

Jon Olson - 10/19/06 - 13:07

Maybe a little too much.....

DJ - 10/19/06 - 23:26

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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The fall issue, arriving now, contains an article by Mike. It's another history piece, a sequel to [last year's feature](#) on old firehouses.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
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Warrenton Fire Station

10/16/06 82 W, 2 I - + 19 - 12

Warrenton has a new fire station and we were sent a couple pics. The \$1.8 million facility is located at 236 South Main Street. Tour the station on Sunday, October 22. The department is celebrating its 50th anniversary that day with a dedication ceremony starting at 3 p.m. There's also a fundraising cocktail party the night before, from 7-10 p.m. Contact Chief Walter Gardner, 252-213-3034, for more info.



Speaking of Warrenton, Lee has posted a couple pics of old Warrenton Rural FD apparatus on his site:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a..>

Legeros - 10/18/06 - 05:00

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Fire Alarms in 1875

10/16/06 143 W - + 14 - 14

That year, the city of Raleigh was divided into four "fire divisions." The first division was north of Hargett and east of Fayetteville and Halifax streets. The second division was south of Hargett and east of Fayetteville streets. The third was west of Fayetteville and south of Hargett streets. The fourth was west of Fayetteville and north of Hargett streets. When a fire was reported, the city bell would chime one tap for the first division, two taps for the second division, and so on. Prior to these divisions, fire alarms were general alarms. Personnel gathered in the Market Square to learn the location of a fire. Unless, that is, there was an obvious red glow in the sky somewhere. Fire alarm boxes were added a decade later in 1888. The box locations were also tapped out on the city bell.

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Station Decorations

10/16/06 39 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

How's your station decorated? Last week's tours around Raleigh/Durham/Cary yielded everything from indoor murals to outdoor ponds. Share your surroundings. What's inside or outside that you're particularly proud of?



Station 25 definitely has the best looking lawn.

pal - 10/17/06 - 08:54

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Cool Greensboro Video

10/19/06 64 W - + 16 - 18

The Greensboro Fire Department has produced this [very cool video](#) showing a day in the life of a firefighter. It's 30 minutes long, a streaming video, and plays best in Internet Explorer. It's reportedly first in a series of segments that will progress all the way to the rank of Chief. It concludes with information for those wanting to join their ranks.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

State Fair EMS

10/19/06 27 W, 1 I - + 18 - 15

And here's the EMS base at the State Fair, at the Gov. James G. Martin Building. Pics coming:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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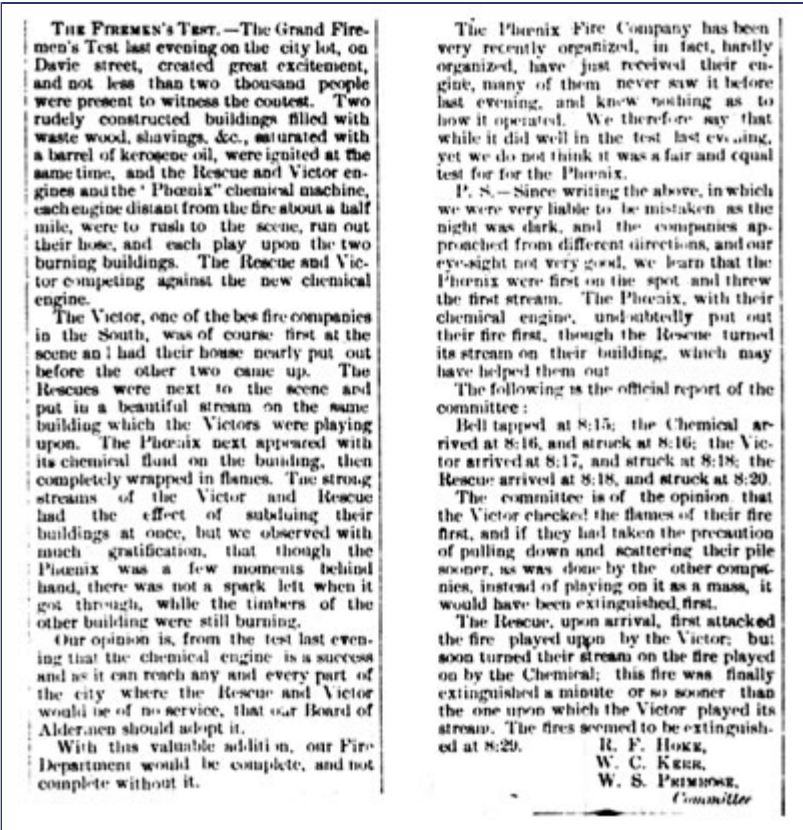
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Firemen's Test

10/19/06 39 W, 1 I - + 18 - 14

From the Raleigh *Observer*, February 11, 1872. The test compared the performance of a newly delivered Phoenix chemical engine to the Victor hand engine and the Rescue steam engine. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

Wake Forest Tower in Action

10/20/06 25 W, 1 I - + 15 - 14

Wake Forest's new tower is pictured at a live burn on Lee's [photo site](#).



Fantastic photos. Great work lee!

Chris - 10/20/06 - 20:42

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Apex Chemical Fire« Wake Forest Tower in ... » Old Asheville Station... (Victims) Site

Apex Chemical Fire (Victims) Site

10/21/06 35 W - + 16 - 16

Speaking of the Apex chemical fire, a found this site from lawyers representing victims of the Apex fire: <http://www.apexchemicalfire.com>. Interesting main page graphic, showing a daylight explosion...

And then there’s this: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DveTV2_Uw..
Legeros - 10/22/06 - 22:07

Such pointed questions they were asking. Putting that education to good use!

Probably one of the funniest ones is when they approached people in the mall with their “new and improved” hair removal device. A nose hair trimmer and a keyboard vacuum.
Luke - 10/23/06 - 00:47

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Old Asheville Station 2

10/21/06 38 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

From a contact in Asheville, here's a picture of old Station 2 on Barlett Street. It was built after 1925, closed in 1975, and demolished by present day. Love the sloping lot.



Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Old Station 6

10/21/06 120 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

Here's another picture of old Station 6 on Fairview Road, recently correctly identified. The fire station occupied the left half of the building. [Period pictures](#) appear to indicate that that section of the building had both a picture window and a bay door. Notice the driveway slope still remains. Station 6 opened at 12:00 p.m. on March 3, 1943. Engine 6 was placed in service with a 1919 American LaFrance pumper. Six men manned the station. By the summer of 1948, the station was closed when the city lost the lease on the building. Engine 6 was temporarily relocated to Station 5. On June 25, 1949 at 3:30 p.m., a dedicated Station 6 opened at its present location. [More information about former firehouses in Raleigh.](#)



Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Wake County Ladders

10/21/06 51 W, 1 I - + 16 - 16

Question regarding Wake County ladder trucks. How many are staffed as strict truck companies? How many are used as quints? Just curious. Left to right, top to bottom: Apex, Apex, Bay Leaf, Fuquay, Garner, Holly Springs, Knightdale, Morrisville, Wake Forest, Wendell, Zebulon.



The first pic for Apex, the 75' stick, is currently a reserve. Rumor has it that it will see service and run as a quint.

The second pic, the tower, is staffed now, but with bare minimum (usually 2) to get it to the scene. In my opinion, not being run as a truck company. Maybe when it gets a crew of 3, and some people get truck ops training, then it will be run as a true truck. One can hope...

Silver - 10/22/06 - 21:07

They had an excellent Fall Fire School in Charlotte this weekend. One of the many classes offered was Truck Company Ops, taught by Mike Dugan, Mike Ciampo (both from FDNY) and Mike Wilson from Charlotte. There were only about 9 people from Wake county there, of that only 2 in the truck company class. So why weren't more there and why weren't you there taking that truck ops class because I know RFD isn't offering any type class?

One of few from Wake County - 10/23/06 - 14:31

See this Watch Desk thread for additional comments: <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/showth..>

Legeros - 10/23/06 - 20:42

Not that I have to justify anything to anyone on this blog; but, I am man enough to give my real name; I was in the mountains on a much needed get away. I am anticipating the next school though, looking forward to it, and plan on attending.

Silver - 10/23/06 - 23:26

^ and once you take that class and become an even better "truckie", you'll just get moved to an engine company at a slow station. seems like that's how it always works.

pal - 10/24/06 - 10:37

True, so true Pal....

Silver - 10/24/06 - 11:34

Does that mean that you should just say screw it then and not strive to be the best in the position that you are in, so that you and your crew can go home? Besides with as short handed as some departments are or just the luck of you being close to a fire when it comes it, then you will have to do truck work. You might have to force the door, because the first due truck company is out on a call, or you just happen to be coming down the same street one day when the dispatch goes out, or you pull up on the eng and there is someone at that second floor window. For that very chance you need to be proficient at throwing ladders and opening up the building. If you say that you learned that stuff in the academy, doesn't mean that you can't get better at it!

GFDLT1 - 10/24/06 - 13:39

Whoever said that? That you don't need to stay educated? All we were saying is that we can take all the truck ops, engine ops, hazmat, etc. classes in the world, and the way some things go, you get transferred off that assignment.

Silver - 10/24/06 - 14:11

Well that just makes you a more educated fireman, cause everyone knows TRUCKIES RULE!!!!!!!

Wayne - 10/26/06 - 18:15

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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Holly Springs Apparatus

10/22/06 23 W - + 16 - 16

Holly Springs is getting a new Pierce platform this spring, we're told, along with their new engine and brush truck.

Does anyone else think that there are enough Ladder companies in the South/Southwest portion of the county? Apex, Cary, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, and soon Holly Springs. Now if only Fairview and Swift Creek would get on board!!

guest - 10/22/06 - 14:28

I'd like to know what the deal is with small communities getting platforms, versus sticks. To me, for residential work, which is the most of what these communities get in "fire work", a stick is a lot better than a platform. Especially for navigating through these small neighborhoods!! Just my opinion.

Would be nice also for these departments to get on the same page, work together, and develop a plan so not every dept. has a platform; spread 'em out, put a few sticks here and there. My opinion #2.

Silver - 10/22/06 - 21:00

Don't give anyone crazy ideas!!

Swiftcreeker - 10/22/06 - 21:01

Jeff you are correct.A good mix of sticks and Towers to get the job done and either one if not on scene could be special called.Here's an idea on any structure fire in the county you get 3 eng's,2 trucks(2nd being a RIT),heavy rescue,2 chiefs(1 for command,1 for safety)and EMS.For a commercial fire add 1 addn'l Eng on the first alarm,and an air& light unit.

Jim Kay - 10/23/06 - 05:55

WHAT? Have a standardized response to calls? You're crazy...

CFP743 - 10/23/06 - 08:04

What about tankers?

Guest - 10/23/06 - 20:50

Set-up "Tanker Task Force's" (is that a word?) throughout the county....

Silver - 10/23/06 - 23:23

just remember that it's a "strike team" in the NIMS terminology, as they are resources of one type and function...

I know it's just a pet peeve, and I do agree that task force sounds better, but albeit not correct

CFP 7021 - 10/24/06 - 18:34

Ok, whatever...

Silver - 10/24/06 - 21:25

What if you add a pumper (or engine) to the 5 tankers for a water point apparatus and manpower? That would make it a strike team (one job, but units of different types), Correct? I think operationally you would want a pumper at the fill point and it makes the term sound better.

Griggs - 10/25/06 - 11:23

actually I think it's still a strike team.... task force would be if you added a police unit, ems unit, etc... pumper and tanker are still ground suppression equipment if I understood it correctly. I may be wrong on that though. I'd have to go back and look through my stuff.

CFP 7021 - 10/25/06 - 11:38

Griggs is correct... Strike Teams are of one particular type of resource, such as 4 Aerial Platforms, or 5 ALS Ambulances. Take those same ambulances and add 2 BLS units to it, and you have a Task Force. These terms do care about type and class of unit. (A typical structure fire response in the City of Raleigh [3E, 1L, 1R, 1BC] is considered a task force for the purposes of NIMS.)

(Or so I was told in my NIMS classes, that Emergency Management taught...)

But for my personal opinion, I think "Task Force" sounds better, too...

Chris - 10/25/06 - 15:37

Me too....

Silver - 10/25/06 - 16:40

Strike Team sounds like some stupid a@@ police term.

GFDLT1 - 10/25/06 - 18:41

Strike Team: A set number of resources of the same kind and type that have an established minimum number of personnel.

Task Force: Any combination of resources assembled to support a specific mission or operational need. All resource elements within a Task Force must have common communications and a designated leader.

Who cares what sounds better as long as I get what I ask for...

ICS Refresher - 10/25/06 - 18:54

Amen ICS; hey Sam, how about a tanker task force that consists of 1 engine company (water point) and 3 tankers? The OIC on the engine will also act as the "Water Supply Officer"?

Silver - 10/26/06 - 04:02

Silver, I have been thinking about 5 tankers, but that is surely open to discussion. I would keep the water point company together; therefore the engine officer would be at the fill site. I think the water supply officer is better suited to be at the dump site/incident site, so I would not expect the water point officer to be the incident Water Supply Officer. I am not saying it won't work, and if you are short on manpower, which we all are at times, it surely is an option, just in my opinion not the best, but not a bad "Plan B".

I agree with "ICS Refresher" from above, lets just standardize on something so we all (responders and ECC) know what we are asking for and what we are getting. I know there is some work being done at some level to make this happen, so lets just hang in there and stay safe.

Griggs - 10/27/06 - 12:20

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
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No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Swift Creek

10/23/06 10 W - + 14 - 16

Swift Creek's annual open house is November 11, 2006, FYI.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Apex Chemical Fire / AFD Site

10/23/06 26 W - + 12 - 22

AFD has posted a detailed account of the chemical fire on their [web site](#), along with photos from Lee and Mike.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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State Fair Totals

10/23/06 90 W - + 13 - 14

Totals for the State Fair Fire Department, operated this year by Western Wake, are as follows: .

EMS	32
Child Locked in Vehicle	1
Equipment Fire	1
Fire Alarm	2
Grill Fire	1
Haz-Mat	1
High Angle Rescue	1
MVA w/Injuries	2
Odor Investigation	2
Smoke Investigation	1
Vehicle Fire	6
Inspections (Food Vendors)	84
Demolition Derbys	4
Fire Watch (Dorton Arena)	10
Fireworks Stand-By	9
Tractor Pulls	4

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

Taking a Turn

10/24/06 35 W, 1 I - + 15 - 22

From the [Firehouse forums](#) comes this YouTube movie from Down Under. We've all heard tales of turns taken too fast, now here's [what it looks it](#):



“They’re putting on a show for us.”

“Well, they don’t just get payed to put fires out.”

Luke - 10/24/06 - 08:43

Check out [kentland33.com](#) to see another crazy turn!!!!

guest - 10/31/06 - 12:19

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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White and Yellow

10/24/06 34 W, 2 I - + 24 - 12

Some [white rigs from the Wilson archives](#), notably Weaverville and Clemmons.



And [still more yellow stuff](#) surfacing as well.



Nags head here on the outer banks still uses yellow trucks. We here in corolla use white with blue stripes. would make a great vacation! lol the Outer Banks is a great place to visit.

Adam Brown - 10/24/06 - 22:52

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Hose 3

10/24/06 70 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Recently found at the State Archives is this picture of Hose Company 3 in front of old Station 3 on East Hargett Street. The truck, a 1912 American LaFrance Type 5 combination chemical and hose car, was one of two delivered to the newly fully-paid RFD. They were the first motorized apparatus. Hose 3 received the unit in 1914, from Hose 2. Click the picture to see a super-sized version.



Too bad someone did not have the foresight in those years to mothball retired apparatus for display today.

Jon Olson - 11/01/06 - 00:31

RFD retained one of its two 1926 LaFrances, thanks goodness. It was restored in the late 1980s by a private citizen with a long affiliation with RFD. The other RFD antiques are a 1906 ALF steamer and a 1950 Mack pumper. One of the remaining retired Mack pumpers will be retained as an antique as well, I've heard.

Legeros - 11/01/06 - 07:40

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Free e-Book

10/25/06 57 W - + 20 - 12

For fans of old newspaper articles, Mike has created a [free electronic book for download](#). *Raleigh Fire Department Newspaper Articles, Volume 1* presents some 100 newspaper clippings from 1867 to 1879. From big fires to small parades, it's all there. The e-book is PDF format and about 20 megs in size. So give it a few minutes to download... Enjoy.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Apex Station 1

10/25/06 34 W - + 22 - 15

...is open as of Monday. Though there's a bit more construction to complete, the downtown station is operational. Just bring something to sit on the floor as the furniture hasn't yet returned.

AFD Station 1 is being staffed with two 24 hour personnel and one 8-5 part-timer during the weekdays. This makes 3 stations staffed 24/7 for AFD... albeit with minimum staffing at this time.

guest - 10/31/06 - 19:38

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Building the Mobile Command Post

10/27/06 28 W - + 21 - 11

As posted to FireNews last night, here's [the story of Raleigh's new field communications unit](#). Text by Mike, photos by Mike and Lee.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Wake Forest Gear?

10/29/06 27 W - + 18 - 16

Question from a reader: Has Wake Forest started changing their gear, per pictures of Chief Swift wearing black G-extreme gear at the live burn?

No. Wake Forest has not began to change gear. The Chief has his own set of black gear, the rest of the dept has either the county GXtream or Morning Pride.

Michael - 10/29/06 - 08:35

However, after some begging from a few of us, he said that we may go to the black gear, along with our black traditional helmets. In my opinion, it looks pretty awesome!!! I hope it happens

Wayne - 10/29/06 - 16:14

Sounds great. Wonder what the odds of wakeforest going to black gear would be since its rumor that chief Swift is allowing it?

Adam Brown - 10/29/06 - 16:56

Adam Brown are you a nimrod, did you not read Wayne's post first?

guest - 10/29/06 - 18:29

Well Guest if you would read what I wrote you would understand what I was asking but no you didn't. which doesnt suprise me being that you didn't post your name, only posted as guest. Wayne stated "he said that we may go to the black gear" I wondered what the odds would be. if the county would allow or what not.

Adam Brown - 10/29/06 - 18:38

the county would have to as Wendell, if I recall correctly, runs black GXtreme gear already, the county only has a certain say in gear... they are not the definite

CFP 7021 - 10/29/06 - 21:04

Wayne, if that happened then you know I'd be jealous!!!

Silver - 10/29/06 - 22:20

The black GXtreme is nice – and the black color not only does not show dirt/age, in Wake County – it's unique.

Jon Olson - 10/29/06 - 22:57

for uniqueness holly springs gets my vote with RED!

http://static.flickr.com/79/263451337_35..

CFP 7021 - 10/29/06 - 23:10

I imagine the black Globe will have the dye come out and turn brown just like our Morning Pride gear that we have and used to have in Garner does when you get in a good fire.

GFDLT1 - 10/30/06 - 12:55

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

State Hospital Fire Station

11/01/06 97 W, 1 I - + 14 - 17

Mike has returned from his belated honeymoon to Asheville and Banner Elk with a few things to share. First is this, the former fire station at Broughton Hospital in Morganton. The structure is circa 1950s. The fire department, which dates to the turn of the century, was dissolved in the 1970s. The fire station occupied at least two prior buildings. Early apparatus included a 1920s American LaFrance triple combination back in the day. There are a couple great old photos and artifacts in the Administration Building lobby.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
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Western NC Former and Historic Firehouses, Part 1

11/01/06 47 W, 8 I - + 10 - 17

Left to right: Asheville Old Station 3 (built 1922), Asheville Old Station 4 (built 1927), Old Biltmore Village (opened 1920s) / Asheville Old Station 5 (opened 1929), Asheville Station 1 (built 1926), Old Biltmore Forest, Old Black Mountain (built 1921), Hickory Old Station 1 (built 1922), Hickory Old Station 3. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Big Noise at Old Fort

11/01/06 120 W, 1 I - + 12 - 10

While passing through Old Fort on Sunday, Mike and the Mrs. stopped at the fire station. Mike took pictures of the old station across the street, while his better half continued her immersion in a book about the Blue Ridge Parkway. After photo-taking, Mike wandered over to the present station to see if anyone was home. The front door was locked, so he went around back. And just then a very loud noise commenced. And continued commencing for several minutes. Expectedly, Mike had a very large time observing FD members arrive, dress, and depart to an MVA. The Missus, however, had quite the fright. But... she's used to it.



I wonder how many Wake Co. depts still use a station siren?

guest - 11/02/06 - 13:28

I have heard the one at Fairview #1 recently. Ah...the memories. You knew who was being dispatched by the 'feedback' of the station siren over the radio right after tones. Durham Highway's was particularly distinct (and loud). Yrac's had the little bells located just over the base radio that caused a lot of noise. Garner's had a relay that you could hear click in when the bay doors went up.

DJ - 11/02/06 - 15:04

Garner Station 1's siren sounded at the start of the Fireman's Day parade this year...

Legeros - 11/02/06 - 18:22

swift creek still uses theirs, or did up until just recently if they don't anymore

the one at YRAC is still up, just not functional anymore.

CFP 7021 - 11/02/06 - 18:55

It was down for a short time during station renovations. The siren is back in service and sounds everytime the pagers are activated.

Swiftcreeker - 11/02/06 - 21:04

Rolesville still has one and it is still in service

Wayne - 11/03/06 - 11:38

Falls Fire Department in Northern Wake County still has a siren on a telephone pole. Is it still in operation?

Guest - 11/09/06 - 23:40

No Falls' siren is out of service. Since everyone has pager nowadays there was no need. Nothing like it though, the saw blade underneath it and the pole that they "borrowed" from an old CP&L lot reminds you of the old times. The pole is flat on one side where they pulled it down Falls of Neuse rd in the 70's to the station.

Rauer ([Email](#)) - 11/10/06 - 07:18

^why don't y'all try and fix it? it would be great to hear that thing again.

pal - 11/12/06 - 18:32

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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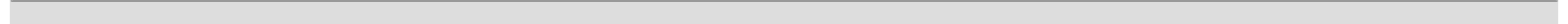
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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - FireNews Forums « Big Noise at Old Fort... » Apex Chemical Fire 91... Expand

FireNews Forums Expand

11/02/06 38 W, 1 I - + 17 - 9

FireNews has added a series of "metro regional" forums to their [bulletin board](#), along with a couple topics to seed the thing. Register (if you haven't) and post away!

Metro Regional Forums				
	Forum	Topics	Replies	Last Post Info
	Asheville/BUNCOMBE BUNCOMBE; Asheville	0	0	-- Inc: ---- By:
	Burlington/Chapel Hill/ALAMANCE/ORANGE ALAMANCE, ORANGE; Burlington, Chapel Hill	1	0	Nov 2 2006, 07:50 AM Inc: » Chapel Hill Halloween By: sfp700
	Camp Lejeune/ONSLOW ONSLOW; Camp Lejeune	0	0	-- Inc: ---- By:
	Charlotte/MECKLENBURG MECKLENBURG; Charlotte	1	0	Nov 2 2006, 07:48 AM Inc: » New Charlotte Tankers By: sfp700
	Concord/Gastonia/Monroe/CABARRUS/GASTON/UNION CABARRUS, GASTON, UNION; Concord, Gastonia, Monroe	0	0	-- Inc: ---- By:
	Durham/DURHAM DURHAM; Durham	0	0	-- Inc: ---- By:
	Fayetteville/CUMBERLAND CUMBERLAND; Fayetteville, Fort Bragg	0	0	-- Inc: ---- By:
	Goldstone/WAYNE WAYNE; Goldstone	0	0	-- Inc: ---- By:

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Apex Chemical Fire 911 Call

11/02/06 22 W - + 15 - 7

A reader passed along [this treat from the WRAL site](#), the originating 911 call from the Apex chemical fire.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Clown Mobile

11/02/06 57 W, 1 I - + 16 - 7

While he was honeymooning last week, Mike had the pleasure of spending an afternoon with Asheville's FD historian. Their transportation was the "clown mobile," a vehicle otherwise utilized for hydrant-painting by rookies. The thing was quite colorful both inside and out, as well as well-perfumed with Eau de Thinner.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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The *Greensboro News & Record* has posted an [excellent Flash-based gallery of photos](#) from yesterday's high school fire in Gibsonville. Here's the [latest news story](#), as well.



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment: / Textile	

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Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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Cary EMS Unit Number Changes

11/02/06 27 W - + 16 - 12

As heard on scanner, Cary Medic units are now EMS 570 units. This corresponds to Cary EMS switching to Wake ECC for dispatching.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Lee Goes West

11/04/06 51 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Lee was also vacationing in western NC last week. He, Mike, and Mrs. Legeros poked around a [railroad tunnel](#) near Altapass, after meeting on Sunday at [The Orchard](#). Check his [photo album](#) for apparatus from Spruce Pine, Swannanoa (below), and other places:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Durham Station 16

11/05/06 25 W, 1 I - + 9 - 13

As noted on [FireNews](#), Durham Station 16 at 6303 Farrington Road opened on October 25. It's designated a USAR station. Engine 16 is now first-due at Southpointe.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Barry's Cafe Rehab Unit

11/05/06 32 W, 1 I - + 15 - 16

Barry's Cafe has placed a rehab unit in service. Pics of the unit and yesterday's dedication ceremony are on [Lee's photo site](#).



what a nice guy, thanks for what you do Barry.

DHFD - 11/07/06 - 23:50

Talk about dedication!! Barry has come through so many times for us when we needed something in our guts after a long incident. Always a welcomed sight. Thanks for everything.

Silver - 11/08/06 - 10:37

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Bean Town

11/06/06 40 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

Mike is presently in Boston for business. By convenient coincidence, his hotel is directly across the street from BFD headquarters. Engine, Ladder, Rescue, Tech Rescue, and a Chief's car. Life is good.



Just to clarify, this is headquarters for Division 1, Deputy Chief. Fire Headquarters is on Washington St.

Gull - 11/06/06 - 21:21

Im sure Mike will come back with some great pictures from Bean town! Would love to see them when posted

Adam Brown - 11/06/06 - 22:24

Hey Mike, I find it funny how it is such a "coincidence" that your hotel is right across the street. Ha!

pal - 11/07/06 - 19:09

Alas, my window faces a different direction, so when the whole house rolls on an alarm, I only hear it, but don't get to watch it. Talk about cruel. The hotel is brand new, so the fire alarm goes off every so often. The engines down here, by the tunnel, have roof monitors. Pretty cool.

Legeros - 11/08/06 - 14:29

Posted a few pics to my photo site...

Legeros - 11/11/06 - 10:51

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

High Angle Rescue Training on Saturday

11/08/06 49 W - + 15 - 13

Cast your eyes upward on Saturday. From the [city's web site](#): "The City of Raleigh Fire Department 's tactical rescue team will be conducting high-angle rescue training on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 1 p.m. at the First Union Tower at 150 Fayetteville Street in downtown."

And it ended up as an N&O story: <http://www.newsobserver.com/102/story/50..>

Legeros - 11/12/06 - 16:53

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Harris Plant Getting New Sirens

11/10/06 31 W - + 21 - 9

Speaking of sirens, most of the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant warning sirens are getting replaced, says [this News & Observer story](#). There are 81 (!) of the things.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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This Morning's Fire

11/10/06 27 W, 1 I - + 10 - 12

Six units burned this morning. Here's the [WRAL story](#). Engine 20 first due, about 2:30 a.m. Two alarms, and including the new Field Comm unit.



what units responded?

guest - 11/10/06 - 11:56

1st ALM: E20 E2 E8 L20 R14 BC3 EMS8
Working Fire: C5 SR5 BC4 EMS203
2nd ALM: E1 E5 E13 L1R1 SAFETY1
S/C: EMS13 EMS1 EMS4 C198 E6 FIELD-COMM-1
CFP 7021 - 11/10/06 - 14:11

What id L1R1, is it a misprint for L1 or is there now a R1?

fireone - 11/10/06 - 21:53

L1 and R7. just a typo.

[Lee] - 11/11/06 - 02:01

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

New Hope is Fifty

11/11/06 97 W, 1 I - + 16 - 5

The [Wake New Hope Volunteer Fire Department](#) turned fifty this fall. They were chartered on September 11, 1956. Their first pumper was a GMC / _____ purchased after two years of fundraising. Their first fire station was part of a building at the northeast corner of Louisburg and (then) New Hope Road, directly across the street from the lot where their new station was soon constructed. They were the second rural department of the 1950s created "outside" of a municipality, after Six Forks but ahead of Western Boulevard and Stony Hill.



Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Driver Training in London

11/11/06 35 W, 1 I - + 18 - 11

Stumbled across [this interesting thing](#). Driver training (though obviously not pump training) in the London Fire Brigade begins with box vans, before actual fire apparatus!



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Heard on Scanner

11/11/06 20 W - + 12 - 10

"Engine 11, your hydrant's going to be in front of Doralene's house." Now *that* is knowing your territory!

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/
[Textile](#)

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Hide email:

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Watch That First Step, Doc!

11/12/06 29 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

Lee has [posted his photos](#) of yesterday's high-level rescue training. And here's the [N&O story](#) about same.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Fire Alarm, 1884

11/14/06 105 W - + 13 - 9

From the *News & Observer* on July 13, 1884, in their typically punchy tone of the time: "An alarm of fire at 8:15 yesterday evening gave every boy in town an opportunity to scream fire, and these opportunities were eagerly grasped and diligently improved without exception. A slight fire in a kitchen back of the Prairie building on Wilmington street was the occasion of the racket. This was put out by the neighbors, however, so quickly that the 'musheens' did not have a chance to damage anything with their water, though they were ready for action more promptly even than usual. The damage by fire was inconsiderable."

Also, kitchens were typically detached structures, making those fires less damaging when they occurred. Detached kitchens reduced the risk of fires and kept the main structure free of cooking heat and odors.

Legeros - 11/14/06 - 07:15

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email:

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Asheville Former Firehouses

11/14/06 16 W - + 16 - 10

Mike's recent tour of old Asheville engine houses has been [posted to FireNews](#).

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Mutual Aid, 1885

11/14/06 175 W - + 17 - 7

From the *News & Observer* on March 26, 1885, quoting the Henderson *Gold Leaf* account of their largest fire since 1870: "Our task in connection with detailing the events at the fire would not be complete without alluding to the very commendable action of Maj. John C. Winder, general manager of the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad, and the fire department of Raleigh. As soon as the fire and probable extent of it became known in Raleigh, two companies loaded their apparatus on a flat car, and by order of Maj. Winder an engine was fired up and a special train by which this branch of the Raleigh fire department could have been run to Henderson in a very short time was held in readiness, subject to the demand of Mayor Cooper. Such action was commendable indeed, and while their services were not called for, on account of the inefficiency of the water supply, etc., the people of Henderson feel a deep sense of gratitude to Maj. Winder and the Raleigh fire department for their prompt and kind action."

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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WTVD Story

11/15/06 30 W - + 16 - 9

For those who haven't seen same, here's yesterday's [WTVD story on fire departments](#), fire insurance rates, and (gasp!) the relationship therein. You can also discuss on [their forums](#).

The media makes it seem so easy to make our departments 10x better! All we have to do is request more money from the county commissioners and just like that, our insurance rating drops 2 points ... I wish I had known it was that easy. I bet if we ask the commissioners for a hydrant too, they can just plop one of those in the ground for us on every street corner.

In all seriousness though, we're in a losing battle with the media. We can't please anyone until they find that \$600 for fire insurance wasn't that big of a deal when their home is saved.

By the way, their information on insurance ratings is a little bit behind the times (Hipex, Dutchville, Alert, Ten Ten, Furina, Wakette, Wakelon, and all the rural stations).

WC Volunteer - 11/16/06 - 11:34

The insurance info shows insurance district names, not fire department names. But, either way, some of them were still outdated.

Guest - 11/16/06 - 16:54

From the last time I saw a Wake County ISO district map, each of these names was still recognized as an insurance district. Wouldn't ALERT have made more sense than Eastern Wake?? You are what you are...

Old Guest - 11/20/06 - 01:25

Being that we are in EASTERN WAKE COUNTY the name just makes since, there are SEVERAL fire depts in NC that have different insurance names than their dept names, but hey there are what they are.....

Beach - 11/20/06 - 02:10

The reason that some rural fire insurance districts have different names than nearby municipal fire insurance districts is that two fire insurance districts could not have the same name.

So, back in the day in Zebulon, the municipal fire insurance district was named Zebulon. This district was protected by the Zebulon (Municipal) Fire Department, which was organized in the 1920s. When the Zebulon Rural Fire Department was organized in the 1950s, their fire insurance district was named Wakelon. The name is presumably a blend of Zebulon and Wakefield, the name of the nearby community.

The Apex rural district was named Hipex.

The Fuquay-Varina rural district was named Furina.

The Garner rural district was named, if I recall, St. Mary's.

The Holly Springs rural district was named, gasp, Holly Springs Rural. This is because Holly Springs Rural preceded Holly Springs Municipal. In the 1990s, when a Holly Springs municipal district was created, it was likely simply named Holly Springs. Same thing for Morrisville.

The Knightdale rural district was named Alert.

The Wake Forest rural district was named Wakette.

The Wendell district was named Wendell-Holmes.

Western Wake's district was a merger of Fairgrounds and Yrac, with Yrac a reverse spelling of Cary.

Bay Leaf operates as a merger of themselves and Six Forks, though the Six Forks fire insurance district appears still on the maps.

Stony Hill was originally named Stoney Hill, and the insurance district retains the original spelling.

Fairview was originally named Ten Ten, after Ten Ten Road, and the insurance district retains the original name.

Wake-New Hope was named as such as there were other New Hope Fire Departments in the state. Incorporation years, from the Secretary of State web site: 1953 (Gaston?), 1956 (Wayne County), 1956 (Wake County), 1973 (Orange County), 1976 (Randolph County).

These separate municipal and rural districts are the reasons that so many volunteer fire departments that served or were based in municipalities had "city trucks" and "rural trucks." The town would purchase fire equipment that could be used within the city limits. The volunteers would raise money and purchase fire equipment that could be used both inside and out. Some times these two departments shared the same stations. Some times they had separate stations. There were usually two rosters, two chiefs, etc.

Legeros - 11/20/06 - 07:46

The point is ... the insurance ratings do not show current information.

WC Volunteer - 11/20/06 - 08:54

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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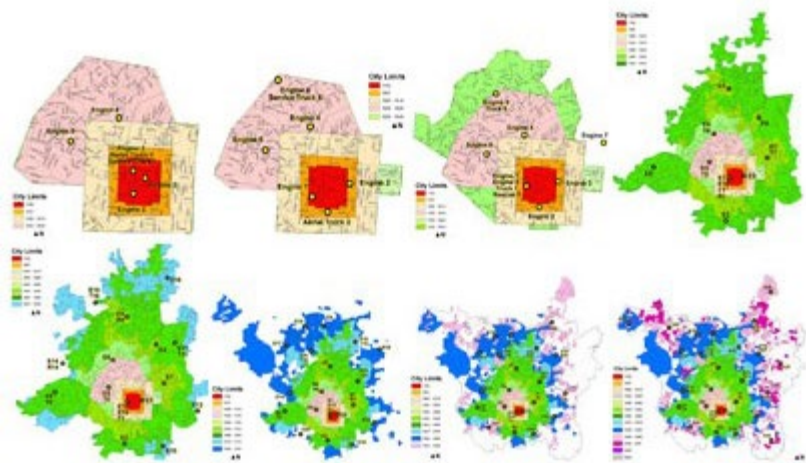
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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City Limits Over Time

11/15/06 37 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Here's a [PDF document](#) showing the evolution of Raleigh's city limits, and the fire stations therein, from 1900 to 2003. These are also available from the [RFD history timelines](#).



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
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No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Watch Desk Thread / Western Wake Station Closing

11/15/06 44 W - + 18 - 12

[Interesting thread at the Watch Desk](#) on the subject of closing Western Wake Station 2. We have no information to report at this time, though tomorrow night's [Fire Commission meeting](#) should present some public information. Watch this space.

Knightdale's Live Burn

11/15/06 34 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Knightdale Public Safety burned a building at 1408 Hodge Road yesterday. [Pics from Lee](#) posted. Also, their Pierce pumper is due in December. It'll be Engine 134.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Old Photos From Western NC

11/16/06 39 W - + 13 - 6

The local copy of [Then & Now #2](#) has been updated with a few new old pictures of the Asheville Fire Department and the newly added State Hospital Fire Department, now named Broughton Hospital, in Morganton.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Chapel Hill's New Platform

11/16/06 26 W, 1 I - + 17 - 10

From a reader, here's Chapel Hill's new platform from KME. Should be picked up next week.



Nice looking rig. What kind of staffing will Chapel Hill have on it?

Silver - 11/17/06 - 11:34

WRONG COLOR!

NCSU - 11/17/06 - 11:43

You both have wrong colors!! I think that Chapel Hill has an academy going on right not to staff a new station, it's possible this truck may go there, I'm not sure on that but it would make since.

Duke - 11/17/06 - 17:23

It is a replacement for their current ladder truck.

Chapel Hill is in the process of hiring 12 as part of the SAFER grant.

CFP 7021 - 11/17/06 - 17:52

Definitely the wrong color, not even NC State Red would do. Don't think that I could ride a Blue firetruck No matter what department. Maybe solid Black with a 6 inch gold stripe!!

GO DEACS ([Email](#)) - 11/17/06 - 19:13

With that said... why doesn't W-S have any Black/Gold trucks?! I guess that's a positive note for their admin, they realize that a Black/Gold (Wake Forest colored) truck would be just plain fugly! :-)

Luke - 11/17/06 - 21:30

This truck is replacing the current platform the are using, with it going to reserve status, the guys in the academy right now Im not sure where they are going. wether they are replacement people or new staff. The 12 with the safer grant are going to help add another guy to each crew. being that right now they only run 3 man crews.

Adam - 11/18/06 - 09:49

We will be replacing the current ladder tower and using the SAFER people to boost all staffing to Five assigned, Four minimum with 8 assigned to Station 3 (Truck and Squad station with 5 on Truck and 3 on Squad)

Sasser ([Email](#)) - 11/18/06 - 10:08

For those interested, our hiring process is going on now with academy starting in Feburary. Great benefits and Beautiful Carolina Blue Trucks! (you guys are just jealous)

Sasser ([Email](#)) - 11/18/06 - 10:10

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

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One of the agenda items at last night's Wake County Fire Commission meeting was "Report on Evaluation and Application of Fire Commission's Closure Criteria - Western Wake Fire Station 2." The report, however, was NOT presented. Officials returning from Western Wake, where the presentation was also made that evening to their Board of Directors, related that the Board (a.) had quite a few questions about the data contained in the report and (b.) requested that the report not be presented to the Fire Commission until those data questions had been addressed. Thus we have no report data nor report recommendations to share at this time. However, here's some context around the issue of station closings.

Station locations have been an issue for examination since 1994, when a comprehensive county fire service study was released. That study recommended station closures. Ongoing municipal annexations, a 2003 Fire/EMS Capital Facility and Equipment Study, and the Fire Commission's adopted Long Range Business Plan have continued to compel the evaluation of station locations. To address the issue of station closures, the Fire Commission's Facility Committee developed a station closure criteria. This criteria was adopted by the Fire Commission on July 15, 2004. Basically, the criteria recommends CONSIDERATION of a station closure proposal if either (a.) there's a measurably better service at the same cost or (b.) if the same service can be provided at less cost. Observe that reduced service is not an option. And, as expected, measurements of service include staff levels, response time, and ISO grade.

The next regularly scheduled Fire Commission meeting is January 18, 2007.

The historical perspective on station closings due to municipal annexation impact include:

Six Forks Road (later just Six Forks, later merged with Bay Leaf), opened in 1956, moved farther north in 1962, and moved even farther north and west in 1974

Western Boulevard, opened in 1957, closed in 1960, and reformed as Fairground (later Fairgrounds, later merged with Yrac to form Western Wake) in 1961.

Durham Highway, opened in 1965, and moved north and west in the 1980s. They opened Station 2 in 1976, then closed Station 1 in the 1980s. They opened the present Station 1 in 1992. In 2000, Raleigh Station 23 opened at the Station 2 location.

Legeros - 11/17/06 - 08:14

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Chasing Cary

11/17/06 66 W - + 11 - 17

Followed Cary Ladder 1 early this afternoon to a structure fire on Redgate Drive. Small fire, engine and truck remained on scene. Thank goodness for the Western Wake auto aid, as Cary seemingly doesn't include map book numbers any more. Couldn't tell the street name from the human voice. Wrengate? Westgate? Retgate? Locution wasn't much help on pronunction, either, but the map number was magic.

To the best of my knowlage, Cary has never given map page numbers on dispatch. They have MDT's (Mobile Data Terminals) on all their trucks with Map Proviever and Dispatch info. They do not need map numbers given to them on dispatch when the computer gives them all the info needed on disptach. They even have hydrant locations by address in the computers.

I don't know what is going to happen to auto aid now that Western Wake Station 2 is closing. I guess Cary can't give them enough call volume to keep that station alive anymore. With closest station dispatch, I guess Swift Creek, Apex, and Morrisville will have to fill the void.

FireDog ([Email](#)) - 11/20/06 - 00:50

There has been no decision made to close Western Wake Station 2. Such a decision would be made, I believe, by the department's Board of Directors. There has been no decision made to discontinue county funding of Western Wake Station 2. Such a decision would be made by the County Commissioners.

There HAS been a report created to examine the issue. The report has NOT yet been presented to the Fire Commission, the group that would pass recommendations to the County Commissioners. The first version of the report was presented to the Western Wake Board of Directors. Based on data questions about the report, it is being withheld from the Fire Commission until those data questions are resolved.

Legeros - 11/20/06 - 07:52

That said, it has been long-speculated that Western Wake Station 2 would close someday, and perhaps sooner than later. Cary has annexation plans for the district, I believe, but those plans are a few years away.

Legeros - 11/20/06 - 07:55

Just saw the recent pics from the small fire they had, an I got a question What does cary use there "Truck companys" for? I'm not talking about the Ladders but rather the ones from the look of it is like a heavy rescue.

guest ([Email](#)) - 11/21/06 - 14:38

they are used as truck companies on calls carrying high angle rescue equipment, ground ladders, TIC's and salvage equipment. They also carry the mobile air compressors and fill stations. They respond to residential fire alarms and gas leaks v. an aerial, and any fuel spill/haz mat call. An aerial responds with the engine to commercial gas leaks and fire alarms.

However if there is a call where an aerial is much closer than one of the trucks then the aerial will normally take the call.

For a structure fire call you get:

- 2 Engines
- 1 Ladder
- 1 Truck
- 1 Rescue
- 1 Auto Aid Engine
- 2 Batt Chiefs

A good working fire could bring another engine, truck, ladder or rescue as deemed by the IC. The layout for 2nd and 3rd alarms is still being worked on.

The trucks and ladders are interchangeable once on-scene as far as fire ground operations go. They also run the EMS calls out of the stations

they are assigned to.

Staffing is:

- 1 Lieutenant
- 1 Engineer
- 1 Master Firefighter
- 1 Firefighter

and minimum is 3 personnel.

The new Truck 7 that is still in the spec process will also have a full compliment of vehicle extrication tools and equipment on it, and will have the ability to function as a rescue if needed.

CFP 7021 - 11/21/06 - 15:36

Nice looking rigs, wish RFD would get a few and call them rescues.

Guest - 11/21/06 - 17:22

Two such rigs from Pierce have been ordered and are due in some months, and will replace Rescue 14 and Rescue 19.

Raleigh operated service truck companies for several decades: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/a..>

Legeros - 11/21/06 - 17:35

CFP 7021 thanks for the info really cleared things up and hey mike any word on Raleigh fully staffing there Rescues or still gonna stick with the two man company?

Guest from your city to the West. ([Email](#)) - 11/21/06 - 22:28

Unfortunately, looks like for now we'll stick with 2 man companies....

Silver - 11/21/06 - 23:33

^I've been trying to tell you that for a while now!

pal - 11/22/06 - 10:17

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One Sweet Ride

11/18/06 66 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

This 1974 Caddy appeared in today's traditional pre-Thanksgiving Christmas parade as part of the Wake EMS procession. The former Raleigh Ambulance Service unit is a gem both inside and out, as a certain photographer can attest. (Mike hitched a ride to the staging area.) First served at a funeral home in Wake Forest, correct? Going in style, indeed.



If memory serves, it was used by Bright Funeral Home. I even saw it on a few 9-1-1 calls with or without Wake Forest Rescue. There was another funeral home in Wake Forest, Lewis, that provided an older version to the rescue squad. It was a '65 or '67. The only other rescue squad owned coach that I remember was a mid-50's Pontiac used by Apex Rescue. There were, however, big cars used in Johnston County. Selma had an early 60's cadillac that then went to Micro in the mid 70's. Smithfield (then Johnston County Civil Defense Rescue Service) also used a mid 70's Pontiac (a raised roof version). Johnston Memorial Hospital operated it's own ambulances for years, as well. They had a high-top Cadillac and a high-top Pontiac. Johnston Ambulance got the Cadillac, which has since been sold. The first owner of the old Mid-South Ambulance got the Pontiac.

There were also several of the cars used in Raleigh and elsewhere in Wake County as ambulances. Apex Funeral Home had a white Oldsmobile, Bright Funeral Home had their white Caddys, and Screws & Hudson Funeral Home in Zebulon had one, I believe. Beacon Ambulance (WCEMS' predecessor had several Pontiacs, Cadillacs, and Oldsmobiles) that they ran emergency calls with. Some had raised roofs, others were like the one pictured above.

Beacon changed their name to Medical Transport Service, and they also operated Pontiacs (2), a Cadillac (1), and an Oldsmobile (1). Gray Funeral Home also operated several cars, including a 1969 Cadillac, a 1972 Cadillac, a 1973 Cadillac, and a 1969 Pontiac. There was also another ambulance service that operated around Wendell and Zebulon that operated a mid-60's Cadillac, I just cannot remember the name.

DJ - 11/24/06 - 16:44

Parkwood also operated a Cadillac that they purchased from a fire department in Pennsylvania, I thin k.

DJ - 11/24/06 - 16:44

Does anyone know where there are some photos of the old Cadillacs,That were ran in & around Wake County?

chris - 11/25/06 - 06:52

Many Colors

11/19/06 47 W, 1 I - + 15 - 17

Lee continues to populate his [photo site](#) with archive photos of non-red rigs. Some of the more interesting examples, left to right, top to bottom: Pope AFB, Fort Bragg, Morehead City, Spivy's Corner, Middlesex, Elizabethtown, Foscoe, Bailey, and Bahama.



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Spam

11/19/06 239 W - + 17 - 9

How's the Spam Factor (SF), you ask, for someone whose had his name and e-mail address plastered across the internet for years? When "mike at legeros dot com" debuted in the late 1990s, spam was rare or maybe unheard of. Mike's address was direct linked from his web pages, all of them. It also accompanied all of his USENET postings, primarily [thrice-a-week movie reviews](#), his major pastime for several years. (For years, each week brought new questions about old movies. Now, each week brings new questions about fire engines or [fire toys](#).)

Spam started increasing, then really increased, until a few years ago, the above address was being flooded. Dozens of messages on a daily basis. Filtering was tried but finally abandoned in favor of an all new address, "mikey at legeros dot com." Direct links to the new address were removed and a web page created that spelled the thing in text. Until a year or so ago, an automatic reply to anyone sending mail to the old address. This was itself problematic, however, as Spam is often sent from valid HIJACKED addresses. Thus, Mike was adding to the problem. Presently, mail to Mike's old address just disappears. And how much junk mail is that? Hundreds of messages per HOUR.

As for the "mikey" address, spam is appearing at a rate of about a dozen messages a day. When it gets worse, Mike's address will change again.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Comment:

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Camera Update

11/19/06 136 W - + 14 - 10

How's the new camera working out? Two things are particularly confounding these days. First, remembering to set the ISO. Too many day shots are accidentally shot at 800 or 1600 ISO. Just need a sticker on the back of the camera for that. Second and more problematic are too many slightly tilted shots. User error? Misaligned sensor? Haven't fully investigated that one just yet. Let's see... processing time takes forever and then some. Shooting in RAW has so many advantages, EXCEPT for the torturously long time it takes the Canon DPP software to process and export a couple hundred images, which is typical for what Mike shoots. Canon RAW files are also very large, so they're reviewed and deleted using IrfanView (excellent image viewer) prior to transferring from the memory card. Otherwise, so far so good.

Name: (real name preferred)
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
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No

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Northern Wake Fire Department?

11/20/06 102 W - + 9 - 16

Speaking of insurance districts and station closings, will we ever see a Northern Wake Fire Department? Say, consolidating two or more of the northern departments (Bay Leaf, Durham Highway, Falls, Stony Hill)? Though a tempting speculation, there's a difference. When Yrac and Fairgrounds merged to form Western Wake, those original names were not community names. Same for Eastern Wake, which was the Knightdale Fire Department with municipal coverage subtracted. Bay Leaf, Falls, and Stony Hall are community names, and thus the corresponding department might be reluctant to rename themselves. There was a Northern Wake Rescue years ago, however.

Instead of merging fire depts and changing names, I would like to see Wake County take over all of the county departments, kinda like New Hanover County. A down side to that would be that the paid guys could be assigned any where in Wake County at any time. An upside would be county benefits and job security.

A Paid Guy - 11/21/06 - 23:59

Interestingly and not coincidentally, Bay Leaf was created as an offshoot of Stony Hill. A couple years, Durham Highway was seeded with members of Bay Leaf.

Legeros - 11/22/06 - 08:21

I agree with a paid guy. The county should run all fire protection ion unincorporated areas, areas that are surrounded by municipal services should be contracted with that municipality

Batt Chief 13 - 11/23/06 - 21:23

I too, agree with "paid guy". See P.G. County, MD.....

Silver - 11/24/06 - 01:05

Northern Wake Rescue was actually a developement of the Wake Forest Rescue Squad. Some time after they established a station in Rolesville, it became Northern Wake. Not sure of the timeline, though.

DJ - 11/24/06 - 16:33

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Web Site: (optional)

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All Wake County Fire Departments, Past and Present	11/21/06 189 W - + 13 - 12
<hr/>	
<p>Here's a list, hopefully complete, of all fire departments that have ever operated in Wake County. Note that it EXCLUDES early fire companies in Raleigh and commercial or institutional fire brigades (State College, St. Augustine's School, some of the railroads, Harris Plant, etc.). There are also a couple forestry agencies not listed (NC Div of Forest Resources, Umstead State Park, Falls State Park).</p>	
<p>Apex (municipal)</p>	
<p>Apex Rural</p>	
<p>Army National Guard (at RDU)</p>	
<p>Bay Leaf</p>	
<p>Cary (municipal)</p>	
<p>Cary Rural</p>	
<p>Durham Highway</p>	
<p>Eastern Wake</p>	
<p>Fairground (later plural)</p>	
<p>Fairgrounds</p>	
<p>Fairview</p>	
<p>Falls</p>	
<p>Fuquay-Varina (municipal)</p>	
<p>Fuquay-Varina Rural</p>	
<p>Garner (municipal)</p>	
<p>Garner Rural</p>	
<p>Holly Springs Public Safety</p>	
<p>Holly Springs Rural</p>	
<p>Hopkins</p>	
<p>Knightdale (municipal)</p>	
<p>Knightdale Public Safety</p>	
<p>Knightdale Rural</p>	
<p>Morrisville (municipal)</p>	
<p>Morrisville Rural</p>	
<p>New Hope</p>	
<p>Raleigh</p>	
<p>Raleigh-Durham Airport</p>	
<p>Raleigh-Durham Army Airfield</p>	
<p>Raleigh-Durham International Airport</p>	
<p>Rolesville</p>	
<p>Six Forks</p>	
<p>Six Forks Road (changed to Six Forks)</p>	
<p>Stoney Hill (spelling later changed)</p>	
<p>Stony Hill</p>	
<p>Swift Creek</p>	
<p>Ten Ten (renamed Fairview)</p>	
<p>Wake Forest</p>	
<p>Wake Forest #2 (second department, protected minority section of town)</p>	
<p>Wake Forest Rural</p>	
<p>Wake-New Hope (legal name)</p>	
<p>Wendell (municipal)</p>	
<p>Wendell-Holmes (rural department)</p>	
<p>Western Boulevard</p>	
<p>Western Wake</p>	

Yrac
Zebulon (municipal)
Zebulon Rural

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
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No

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Funeral Procession For Raleigh Mayor, 1882

11/21/06 144 W - + 16 - 19

After an illness of three weeks, Raleigh Mayor Basil C. Manly died on May 15, 1882. His funeral procession started at the south gate of the Capitol Square. The procession moved down Morgan Street to Wilmington Street, up Wilmington Street to Lane Street, down Lane Street to Blount Street, down Blount Street to Edenton Street, up Edenton Street to Christ Church, and from Christ Church up New Bern Avenue and Blount Street to the cemetery. The procession consisted of:

- Police
- Music
- Raleigh Light Infantry (Escort)
- Members of Manly's Battery and Ex-Confederate Soldiers
- Clergy and Surgeons
- Masons
- Board of Aldermen and City Officials
- Governor and State Officers
- County Officers
- Officers of the Federal Government
- Ex-Federal Officers and Soldiers
- Hook and Ladder Company
- Rescue Fire Company
- Chemical Fire Company
- Victor Fire Company
- Bucket and Ladder Company
- Companies A and F, Fourth Battalion
- Citizens

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
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How Not To Deep Fry a Turkey

11/22/06 60 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

From the News & Observer site, here's a [stunning video](#) of the Cary Fire Department demonstrating the wrong way to deep fry a turkey. Cited mistakes include (a.) overfilling the pot, (b.) heating the oil too quickly, (c.) turkey left partially frozen, and (d.) the turkey is wet.



If i am mistaken thee not even UL approved b/c they are so dangerous...

chris - 11/24/06 - 18:05

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

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Wake County in 2016?

11/22/06 592 W - + 9 - 9

What will the county and the fire protection therein look like in, say, twenty years? Looking at these [county fire service maps](#), a couple predictions come to mind. First, municipal expansion will continue (duh), and from both inside and outside Wake County. Such as Durham creeping eastward. Will every square-inch of land be annexed by someone or someone else within 20 years? Doubt that. Thus, rural districts will remain, and probably in the greatest number from the northeast to the southwest. Second, donut holes will probably still be a problem. So let's throw that into our prognostication engine. Third, stations will open, close, and merge as they always have. Fourth, with each new generation of firefighters and fire chiefs, the traditional resistance to change will change for the better.

So where does that leave us, looking a double decade forward?

North of Raleigh and west of Wake Forest, one or more of the private departments will still be around. Most likely still around? Bay Leaf or Stony Hill. Least likely? Falls. On the northeast side of the county, Wake Forest and Rolesville will handle handle. And maybe with Franklin County encroaching from the north. Due east, and outside Raleigh and Rolesville, there'll remain another good-sized chunk of unincorporated area. Again, probably one or more private departments will still be around. There's also the [Little River Reservoir](#) planned north (or is it north east?) of Wendell that could shake things up, if developed as prime residential property. It'll also split some territory, require new resource arrangements on each side of the thing. (Estimated completion is 2025, so it'll be some years out...)

East of Garner, southeast of Raleigh, and south of Knightdale / Wendell / Zebulon, there's another area that will need protection. Eastern Wake will probably be around for a while. There are also potential wildcards with GFD and WFD. Both are private-run departments. If either town elects to run those FDs themselves, the options would be limited to (a.) department fully merges into town, (b.) department partially merges into town, and (c.) department doesn't merge into town and operates independently, while town creates its own, second department.

South of Garner and east of Fuquay will be another unincorporated area of probably reasonably good size. Will Johnston County creep into the picture from the east? South of Raleigh but north of Fuquay, and east of Cary, and west of Garner, is probably a shrinking mass. Will both Swift Creek and Fairview have territory in 20 years, or perhaps have merged?

West of Fuquay and southwest of Holly Springs will stay protected by those towns. Anything around the nuclear plant will probably stay rural, e.g. not annexed. Especially if the plant expands. Due west of Apex and west of Cary will undoubtedly be annexed and stay protected by those towns. North of Cary, any remaining rural areas will be protected by Morrisville. West of Raleigh but east of Cary, contract fire protection for donut holes is probably more likely than anything else. Then again, maybe Western Wake will still be around in 20 years.

So, outside of municipalities, it's a safe prediction that rural FDs will remain in northern Wake, northeastern Wake, southeastern Wake, and mid-southern Wake. Or perhaps the FDs will exist as a single county entity. If the latter, resources could be deployed with greater flexibility. Such as combination stations, where a municipality and WCFD share a facility. Or roaming manpower units, that respond to working fires with a handful of paid personnel.

Indeed, a future so bright you had better wear shades!

There is talk about EW to get another station on the south side of there district just a rocks throw away from the JC line to cover some of the no man's land. I believe Garner is has plans as well.

Guest - 11/24/06 - 13:00

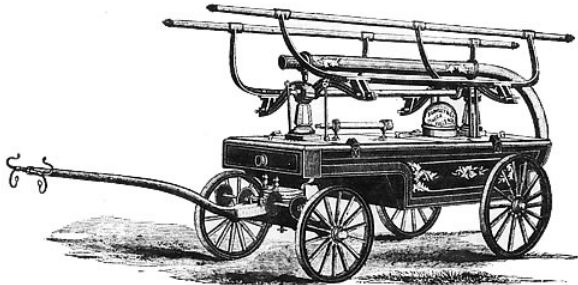
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Hand Engine Proficiency

11/24/06 111 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

How quickly could hand engines be put to work, back in the day? From an 1883 newspaper account: "The Victor with twelve men at the engine made a run of 470 yards [a quarter mile], laid 300 feet of hose and had a stream of water on the imaginary fire in five minutes. The engine started from the intersection of West Martin and South Salisbury streets at 7:34:30 p.m. At 7:36:30 the hose reel reached the cistern at the intersection of West Lenoir and South Salisbury streets; at 7:37:00, 300 feet of hose had been laid and the nozzle attached; at 7:38:00 the engine arrived, and at 7:39:30 had a stream of water upon the fire."



Name: (real name preferred)
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Raleigh and Wake Apparatus - Where Did They End Up?

11/25/06 253 W - + 16 - 15

Where have Raleigh and Wake apparatus ended up over the years and decades, after leaving here? To start this thread...

- Cary's 1988 Pierce platform went to Buies Creek FD.
- Durham Highway's first fire engine, an old "deuce and a half", subsequently served as one of Falls first units, then went to Brassfield FD in Granville County.
- Garner's first fire engine, a 1940s mini-pumper from Durham, went to Harrells FD in Sampson County.
- Garner's second squad, a 1967 Chevy van, went to 50-210 FD in Johnston County.
- Garner's 1961 Chevy tanker was one of Hopkins first units.
- Holly Springs 1990s bucket truck conversion, from CP&L, went to Swepsonville FD.
- Knightdale's first pumper, a 1942 GMC, went to Bear Pond FD in Vance County.
- Knightdale's first ladder, a 1991 E-One, went to Selma.
- Raleigh's first rescue, a 1954 GMC panel, went to Zebulon Rescue, then Hopkins FD.
- Raleigh's 1957 FWD pumper was bought by Knightdale Tractor, then loaned to Hopkins FD as their first pumper.
- Raleigh's 1975 Chevy rescue went to RPD. One of Raleigh's two 1991 Chevy rescues also went to RPD.
- Raleigh's 1979 Mack / 1958 American LaFrance tiller went to Wendell, and was recently sold to a department near Wilmington.
- Raleigh's Mack CF pumpers have been scattered far and wide, including one in service in Knightdale, and one recently sold to Four Oaks FD.
- Six Forks' first pumper, a 1950s front-mount, went to Falls FD as their first pumper.
- Six Forks' 1961 International pumper went to the NC Zoo as their first fire engine.

Morrisville's heavy rescue went to clayton,
Apex's ladder 1 went to calbash,
Eastern wake ladder 4 went to somewhere in nash county.

Adam Brown - 11/25/06 - 22:06

Garner Engine 10 has gone to Faison, Duplin Co.

car3550 - 11/25/06 - 23:10

The old Eastern Wake Ladder 4 is serving Sharpsburg Fire Dept. in southern Nash County.

Chris - 11/26/06 - 01:10

More that come to mind...

Raleigh's 1922 ALF service truck had its ladder body removed in 1960, for use on a newer service truck. The rest of the vehicle sat outside behind Station 8 before being disposed.

Raleigh's 1925 ALF pumper sat in Pullen Park for years before being privately purchased and parked outside at Shady Knoll Mobile Home Estates on Highway 64. It was offered for sale again in 1974.

Raleigh's second 1926 ALF pumper was wrecked on November 14, 1952. One of the injured FFs later died as a result of his injuries.

Raleigh's 1936 ALF pumper was privately purchased by someone in the area, but sat outside and turned to junk.

Raleigh's 1939 ALF / 1916 tiller sat outside and rotted behind Station 8 before being disposed in the early 1980s (I believe).

Raleigh's 1944 (?) Dodge auxiliary truck was wrecked on September 12, 1947. One of the injured FFs never returned to active duty.

One of Raleigh's 1953 ALF pumpers was privately purchased and is presently in pieces in Burlington. See pic:

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/h..>

One of Raleigh's 1950s or 1960s ALF pumpers was reportedly privately purchased and repurposed for competition in tractor pulls.

Raleigh's 1960 GMC tankers, both of them, went to the Public Works department.

Raleigh's 1961 ALF aerial ladder was last seen sitting in a farm field in Harnett County.

Raleigh's 1968 ALF pumper sat outside at the Keeter Training Center until being sold as scrap in the 2002.

One of Raleigh's three 1986 Chevy brush trucks was wrecked in the 1990s.

—

Raleigh-Durham Airport's late 1950s Walter crash truck was parked outside the Durham Museum of Life and Science for a few decades.

Legeros - 11/26/06 - 10:46

Yrac's yellow 292 went to Brunswick County. Yrac's 1969 Chevy tanker went to Hoke County. Knightdale's 1959 Ford/ALF went to Contentnea in Wilson County, then was sold to a private owner. Swift Creek's Chevy/Howe went to Barry's Cafe. One of WCEMS' type I units went to Ocracoke.

DJ - 11/26/06 - 15:12

The old Wendell E113 and B119 are now with a department in rural Granville County. The old L116 is now in-service at Civietown FD (Brunswick Station 9)

Anyone know where the old YRAC 291 Chev/ALF and the Grumman E292 are today?

Jon - 11/26/06 - 22:27

old E292 was sold to Muddy Pond Volunteer Fire Department in TN

CFP 7021 - 11/26/06 - 22:35

Yeah...I would like to know what happened to #291 (the Chevy/ALF). I learned on that truck. I remember when we got the Sterling siren-light (on the fender) hooked back up.

DJ - 11/27/06 - 22:23

291 was the primo truck to ride tailboard on – you just had to keep your shield down to keep the bugs outta your face. In thinking since my inquiry, I think it went up towards Roxboro.

Jon - 11/28/06 - 00:38

Didn't 291 go to Northwest Harnett F.D.?

fire driver - 11/30/06 - 09:40

Cary's two twin Pierce Arrow pumpers are at Wade Fire Dept. in Cumberland County.

car3550 - 12/01/06 - 17:15

Eastern Wake/ Knightdale, Back Im guessing in the early 90's knightdale had a GMC/Chevy topkick Im guessing 90's model or so. Does anyone know where this went or why they got rid of it?

Adam Brown - 12/02/06 - 18:52

"Cary's 1988 Pierce platform went to Buies Creek FD."

and it's going back or already has gone back to Pierce for a full refurb!

CFP 7021 - 12/02/06 - 22:04

Knightdale Tanker 2 went to W Johnston FD – it wasn't used often and was replaced with a pumper-tanker

Jon - 12/05/06 - 01:37

I saw the old YRAC 299 this morning on New Bern Avenue pulling a trailer. Looks odd with a white tailgate (it never had one due to the skid unit)

Jon - 12/05/06 - 18:43

Sounds like some of y'all volunteered with YRAC. I would love to know some old stories/history from that department as I volunteer with WWFR but have very little sense of where the department has come from.

CFP743 - 12/06/06 - 09:15

For starters 743, see <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/wake/hist..>

Legeros - 12/06/06 - 09:18

CFP743- step over to EMS #4 on an A shift day. If the red Chevy is there, I am there. YRAC member 1978 to 1985.

DJ - 12/06/06 - 23:59

New Hope Engine 5 went to Elevation, NC then to Clayton, NC before its death.

Engine 4 went to Carlsbad, New Mexico KOA Campground

Engine 3 & Engine 7 went to Wisconsin

Doppler ([Email](#)) - 12/08/06 - 22:03

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Mutual Aid From Goldsboro, 1886

11/25/06 88 W - + 17 - 11

On November 30, 1886, a large cotton fire compelled Raleigh officials to contact the Goldsboro Fire Department. The telegram requested that they "hold themselves in readiness" in the event aid was needed. In Goldsboro, a special train was ordered ready and within twenty minutes, a telegram was received in Raleigh stating that the fire engines were aboard the train and ready to roll. Their assistance was ultimately not needed. Some 1,000 bales burned that afternoon, worth about \$50,000. Some of the cotton was still burning after two weeks.

Who else has come to Raleigh’s aid in the past? Durham and Smithfield each sent engines when the Yarborough House burned in 1928.

Raleigh has gone to the aid of such places as Fayetteville (1885), Durham (1897), Clayton (1926), Louisburg (1928), and Sanford (1954).

Legeros - 11/25/06 - 12:53

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

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Station 28

11/27/06 20 W, 1 I - + 11 - 20

Expected opening April 2007, we've heard. Here's what the job site looked liked yesterday:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Cary Station 7...11/27/06 33 W, 3 I - + 16 - 13

...is just about ready. They get the permit December 13th, we're told. Might be a couple more weeks before they move in, however. Here's the [construction company's project site](#) with pics:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake County Fireman's Association, 1958

11/28/06 118 W - + 14 - 15

Here's a random historical list. Forty-eight years ago, the Wake County Fireman's Association membership was as follows: .

- Apex - Chief V. W. Tunstall - 23 members
- Cary - J. Paul Matthews - 24
- Fuquay-Varina - Tom Bridges - 13
- Garner - Jack Johnson - 23
- Knightdale - John B. Parrish - 22
- Morrisville - D. Herbert Ferrall - 15
- New Hope - Harold V. Glover - ?
- Raleigh - Jack Keeter - 89
- Six Forks - David H. Pattishall - 29
- Wake Forest - Albert Perry - 15
- Wendell - Dover Hinton - 22
- Western Boulevard - J. A. Holleman - 31
- Zebulon - Willie B. Hopkins - 15

The Association President was Tom Griffis, and the Secretary and Treasurer was James L. Murdock, both of Cary.

1956

- President Bob Heater (Cary)
- 1st VP J.B. Keeter (Raleigh)
- 2nd VP C.S. Chaub (Apex)
- Secretary/Treasurer Gordon Keith Jr. (Cary)

<http://www.wakefirefighters.org>

WC Volunteer - 11/29/06 - 11:56

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Retirements

12/01/06 72 W - + 24 - 13

Some 152 years of firefighting experience passed this way this morning, as five members of the Raleigh Fire Department retired effective today. Though this blog has endeavored to largely steer clear of personal identification, it seems entirely appropriate to mention those-- city or county, paid or volunteer-- who depart with decades of service. Godspeed to Battalion Chief Weathersby, Captain Franks, Captain Jones, Lieutenant Pearce, and Lieutenant Smith. We wish you all well.

A lot of knowledge departing us. We (RFD) should start a book; when someone retires they list important things to pass on (dangerous buildings and such) so it's not lost knowledge to the young bucks. Good luck to all in your retirements, you will be sorely missed.

Silver - 12/02/06 - 00:29

Somewhat along those lines, details are forthcoming on an oral history project that I've started. Recording retiring and retired Raleigh FFs, talking on tape about their careers and experiences. More to follow.

Legeros - 12/02/06 - 06:31

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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We've Come a Long Way

12/01/06 95 W - + 18 - 9

From a *News & Observer* article in August 1889, following the State Fireman's Association convention and tournament in Raleigh, the estimated population of cities and towns in North Carolina with organized fire departments was 135,808. The apparatus in the state consisted of 18 steamers, 13 other engines, 16 hook and ladder trucks, 51 hose carriages and wagons, 1,468 active members, 30 horses, 39,700 feet of serviceable hose, 23 non-electric alarm systems, 3 electric alarm systems, and 50 alarm boxes. The water supplies included 713 hydrants and 81 miles of pipe. These numbers were based on reports from 31 locales, though 5 reported no fire protection at all.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Also in 1889

12/01/06 148 W - + 20 - 12

These were the discussion topics at that year's second annual State Fireman's Convention in Raleigh. 1. Should not a special tax be levied on insurance companies for the benefit of firemen, and should not the State make an appropriation? 2. What is the danger from electric wires, and how best remedy the trouble? 3. What class of men are best suited to make good firemen? 4. What are the advantages of shut-off nozzles, and relief valves on fire engines? 5. Which is the best hose-- considering strength, durability, cost and care in handling, and what style of nozzle is best suited for fire service. 6. Should there not be an officer in every city whose duty shall be to inspect all buildings and to examine into the causes of all fires? 7. How best shall firemen protect property from water damage? 8. What are the benefits of a chemical engine, and how best utilized?

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Something interesting here, a [Los Angeles Fire Department blog](#). It's from their Media & Public Relations office. Neat official avenue of discourse. They also allow comments, and anonymous comments, as evident by responses to the chief's posting on his decision to step down. Are blogs effective alternatives to traditional Press Releases or What's New web pages? Perhaps. One chief advantage is that web content can be posted without necessarily involving the web team. Maybe we'll see more official FD blogs in the future. Maybe.

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Are Pranks Necessary?

12/02/06 173 W - + 16 - 17

For today's topical discussion, the following question is posed: Are pranks necessary in the fire service? Before answering, consider this logic. 1. Pranks are a traditional component of the fire service. 2. Pranks also serve one or more purposes in the fire service. 3. Pranks are commonly cited as serving the purpose of stress relief, and helping fire service members release or perhaps adapt to the stressors associated with the fire service. 4. Pranks could also be cited as serving to build or sustain a sense of community within the fire service. 5. Both stress relief and community building are important aspects of the fire service. 6. Can stress relief and community building be facilitated more effectively with means other than pranks? 7. If yes, what are those means and how has the fire service fared using them? 8. If no, what is the present-day definition of acceptable versus unacceptable with regard to pranks? Opine as desired. Corrections or perspectives to the above logic is invited. If desired, here is some random reading on the [psychology of persuasion](#).

Something I've been exposed to lately (in Charlotte) are "Station Christmas Videos." The title is pretty much self-explanatory but I'll explain further. Basically, the department videographer for Charlotte FD tapes a Christmas Video for a Station. It is up to the station to come up with the idea for their video, but for the most part they are very comical (as FFs are not the greatest actors) and tend to jokingly make fun of other stations in the city. Those videos are edited, etc. and then played on the CFD training TV channel for all stations to view.

I see this as a great opportunity for stress-relief, comic-relief, and building of camaraderie. All the videos are made in good, clean fun and are also a good way to wish everyone on the department a Happy Holidays (in a fun way).

As an example, I'll provide a link at the bottom to Fire Station 13's 2004 Christmas Video. Just for a little background, FS 13 is a Haz-Mat Station (as well as doing Rescue, USAR, etc) housing HM1 and HM2 (hence the... "one call, we do it all"). Fire Station 32 is the "other" haz-mat station in the city. FS32 houses the RRT unit as well as HM-Engine 32. Basically, Station 13's video is making fun of Station 32... calling them the JV (Junior Varsity) HM Team, implying that Station 13 is "THE" Varsity team. In the video, a FF from 32 "gets the call" to finally become a "Varsity" Haz-Mat team member. All in all, it's a very comical video that is very well done.

I think this is a very good idea and is just another example of firefighters doing what they do best – enjoying their job and joking with each other.

Enjoy... <http://www.cfdfirestation13.com/Movie/ho..> (you will need window's media player to view the video)

Station 13's homepage: <http://www.cfdfirestation13.com> (be sure to check out the other videos, pictures, etc.)

Luke - 12/04/06 - 01:46

Pranks in the fire service should be akin to cotton duck turnout gear and riding tailboard – history. Ask William Bamattre what his opinion is of firehouse pranksters? Los Angeles City announced their interim Chief this week after Bamattre retired after over ten years as Chief amidst charges of racism due to a firehouse prank where a firefighter was fed dog food for supper. Camaraderie in the fire service of 2006 can surely be achieved without such adolescent behaviors.

Jon - 12/05/06 - 19:19

Dog food for supper, that's overboard. However, a little ribbing on the rookie(s) is good. The occasional water trick is ok in my book, so long as nobody gets hurt. You have to draw the line somewhere though, and we all know that firemen are their own worst enemy.

Silver - 12/05/06 - 22:45

In my opinion when the fire service went away from hiring qualified individuals to meet quotas, the traditions and everything went out the window. It used to be you were hired because you wanted to be a fireman and that was that. Now people are being hired because cities need a certain percentage to maintain quotas. Which in turn leads to firefighters that are just here for a paycheck and lack then want to be a part of the brotherhood. Pranks are great, they build morale. My thoughts are that if you're not having pranks pulled on you and they guys at the firehouse cutting up with you, then they really don't like you. Just kinda goes back to tradition.

Adam Brown - 12/06/06 - 00:00

I agree with Silver and Adam, there is a line that needs to be drawn. There is a difference between an acceptable prank and 'adolescent behavior'. Feeding a firefighter dog food is over-board. Moving a rookie's bed to the bay/roof, getting them wet, sending them on a wild goose chase for some imaginery piece of equipment, etc. is fine (in my opinion).

Something that could very easily harm someone (either hurt them, make them sick) would be considered hazing. Hazing is not appropriate in the firehouse setting, leave that for the college campuses.

Time to go find that 2.5" hose stretcher, anyone still have one in service?

Luke - 12/06/06 - 00:48

Adam, before the era of quotas, hiring of fire service personnel was affected by other factors, including personal connections and political patronage. Thus, the case can probably be made that "paycheck collectors" have always been a part of the fire service. Thus, in turn, the issue of "building brotherhood" has likely always been a need within the fire service. More important than brotherhood, perhaps, is the need for command. Chain of command, that is, and following orders in high-stress situations. For decades (centuries?), the military has used aggressive motivational techniques to instill obedience. The fire service models its command structure after the military. It is not a stretch to imagine that pranks have been used in the fire service as motivation techniques, to reinforce power structures and chains of command, etc. etc. In a traditionally male-dominated environment, pranks, of course, also facilitated bonding and brotherhood. Boys play rough, they always have.

Legeros - 12/06/06 - 08:00

Don't forget Mike, there's some girls that play rough in the brotherhood as well.

guest - 12/06/06 - 08:59

Correct.

Legeros - 12/06/06 - 09:08

Has anyone tried waking someone up with ammonia inhalants? A water extinguisher can also make an excellent alarm clock!!!

Guest - 12/06/06 - 23:33

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preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

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No

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Cary Updates

12/02/06 70 W - + 17 - 13

Some updates we've heard from Cary... [Station 7](#) won't be occupied before mid-January, as the sewer project is behind schedule. The replacement for [Truck 7](#) has been spec'ed and revised to be more of a heavy rescue than simply a service truck. It should be going to bid any day now, if it hasn't already. Cary is currently hiring for Academy 15, which should number 10 to 15 people and start in February-ish.

A lot of the spec from new Truck 7 has come from DHFD Rescue 5, it will be similar but different.

guest - 12/02/06 - 11:44

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

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No

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Radio Updates

12/02/06 76 W - + 13 - 14

Some updates we've heard on the radio system... RPD has been awarded an 800 MHz grant. No additional information there. RDU will be on the system in January, as well as WakeMed. Rebanding of the radios begins in September 2007, as the system is transitioned to the new frequencies. What is rebanding, you alarmingly ask? Here's [more information](#) that starts to answer the question of whether or not our expensive digital trunking scanners will still work.

A close friend and I are keeping a blog about the VIPER Project/Wake County 800Mhz system located at:

<http://ncvip800.blogspot.com/>

and of course the NC Forum on radioreference.com is always updated :-)

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/02/06 - 22:30

Cary's system will undergo a rebanding this upcoming week due to the whole nextel thing, I don't know specifics on that program, but interesting tidbits nonetheless

CFP 7021 - 12/02/06 - 22:43

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preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

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Great Old Rigs

12/02/06 63 W, 1 I - + 17 - 16

Some of the great old rigs that we have been talking about. Left to right, top to bottom: [Apex](#) (4), [Bay Leaf](#) (2), [Cary](#) (7), [Durham Highway](#) (4), [Fairview](#) (4), [Falls](#), [Fairgrounds](#) (2), [Fuquay-Varina](#) (3), [Garner](#) (8), [Harris Plant](#), [Hopkins](#) (2), [Holly Springs](#) (2), [Knightdale](#) (3), [Morrisville](#) (2), [New Hope](#) (2), [Raleigh-Durham Airport](#) (5), [Rolesville](#) (2), [Swift Creek](#) (2), [Six Forks](#) (2), [Stony Hill](#), [Western Boulevard](#), [Wendell](#) (4), [Wake Forest](#) (2), [Yrac](#) (6) [Zebulon](#) (4).



Mike can you enlarge these pics???

ncff - 12/03/06 - 20:45

Added links to picture pages. Go nuts.

Legeros - 12/03/06 - 22:14

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Twenty-Five Cents

12/02/06 58 W - + 18 - 14

Another historical gem, this one from 1890: "An alarm of fire was turned in from Box 31 yesterday evening. The fire department was there in a quarter of a minute, and only three shingles burned. The house is at the corner of Davie and Dawson streets, occupied by J. C. Pennington. The damage officially recorded was twenty-five cents."

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Oral History Project

12/03/06 160 W - + 17 - 14

Historian Mike Legeros has started an [oral history project](#), recording retiring or retired Raleigh Fire Department members. The format is an interview, with Mike asking [some questions](#) but mostly listening. The interviews last about an hour, and Mike hopes to conduct at least one interview a week.

The purpose of this project is preservation, and preserving the personal heritage of the Raleigh Fire Department. The digital recordings will be archived and, at a later time, transcribed. The content will also be edited as necessary before any public presentation.

Mike will announce this project to the retired community this week at their Christmas party, and next week at their monthly breakfast. Feel free to share this announcement as desired. Any retiring or retired Raleigh Fire Department members interested in participating in this project can contact Mike either [via e-mail](#) or by telephone. He's listed in the book. He'll also be initiating contact with individual retiring and retired members.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Fifth Tap of the Gong / Sound Effects

12/05/06 110 W - + 16 - 15

From an 1890 newspaper account: "At the alarm of fire on yesterday the Rescue horse Henry was hitched and driven out on the fifth tap of the gong on the first round. That is to say, that the wagon was driven out before the last six taps were sounded of the first round of the box." That would have been box number 4-6. Here's a [recording made in my kitchen](#) of a smaller Gamewell gong, connected to a later era Gamewell box. It's tapping the box number 3-1-4-4. Neither box nor gong served locally. [Raleigh box numbers](#) were two or three digits.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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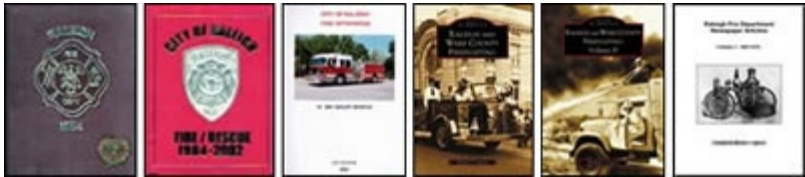
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Raleigh Fire Department Books

12/05/06 57 W, 1 I - + 20 - 12

How many books have been published about or relating to the Raleigh Fire Department? [This newly updated page](#) tells all about them, including the books by Mike and Lee. There's also an electronic book available for download on that page, of old newspaper articles compiled by Mike.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Web Site: (optional)

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Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

No More PDFs

12/07/06 36 W - + 19 - 12

With useability in mind, all but one of the PDF format documents on Mike's [RFD history site](#) have been removed and replaced with HTML documents. The new pages now loader faster and easier.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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Night Training

12/07/06 27 W - + 12 - 12

For those monitoring the RFD Batt channels, the fake streets dispatched during night training have been particularly amusing lately. Junebug Lane, Freddy Lynn Lane, etc.

Speaking of training, does anyone know what the new radio designations are/mean for SR5, command vehicle, etc.?

pal - 12/08/06 - 13:58

I think she is reading what CAD has them listed as. They start w/ RF, which may stand for Raleigh Fire. So SR5 is RFSR5; HM2 is RFHM2. I'm not sure why she has started doing this. I've heard it a several times the past two weeks. I've seen in the past the engines listed as FE13, FE19, and the "F" stood for Fire.

[Lee] - 12/08/06 - 14:32

Prior to recently, such units were, I believe, dispatched via alphanumeric page only. No unit numbers were read. Instead Ms. L advised "refer to pagers for units."

Legeros - 12/08/06 - 17:35

oh, ok. now that i think about it, i never really listened too hard since when those units were being dispatched, i'm trying to listen to the address. i guess i haven't been hearing her dispatch the command vehicle. what i think i've been hearing along with RFSR5 is RFSU1. thanks guys.

pal - 12/12/06 - 09:51

Been funny if there was a Wilbertdunn Ct!!!

Guest - 12/12/06 - 13:23

From a CAD perspective, here's the deal on the changing of designations on Raleigh Fire apparatus. In CAD, they used to be, for example, FT22 for Truck 22. When the city changed from trucks to ladders, the new designation was FL22. That presented a problem because Locution then thought this was a Falls unit, since it started with FL. THEREFORE, the RFD units were renamed with RF as the agency identifier. Since most all of the newly changed units (especially the Ladder companies), hadn't been recorded by Locution, they all became "Check pager for units". The setting was changed to spell them out until the were recorded by Locution, to avoid the "check pager". Hope this clears up some of the whys.

Chris - 12/13/06 - 16:44

^ahhh, ok. That explains why I heard on the pager a few days before the switch from truck to ladder falls get dispatched with L-16 to a "test call". I was wondering what that was all about.

pal - 12/13/06 - 18:27

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Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

Tower Construction Montage

12/07/06 38 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

Speaking of training, this [montage of tower photos](#) has been added to Mike's [Raleigh Fire Department Virtual Museum](#), along with montages of [old Station 1 buildings](#), [old Station 2 buildings](#), and [RFD aerial ladders](#). Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
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Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Garner FD / Watch Desk

12/08/06 27 W - + 10 - 14

There's an interesting discussion evolving on the [Watch Desk forums](#). The subject is the Garner Fire Department and assorted rumors and facts therein.

Fire Alarm By Goat

12/09/06 99 W - + 17 - 11

From the May 20, 1892 edition of the *News & Observer*: "The alarm of fire last night was caused by a festive William goat. The goat had been allowed to deport himself in the house of a man, and espying his ugly image in a looking glass he aimed a well-directed butt at the glass, smashing it to flinders and also demolishing a lamp. Great consternation was caused, resulting in a fire alarm from Box 34, at the corner of Lenoir and McDowell. No damage was done. The goat when last seen was voraciously devouring the fragments of glass."

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email:

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Sweet Sounds

12/09/06 41 W - + 14 - 20

Saturday night in Ridgeloach and Engine 16 and Ladder 16 are rolling to a gas leak. Diesels chugging, sirens wailing, and the neighborhood dogs howling in harmony. They're going east on Millbrook, so the claxon chorus repeats itself. It's almost heavenly.

Almost, but not quite...that would be reserved for the 10hp siren that used to be mounted at the original Durham Highway station 1. I would hear my monitor go off, hear the 'feedback' of the siren broadcast over the base, and just about time I hit the front door, I could hear that siren all the way to my house off of Oberlin Road...

DJ - 12/10/06 - 20:42

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Centennial Parade / 1892

12/09/06 141 W - + 16 - 14

On Tuesday, October 18, 1892, an enormous parade celebrating Raleigh's one-hundreth birthday proceeded down Fayetteville Street. The fireman's display attracted the most attention, or so said the newspaper, with two divisions representing the "old department" and "modern department." The divisions were comprised as follows:

Division 1 - Old Department

- 1. Float with hand-engine from Salem, 1784.
- 2. Hand-engine from Fayetteville, 1820.
- 3. Victor Company hand engine, 1850.
- 4. Bucket and Ladder Company hand truck.
- 5. Single-tank chemical engine, hand-drawn.
- 6. Old Rescue Company hand reel.
- 7. Old Victor Company hand reel.
- 8. Old Capital Hose Company hand reel.
- 9. Old Independent Hose Company hand reel.
- 10. Victor Company racing reel.
- 11. Old Rescue Company horse-drawn reel.

Division 2 - Modern Department

- 12. W.R. Womble Hook & Ladder Company horse-drawn ladder truck.
- 13. Rescue Company horse-drawn steam fire engine.
- 14. Rescue Company two-horse hose wagon.
- 15. Capital Hose Company two-horse hose wagon.
- 16. Victor Company two-horse hose reel.
- 17. Double-tank chemical engine, two-horse.

Name: (real name
preferred)
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Would You Believe an Earthquake?

12/10/06 107 W - + 9 - 24

Another historical bit. At 9:50 p.m. on August 31, 1886, an [earthquake measuring between 6.6. and 7.3 on the Richter Scale struck Charleston, SC](#). It damaged 2,000 buildings and killed between 60 and 110 people. The quake was felt in Raleigh, though structural damage was confined to fallen chimneys. Doorbells rang in many places, and at least one church bell tolled. Bottles broke at a drug store. Floors and ceilings made scary sounds. No fires were reported, however, though a resident on Hillsboro Street found a fallen lamp that broken but extinguished itself. The quake was felt as far away as Boston, Chicago, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Cuba, and Bermuda.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Another Free e-Book

12/10/06 60 W, 1 I - + 14 - 18

Mike has created another free electronic book for download. [Raleigh Fire Department Newspaper Articles, Volume 2](#) presents another collection of historical newspaper clippings. These are from 1880 to 1889. More fires, more parades, and now fireman's tournaments. The e-book is PDF format, 118 pages long, and 17 megs large. Give it a few minutes to download.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

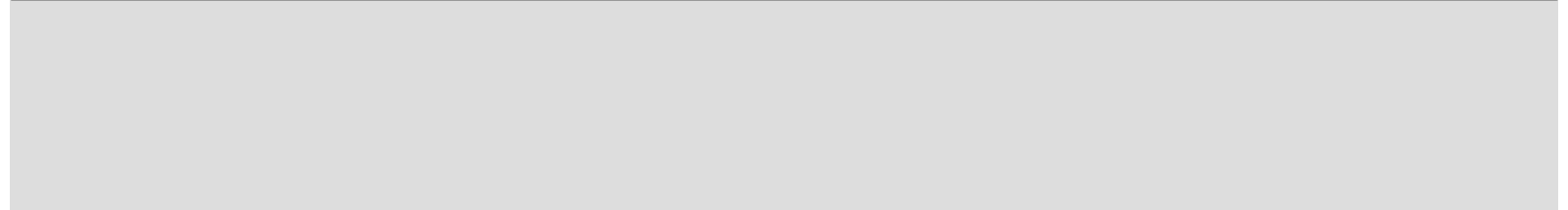
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Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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Garner Graduations and Promotions

12/10/06 70 W, 1 I - + 22 - 12

The Garner Fire Department today promoted three Captains, four Lieutenants, and three graduating Firefighters. The latter graduated from the department first fire academy, conducted by GFD over two and a half months. The honorees: Captains B. Penny, S. Godwin, D. Lindsey; Lieutenants J. Deitch, D. Denning, S. Young, T. Rooks, and Firefighters D. Ward, G. Hodges, R. Coreia. Photos forthcoming.



Does this mean Garner is about to hire?

WCFireman - 12/10/06 - 22:30

Sorry, not at this time, try back this summer!!!

guest - 12/11/06 - 06:58

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

We're approaching the one year anniversary of this blog, which was started on December 27, 2005. What have we learned about ourselves and others? .

- More people post anonymously than not. This is not a surprise, and not necessarily a bad thing. It keeps conversation focused on the issue versus the participants. Nor will things come back to haunt folks. Stuff posted on the Internet can live a LONG time.
- Babysitting is sometimes necessary. Every so often a series of comments gets out of hand. After one particularly heated thread-- originating from an incorrect interpretation of a scene photo-- we put some rules in place. No talking trash, period, if you post anonymous. Some talking trash, maybe, if you use your real name. No personal attacks on people, or particular organizations. And so far so good. People are playing nice.
- Users, at least the regular responders to topics, appear to LOVE the format of a moderated discussion forum that allows anonymous postings and is registration-free. This perspective is based on both user feedback and the seeming under-usage of both the Watch Desk and FireNews forums.
- There's always stuff happening in the local fire service scene, and thus there's always information to relate. Promotions, retirements, safety initiatives, major incidents, station plans, apparatus purchases, meeting reports, ceremony accouchements, live burns, multi-agency drills, and so on. Tell US about them, and we'll spread the word. Or even show up and take pictures.
- The biggest issue for everyone appears to be closet unit dispatch and/or response. Runners-up range from a county-wide numbering scheme to "will Raleigh ever run a fully-staffed heavy rescue company?"
- Usage of blog: 4,838 visits last month, or about 156 per day. 39,019 visits this year, or about 780 per week, or about 111 per day
- How many individual blog readers are there? Unknown, and unable to determine. Probably dozens.
- Number of topics posted: 550 or so. Number of comments added: Unknown. Hundreds.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Yesterday's Major Fire

12/12/06 48 W, 1 I - + 14 - 18

Lee has [posted pics of yesterday's major working fire](#) at 4732 Courtney Lane. The first picture of the series has a summary and list of companies. One FF was transported to WakeMed with a shoulder injury, reported the N&O.



The injured firefighter, we're told, suffered a minor strain and was released by mid-afternoon. Glad to hear they're okay.

Legeros - 12/15/06 - 17:10

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

/ [Textile](#)

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More Yearly Stats, Part 1

12/14/06 300 W - + 16 - 14

This year, 197 incidents or events were posted to [Mike's photo site](#). The split was 108 shot by Mike and 89 shot by Lee. The numbers do not include links to Lee's photo site, which started in September, a couple months after [his photo site](#) premiered. Links to Lee's site, versus hosting the photos, commenced in September.

The totals of posted images numbered about 7,500. The split was about 3,800 shot by Lee and 3,700 shot by Mike. As noted above, Lee's images were posted through September.

Dividing the latter by the former, the average number of posted images per incident or event was 38.

Usage of Mike's photo site: 6,258 visits to the main page last month, or about 200 per day. 68,114 visits to the main page this year, or about 1,360 per week.

What was posted? Lots and lots of fires, including a number shot by both Lee and Mike: the major fire on Newton Road on 1/7, Bush Street on 1/19, Yancey Street on 2/1, Timberwood Drive on 3/16, the MF on Green Road on 4/3, the MF on Martin Street on 4/16, the MF on Lanier Club Drive and the working fire on Parker Croft Court during the storms on 4/22, the MF on Hampshire Place on 6/23, the MF on Banks Hill Row on August 4, the fatal MF on Rose Lane on 8/6, and the MF on Mill Village Road on 9/26.

There were also lots of wrecks, a number of drills, a number of new deliveries, some station photos, some station construction photos, some haz-mat incidents, a couple promotional ceremonies, the tabletop simulator at the Keeter Training Center, the tower dedication at the Keeter Training Center, the State Fireman's Association convention, the Fallen Firefighter's Foundation monument dedication, the June 14 flooding, the RFD mobile command post, the State Fair, the MS boot drive, and the Raleigh Christmas Parade. Among other things.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Vintage EMS Pics, Part 1

12/15/06 80 W, 3 I - + 16 - 17

Travis Loy, son of Beacon Ambulance Service part own Fred Loy Jr., sent some vintage EMS pictures to share. Contact Travis (Loy00003@mc.duke.edu), who lives in Elon College, for more information about these pics and the people pictured therein.

From top to botton, the Beacon Fleet (click to enlarge), a Wake EMS unit, and the Wake EMS breakroom. Dig those hairstyles, man!





I know all three pictures——Am in two of them——Boy has EMS gone a long ways since Beacon Ambulance days.
Here is a good story for you——
Back when——all ambulances were inspected by the state. The department with this task was the same department that did sanitary inspections. They had two inspectors for the state——Art Lamson and Ben Shephard—— There were no EMT’s and an inspection was for the units. It could be either a hurse or a rescue truck. Just needed to be clean and have one person who had taken Red Cross Advanced First Aid. About the time the state was starting to get interested in the EMS field, and a lot of the movement goes to Maxine Maurice at Wake ER, the state desided to hold an EMT class at Bowman Gray Hospital in Winston Salem, NC.
It would be for 50 people through out the state. This was just a trial because they did not know if there would be 50 people who wanted to take an 80+ hour class. Also it was during the day, Monday thru Friday.
Well, Wake county had two to enroll——Me (Fred Loy and Sunny Bridgers of the Raleigh Fire Dept.) I think Sunny is still on the Garner Fire Department.
This would make him one of the oldest EMT’s in the state.
Another was Dwayne West from Johnston County. At that time he was working for a funeral home.
Well that is enough for now,
more later——
Fred Loy
Fred Loy ([Email](#)) - 07/03/08 - 22:16

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>
E-mail: (optional)	
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Vintage EMS Pics, Part 2

12/15/06 50 W, 3 I - + 16 - 15

Again, contact Travis (Loy00003@mc.duke.edu) for more information about these pics and the people pictured therein. From top to bottom: Clayton Rescue, Clayton Rescue, Forsyth Rescue.



Officers, 1884

12/15/06 47 W - + 15 - 18

One-hundred and twenty-two years ago, the officers in Raleigh's volunteer fire companies were numerous, such these position elected by the Victor Company (hand engine) in 1884: Foreman, Asst. Foreman, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, First Sergeant, Second Sergeant, Hose , Director, Asst. Hose Director, Engineer, Pipeman, Asst. Pipeman, and Doorkeeper.

Name: (real name preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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More Yearly Stats, Part 2

12/15/06 129 W - + 18 - 13

[Lee's photo site](#) premiered in July and he's since posted 2,535 photos. Mostly fires and wrecks and a few hundred archive apparatus photos from around North Carolina of non-red rigs. He also posted pictures of the Stanley Cup, USAR training, Raleigh's new Pierces, Raleigh's old Macks, the downtown Bike Fest, Knightdale's new station, a chili cook-off at Station 22, some high-rise drills, and the newest Raleigh Fire Academy.

How many total photos did Lee shoot last year? That number is unknown. Since September 10, however, he's attended 83 incidents, events, or photos ops, and shot 3,696 pictures. That's a three-month sample size. Divide the latter by the former and he averages about 44 photos per incident or event. Divided the latter by 12 and he averaged about 7 incidents or events a week.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Police Departments?

12/16/06 40 W - + 16 - 13

Random question, how many police departments are located in Raleigh? There's...

~Raleigh Police
~State Capitol Police
~NCSU Police
~Shaw U Police
~St. Augustine's College Police
~Meredith College Police
~Crabtree Valley Mall Police
~Wake SO
~SHP

Any others?

~NC State Fairgrounds Public Safety
~RDU Airport Public Safety (If you want to stretch the municipal boundaries a little)
~CCBI/SBI (again stretchin' the boundaries)
~Dorthea Dix Public Safety

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/16/06 - 10:22

Wake Med has their own police force.

DJ - 12/16/06 - 12:29

RDU is a fully functional police department, as is Dorthea Dix. CCBI falls under Wake County Public Safety and they're all sworn under the sheriff. Wake Med is definately a fully functional police department as well. NC Wildlife is also located in Raleigh as is the State Legislature Police. These are all fully recognized law enforcement agencies with sworn officers.

guest1 - 12/16/06 - 13:19

Norfolk Southern Police

What about the other 2 malls – North Hills and Triangle Towne Center?

Lee - 12/16/06 - 13:34

there is also the Capitol Special Police <http://www.capitolspecialpolice.com/>

CFP 7021 - 12/16/06 - 14:49

NC ALE

Postal Police

CFP 7021 - 12/16/06 - 15:12

The Wake County ABC Board has sworn officers, but they may be under the juisdiction of another agency, I'm not sure...

Chris - 12/17/06 - 02:17

Also, Shearon Harris has sworn... something. Most police departments don't have "shoot first" standing orders, nor do they regularly carry automatic weapons at the ready, but as far as I have been told, they have arrest powers and jurisdiction around their little corner of the world.

Someone correct me if I have been told wrong...

guest - 12/17/06 - 02:20

ABC->Wake Co Sheriff If I am not mistaken...

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/17/06 - 10:32

Wake County ABC is not a part of the Sheriff's Office – they're a totally separate agency. They do use the sheriff's communications center though if they need DCI information or to mark out on a vehicle stop or something where they would like for someone to know where they are.
soguest - 12/17/06 - 13:42

North Hills, Cary Town, and Triangle Town just have security officers under and third party company.
Beach - 12/17/06 - 16:17

The Harris Plant guards are security guards, with no powers of arrest as best I can find from some Google queries. I defer to someone else to advise if "shoot first" is legal defenseable under any and all circumstances, regardless if the officer is sworn or otherwise.
Legeros - 12/19/06 - 07:29

I will say this, they are "no nonsense" security guards. They have MP-5's strapped across there chests and give everyone the same treatment, firefighter or not.
Silver - 12/19/06 - 10:17

When training at the Harris Plant, it was made perfectly clear to us that we were being watched by several different cameras as well as snipers. They always kept one guard by our truck and watched our every move when we would go get tools off the truck. They put a guard on the Engine with us and had one in front of us escorting us around the property.

As far as a "shoot first" order, I have heard "shoot to kill, not to wound." Either way, I don't want to find out.
Luke - 12/19/06 - 16:34

Shearon Harris is protected by a private security firm in addition to a federal tactical team from the Department of Engery. (Thus the MP5 personnel you may encounter while training.
Guest ([Email](#)) - 12/19/06 - 18:02

abc is governed by its own board, has nothing to do with wake s.o., or any other law agency, also i think crabtree vally has its own police dept.
kp205a - 12/21/06 - 15:23

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Most Fatal Fires?

12/16/06 80 W - + 17 - 14

Another random question, what have been the fires with the greatest numbers of fatalities in these parts? In Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Wake, Johnston, etc.? Raleigh's most fatal fire was the Carolina Country Club that burned in a snowstorm on February 1, 1948, killing five sleeping occupants. Chapel Hill's fraternity fire on May 12, 1996 also comes to mind, which killed five people. In Zebulon, a grandmother and five children died in a house fire on the Sunday before January 18, 1968. Others?

Expanding this question statewide, with accompanying database: <http://www.legeros.com/history/nc/fatal...>

Legeros - 12/17/06 - 01:05

Charlotte, NC (1940) – Guthery Apartments, 9 civilians died, every firefighter and apparatus in the city responded.

Luke - 12/17/06 - 02:20

Hamlet, NC Chicken Processing plant fire in September 1990 (I believe) killed 25 workers.

Stretch - 12/17/06 - 20:14

In the mid 1980s Clayton had a mother and three or four children to die in a house fire.

guest - 12/17/06 - 22:31

I'll start researching that Clayton fire. I used to have news clippings about it. It was a mother and 3 or 4 kids. It was around 1987 I think and was in the summer. I remember it vividly and I know I have the clippings somewhere, but it may take a few days to find them.

Jason ([Email](#)) - 12/18/06 - 00:30

Mother and 3 kids. Wilson's Mills and Clayton responded (I was a member of Wilson's Mills waaaay back then).

DJ - 12/18/06 - 12:26

Shelby, NC...five firefighters and a city employee . Don't remember all of the details though. It was around 1980 or 1981.

There was also a fatal fire during the mid 70's in Cary...couple of kids died. Again, the details fade. I remember Terry Edmondson was Cary chief then.

DJ - 12/18/06 - 12:28

Mike, Call or stop by Clayton Station 1 sometime and I will fill you in about the fire in the mid 80s with the fire deaths in the rural district. I was on the first in engine. Since completing the new station one of our next projects is to begin on the history on the department.

Lee ([Email](#)) - 12/18/06 - 21:50

March 2006 Lawrence street fire, Sanford, "C" shift working, family of five

Keith ([Email](#)) - 12/22/06 - 22:06

Can we take this further and do most fatalities on MVA, or other rescue events NC only

battchief13 - 12/24/06 - 00:19

A reader passes along this resource on the Catch-Me-Eye explosion on March 7, 1942 that killed four people in Johnston County:

http://www.johnstonnc.com/jc_hc_archives...

That incident is listed with the fatal fires that I've collected at <http://www.legeros.com/history/nc/fatal...>

Legeros - 12/24/06 - 17:44

My mother was a resident of the Guthery Apartments at the time of the fire in 1942. She lost many of her friends. When the fire reached her room on the third floor, the flames forced her to climb outside the window. She could no longer hang on so she had to let go and fell to the pavement below. She was only 19 years old. Her back was broken and lived with so much pain the rest of her life until she passed away at the age of 82. She never forgot the loss of her friends.

Parris - 03/12/12 - 01:47

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Night Photography on the Beltline

12/17/06 31 W, 1 I - + 16 - 17

Shooting into the light and a camera setting of 1600 ISO turns an average grass fire into a not-bad night photo:



Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

RFD Family Names

12/17/06 708 W - + 15 - 17

Speaking of names, here's a quick list of every family name of every paid and volunteer member (both uniformed and civilian) that served the city from 1867 to 1990. That is, every name that Mike has been able to find.

As a conservative nod toward privacy, the paid personnel EXCLUDES both active members, and anyone who retired after 1990. [Mail Mike](#) to see the full list. The most common paid names: Perry (10), Smith (10), Johnson (9), Jones (9), Edwards (7), Lloyd (7), Williams (7), Allen (6), King (6). The most common volunteer names, roughly: Harris (9), Haywood (8), Jones (8), Taylor (8), Heartt (6), Smith (6).

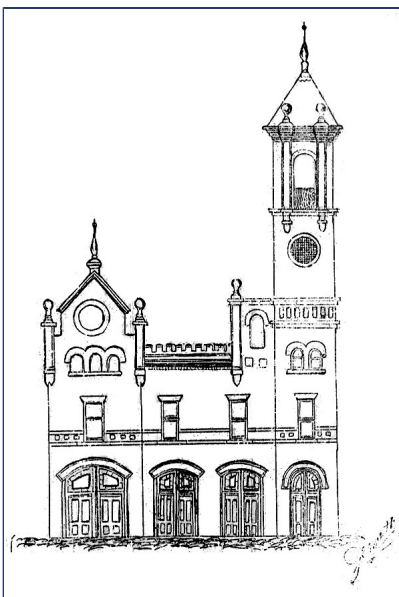
Paid: Alford, Alie, Allen, Altman, Anderson, Andrews, Astacio, Atkinson, Austin, Averett, Averette, Avery, Ayscue, Baffaro, Bagwell, Baker, Bango, Barden, Barker, Barnett, Barnette, Bartholomew, Beacham, Beasley, Beck, Blackwood, Blake, Blalock, Blinson, Boone, Boseman, Bowden, Bowling, Boyette, Bradshaw, Brannan, Brannon, Bray, Breeden, Bridgers, Briggs, Brockwell, Brooks, Broughton, Buck, Buffaloe, Bullock, Bunn, Burchette, Burgess, Burnette, Burns, Butts, Callahan, Calvert, Cameron, Campbell, Carroll, Carter, Caudle, Chappell, Cheek, Choplin, Christian, Clifton, Coats, Cobb, Colbert, Collins, Conyers, Cope, Core, Council, Coupe, Crabtree, Crocker, Crockett, Curtis, Dahle, Davis, Dean, Debnam, Denning, Denning?, Dew, Dixon, Doolittle, Dorsey, Doster, Dove, Dowd, Drew, Driver, Dunlap, Durden, Edans, Eddins, Edwards, Ellen, Ellis, Emory, Ennis, Esiagan, Evans, Faison, Farmer, Ferrell, Finch, Flinn, Fogg, Forte, Fowler, Foy, Frazier, Gardner, Gaston, Gates, Gay, Giambattista, Gilbert, Gilchrist, Giles, Gill, Glazier, Glenn, Glover, Godwin, Goodman, Goodrich, Goodwin, Gosnell, Gray, Green, Greene, Gregory, Grice, Grimes, Grissom, Grubbs, Haines, Hall, Hamilton, Hamlet, Hampton, Harris, Harrison, Hawkins, Hayes, Health, Heath, Hedrick, Hester, Hicks, Higgins, High, Hill, Hobby, Hodge, Holderfield, Holland, Hollifield, Holloway, Holmes, Honeycutt, Horton, House, Howard, Howell, Hudson, Hunnicutt, Ingram, Inscoc, Issacs, Jackson, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Keeter, Keeton, Keith, Kelley, Kelly, King, Kirk, Knight, Kuster, Lancaster, Lane, Lanphere, Lasater, Lassiter, Lea, Ledbetter, Legeros, Lemon, Leonard, Lindsay, Liverman, Lloyd, Love, Mabrey, Mangum, Manshack, Marshall, Marshburn, Martin, Mason, Matthews, May, McAllister, McCaskill, McClain ?, McCullers, McGhee, McKnight, McLamb, McLeod, Medlin, Mendoza, Mial, Mills, Mimms, Mims, Mitchell, Moody, Moore, Morgan, Morrison, Murphy, Nelson, Newton, Nipper, Nordan, Norris, Norwood, Nunn, Olive, O'Neal, Owen, Owens, Parker, Parrish, Partin, Peacock, Pearce, Peddy, Peebles, Pegram, Pendergraft, Penny, Perry, Pickard, Pierce, Pipkin, Pollard, Poole, Pope, Povlosky, Preddy, Privette, Proctor, Pulido, Puryear, Radford, Raines, Randolph, Ray, Reeves, Reynolds, Rich, Rivenbark, Robertson, Rogers, Rook, Rose, Rudolph, Russell, Russo, Sadler, Sanchez, Sandy, Sapp, Sauls, Schneider, Scott, Seagroves, Senter, Shannon, Sheehan, Sherron, Silver, Simmons, Sizemore, Smith, Snow, Solomon, Speight, Spence, Stell, Stephenson, Stevens, Strickland, Strother, Suggs, Summers, Surlis, Swett, Talton, Taylor, Thomas, Thompson, Thornton, Toone, Trice, Truelove, Tudor, Turner, Underhill, Upchurch, Uzzle, Walker, Wall, Ward, Ware, Warren, Watkins, Watson, Webb, Weeks, Whaley, White, Whittington, Wiggs, Wilder, Wilkerson, Williams, Wilson, Winston, Winters, Wood, Woodall, Woodlief, Young.

Volunteers: Abernethy, Adams, Allen, Alston, Anderson, Andrews, Armstrong, Arthur, Bagwell, Bain, Baker, Barbee, Bell, Belvin, Betts, Bevers, Billings, Blake, Blow, Boshier, Boylan, Bradley, Branch, Brannan, Branson, Brenig / Brinig, Bretsch, Brewer, Brewster, Bridgers, Brockwell, Brooks, Broughton, Brown, Bryant, Bullock, Bunch, Burgess, Burt, Byrd, Caldwell, Cardwell, Carver, Chavis, Cheatham, Cheek, Chowder, Christopher, Churchill, Clancey, Clements, Coke, Cole, Correll, Crabtree, Crawford, Crayton, Creech, Creighton, Crocker, Cross, Dancey, Dancy, Davis, DeBoy, Dicks, Dobbin, Dodd, Donahoe, Doolittle, Doyle, Drake, Dunston, Durham, Edwards, Ellis, Engelhard, Ennis, Farnen, Farmer, Faucett / Faucette, Fentress, Ferrall, Ferrell, Fleishman, Flow, Fowler, Francis, Franklin, Fraps, Freeman, Gardner, Gattis, Gaylord, Glenn, Gorham, Gorman, Gowan, Green, Griffin ?, Grimes, Gulley, Gully, Habel, Hall, Hampson, Hardie, Hardy, Harrell, Harris, Hart, Harward, Hawkins, Haynes, Haywood, Heartt, Henley, Henly, Hilker, Hill, Hinnant, Hinton, Hobbie, Hooks, Hoover, Horton, House, Hunter, Hutchins, Hyatt, Jeffries, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Keith, Kelly, Kennette, Killibrew, King, Knester?, Kreth, Lamson, Lane, Lang, Lassiter / Lassater, Laswell, Lee, Linehan, Little, Lougee, Love, Lumley, Lumsden, Mabry, Macy, Maguire, Mahler, Mallett, Mangum, Manly, McDonald, McDowell, McGown, McKee, McKimmon, McPheeters, McRary, Medlin, Merrill, Miller, Milligan, Mills, Mitchell, Moore, Morson, Moses, Moye, Nolan, Nottingham, O'Donnell, Olive, Otter, Palmer, Pardue, Parish, Park, Parker, Parrish, Peebles, Pennington, Penny, Pepper, Perdue, Perry, Pomeroy, Pool, Prempert, Price, Pulley, Purnell, Putney, Ransom, Ray, Rhodes, Rice, Richardson, Riddle, Rix, Roberts, Rosenbaum, Royster, Scales, Scott, Separk, Shakespeare, Shaw, Simpson, Smith, Snow, Snuggs, Solomons, Sorrell, Spark, Sparks, Spence, Steadman, Stephens, Stevenson, Steward, Stewart, Stiebel, Stines, Straughn, Stronach, Syme, Taylor, Terry, Thiem, Thomas, Thompson, Tucker, Turner, Underhill, Upchurch, Utley, Waitt, Wall, Waring, Warren, Watson, Weathers, Weatherspoon, Weigel, Weir, Welsh, White, Wicker, Williams, Winters, Witherspoon, Womble, Woods, Woollcott, Wray, Wright, Wynne, Yearby.

Old Station 1 Drawing

12/18/06 65 W, 1 I - + 18 - 20

Found today in an 1895 issue of the *News & Observer*, an architect's drawing of [old Station 1 on West Morgan Street](#). Click to enlarge. Opened in the spring of 1896, the two-story brick building housed a horse-drawn hose company, a horse-drawn service ladder company, a reserve horse-drawn chemical engine, and the chief's horse-drawn buggy. The tower was later extended, as this [drawing by Mike](#) demonstrates.



Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
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☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

As noted as a comment in another thread, Raleigh's air truck is reportedly moving. SR 5 is relocating to Station 8 effective January 1. The unit will be renamed Air Unit 8. The move makes sense, both for faster travel via I-440 and Western Boulevard, as well as the centralization of SCBA resources with a Battalion and Division Chief. Taking that concept further, it's easy to imagine what a dedicated RFD Operations Center might look like. Say, a facility housing one or more chiefs (Bat/Div/Asst), the air truck, the mobile command post, other special ops units, maybe some reserve rigs, and a fixed command/ops center for major incidents. Much like Station 8 is already. Wonder how Ops Centers are done in other cities?

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Mike's Research Tips

12/19/06 29 W - + 19 - 14

For those planning or proceeding with historical projects, this [PowerPoint presentation](#) from August may be useful. It's newly linked from [Mike's history site](#). Research... it's fun!

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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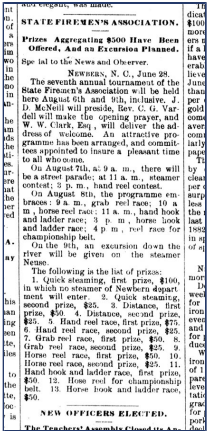
Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

State Fireman's Convention, 1895

12/19/06 32 W, 1 I - + 18 - 7

Here's a neat announcement of the state fireman's convention and tournament from 1895. [Click to enlarge](#). Participating departments included companies from Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Greensboro, New Bern, Salem, Wilmington, and Winston.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Best Christmas Lights

12/20/06 41 W - + 19 - 12

Which stations around town, or around the Triangle, have the best/biggest/brightest Christmas lights this year? Also, watch for Mike's *mobile* display, a glowing plastic Santa strapped in the back of a burgandy Accord. Ho ho ho.

Come check out Durham Highway Station 1 we have expanded our lights display this year to include outlining the bays with rope lights.

DHFD - 12/21/06 - 13:22

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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Art and Scene Photography

12/21/06 54 W, 1 I - + 14 - 11

Or maybe call it crime photography. Here's an excellent [New York Times exhibit review](#). Plus a [gallery](#) of some of the artist's work. And since you were wondering, here's what one of Mike's pics from yesterday looks like to artsy effect. Cropped with higher brightness and contrast. Click to enlarge.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Dix Hill Fire Department

12/21/06 104 W - + 14 - 16

Happened across this 1895 newspaper article today: "At the North Carolina Insane Asylum, two new houses are being built for the hose reels that belong to the Asylum fire department. One is in [the] rear of each wing of the building, for immediate use in case of fire. The buildings are ten feet by fifteen feet, two stories high. Some of the employees of the institution will sleep in these houses at night, so that they may be ready for service as soon as the alarm is given." What are the odds that either hose house is still standing? Probably slim.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Wanted in Six States

12/21/06 36 W, 1 I - + 19 - 13

These three mugs were seen at yesterday's major fire. From left to right that's FireNews Editor Jeff Harkey (CFP-700), Mike Legeros (CFP-7474), and Lee Wilson (CFP-702):



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Eastern Wake News

12/21/06 100 W - + 17 - 14

We're told that Eastern Wake's new Pierce pumper-tanker has been delivered and is in service. Also, station renovations are 99.9% complete. Station 1 added two new bathrooms and remodeled the other two, added remote controls to the bay doors, and are now housing an Eastern Wake EMS unit (12 hour crew, 24 hour truck). Station 2 in town, the original Knightdale Station 1, was totally remodelled inside with new floors, walls, ceilings, lights, new larger bathrooms, new kitchen and appliances, new bay doors with remotes, new pad poured, refinished parking lot, and a new sign with landscape. We'll try to get some pics.

Just down the street, Knightdale Public Safety still keeps a truck at their old station at the town Public Works facility. Maybe someday KPS can share space at EWFD. You never know.

Legeros - 12/21/06 - 17:01

[Editorial interjection. Yes, this thread is getting heated. Deleting all comments and reverting back to original topic.]

Legeros - 12/23/06 - 06:19

Speaking of Knightdale...

12/21/06 20 W, 1 I - + 16 - 15

...they've received their new Pierce as well. Here's a factory shot:



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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EMS Major Ops Vehicle

12/21/06 34 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Another vehicle update, this time some pics from Hackney. Here's the Major Operations Support vehicle for Wake EMS that's scheduled for a mid-January delivery:



Here's a little more information on this unit, in response to a reader inquiry. It's primary purpose, we're told, will be as a rapidly deployable unit to support mass casualty operations. The truck will be heavy on medical supplies and equipment. It'll also serve as a responder rehab point for large operations and in support of EMS operations at USAR and haz-mat incidents.

Legeros - 12/22/06 - 19:36

For a similar vehicle look up the ALERT truck that is used by MEDIC in Mecklenburg county... similar functions, but it also has some command and control capabilities.

guest - 12/23/06 - 09:04

<http://cfdfirestation13.com/medic.jpg> – ALERT 1
<http://cfdfirestation13.com/police.jpg> – The "rollers" version.

Luke - 12/23/06 - 22:45

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

As aptly noted by a reader, this a blog, not a thesis. Don't worry about being perfect. If it's that important to Mike, he'll correct your posts after posting. If your posts are disappearing, as readers occasionally observe or question, it's almost exclusively because the posts are (a.) anonymous and (b.) talking trash about a specific person or entity. Discuss the issues, not the people. That's also why some names are discretely changed on the admin end. For these seeking non-moderated forums, both the [Watch Desk](#) and [FireNews](#) have a local discussion board. Alas, traffic is light on both. For those seeking their own platform, try [blogger.com](#). It's easier than you think to start your own blog. Feel free to drop notes noting notable WD or FN threads, or any new blogs. We'll read 'em.

...and, of course, anyone can mail me privately, and request that their named or anonymous post be removed. People change their minds. They think of other things they weren't thinking when they clicked POST COMMENT. No problem.

Legeros - 12/23/06 - 09:43

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Hospital Vehicles?

12/23/06 62 W, 1 I - + 18 - 18

Speaking of EMS vehicles, just how many hospital-operated units are there around Raleigh? Seems like there's a ton. WakeMed has a bunch, such as this Special Ops Support Unit. As was noted in an earlier blog posting, it carries a array of different equipment such as decontents/showers, heaters, back boards, coveralls, etc.



WakeMed's fleet also includes the local SMAT trailer, another box-style truck, and several small cargo trailers which contain all sorts of equipment. They will soon be getting a tractor-trailer similar to the one Carolinas Medical Center's MedCenter Air operates (the one that deployed to Waveland, MS that houses the mobile operating room).

Raleigh is also a part of the Metropolitan Medical Response System, and several of the hospitals have trailers for this (white, with a blue stripe at the bottom with MMRS on it).

And that doesn't include the hospital-based ambulance fleets...

EMS Guy - 12/23/06 - 23:54

MED-1, as mentioned above, is owned by CMC (Carolinas Medical Center) and is staffed with Doctors/Nurses/Specialists from CMC and Paramedics/EMTs from MEDIC, and also members of SMAT. When deployed, special officers from CMPD (Char-Meck Police Dept) accompany them. These officers have the power to arrest in areas outside of Charlotte and NC. They serve as security for the unit and as a liaison between the unit and local authorities where they are deployed.

The "unit" is actually two 53' tractor trailers that, when set-up, have approx 1000 sq ft of indoor treatment space. It also includes a full pharmacy, lab, radiology department, and ultrasound capabilities. MED-1 is also able to handle small surgery procedures, dentist procedures, trauma patients, and everything in between. It is truly amazing how capable and advanced this unit is. If you ever get the chance to tour it, don't pass it up! By no means am I "ate up" by EMS stuff, but it is really cool to see how prepared this unit is to handle/assist whenever, where ever, for whatever it might be. It can handle hundreds of patients at a time, with roughly 15+ beds inside and 100 in an attached (climate controlled) tent, not counting the "walking wounded."

It would be great if WakeMed could get something similar together with similar functions/resources. Heaven forbid, if a major incident occurred in NC, the two together would be an excellent resource for the State. In smaller cases, MED-1 could handle the western part of the state and WakeMed's unit could handle the eastern part; similar to USAR Teams and/or RRT. I'm not sure if SMAT already does something like that, I do know there is at least one trailer housed at a CFD station.

<http://www.carolinasmed-1.org/index.cfm> MED-1

<http://cms.premis.net/smat/index.php?opt..> – More pictures, including some of WakeMed’s trailers and vehicles.

Luke - 12/24/06 - 00:49

The plans from the state include that all hospital-based SMAT teams get a set of tractor-trailers, which when put together, will be equivalent to a 700 bed hospital. That would definitely be useful in the event of a disaster...

EMS Guy - 12/24/06 - 14:36

Didn’t Wake Med just replace the old international with a new sterling of some sort

Adam Brown - 12/24/06 - 17:51

Reference the Freightliners — they are still in the fleet, but they have just acquired a crew cab Sterling, and are in the process of receiving four new trucks based on the International chassis (the new chassis). There are no Internationals in their current fleet...

EMS Guy - 12/24/06 - 22:23

Great information I was actually inquiring about the Mass Casulty unit in the picture above. I apolgize. I thought I had seen a replacement for it the last time I was by wake med

Adam Brown - 12/24/06 - 23:38

Oh— my bad—

The Sterling you’re talking about is a box truck with all sorts of equipment in it. The “beer truck” is still in service, as far as I know. They take it out and run it every so often to keep the engine in tune.

Sorry for the wrong meaning...

EMS Guy - 12/25/06 - 00:00

I apolgize I should of clarified

Adam Brown - 12/25/06 - 00:31

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E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

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No

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Google News Archive

12/24/06 21 W - + 12 - 20

Google's new [News Archive Search](#) is a super research aid, and a source for the "most fatal" entries.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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Turnout Gear?

12/24/06 30 W - + 16 - 20

Random question, what type (and color) of turnout gear does everyone wear? Raleigh uses a couple different types, what are they? What else is used around Wake County?

Morning Pride – Yellow stripes : Volly dept
Verdian – Pink Stripes : City Dept
Guest from your City to the West. - 12/24/06 - 15:18

Raleigh’s new stuff is Globe G-Xtreme with the lime triple trim, the same as what Wake County is now ordering for everybody.

Cary is wearing Globe GX-7 currently, probably going to the G-Xtreme in the near future, Orange triple trim, there is still some morning pride floating around

Wendell is wearing black G-Xtreme now with their new stuff, lime triple trim

Apex wears Veridian Wally’s Fire Equipment “stock gear” with lime triple trim

The rest of wake county is replacing whatever they are wearing with the Globe G-Xtreme. I know morrisville, fuquay, and fairview use the Orange triple trim, most others use lime.

CFP 7021 - 12/25/06 - 18:36

Falls Fire wears yellow and silver stripe Morning Pride
Durham Highway Fire wears the yellow and silver stripe G-Extreme, however some of the volunteers are still using Morning Pride and earlier Globe with the same stripe configuration.

Falls201 - 01/05/07 - 21:30

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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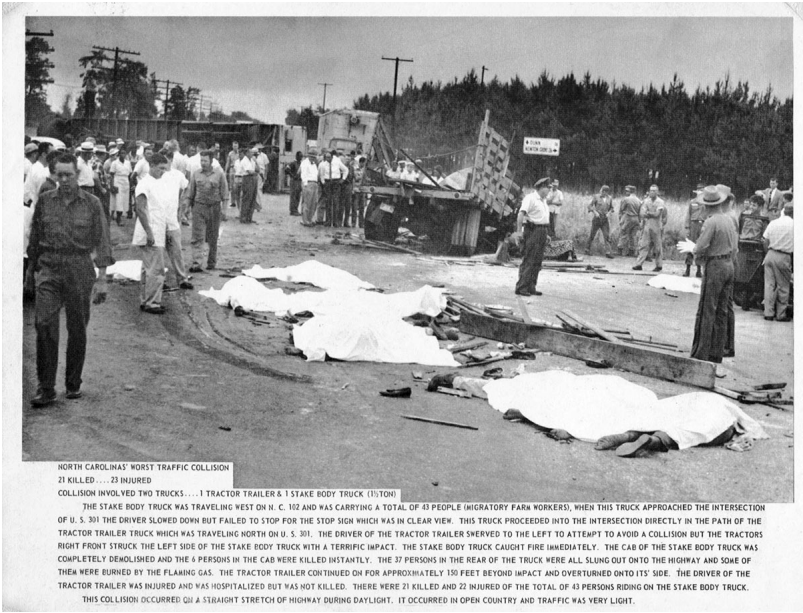
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June 6, 1957

12/24/06 32 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

A reader passes along this photograph and information of the June 6, 1957 wreck in Cumberland County that killed 21 people. Click to enlarge. At the time it was the state's worst roadway accident.



Name: (real name preferred)
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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Happy Holidays!

12/25/06 21 W, 1 I - + 19 - 18

Peace on Earth, good will toward man, and a quiet day for everyone...



Merry Christmas to everyone on the blog!

Adam Brown - 12/25/06 - 10:02

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They Came From a Far

12/25/06 412 W - + 14 - 17

Everyone knows the three wise men joke, and how they came from a far (fire). Here are some more jokes for your holiday amusement, cribbed from Mike's old [Playing with Fire](#) web column. He wrote 'em, so throw those vegetables in his direction...

Q: Why did the fire apparatus operator have his blood drawn?

A: For a pump panel.

Q: Where does a nozzle sleep?

A: On a hose bed.

Q: What did the Dalmatian say at the airport fire station?

A: ARFF.

Q: What is the material inside a firefighter's parka?

A: Hoser down.

Q: What do you call a group of PIOs standing by at a fire scene?

A: Writ team.

Q: What do you call a fire-resistant gangster?

A: Nomex® hood.

Q: How do firefighting elephants communicate?

A: Trunked radios.

Q: Why did the firefighter perform a lively Scottish Highland dance while pulling a one-inch line?

A: His captain asked for a booster reel.

Q: Did you hear Smokey Bear has been replaced by a female sheep?

A: Only ewe can prevent forest fires.

Q: Did you hear about the firefighter who was rejected from his department's talent show?

A: He was axed.

Q: Did you hear about the D.C. firefighters who answered a medical call at the office of the Senate Majority Leader?

A: They were Frist responders.

There was a terrible fire at Tara, the plantation where Scarlett O'Hara lived. Though many items were destroyed, quite a few things were saved. Firefighters rescued several books, which they later helped carry back into the building. Ms. O'Hara wanted the salvaged books placed on a pile of items belonging to Mr. Butler. She told them to put the read stuff on the Rhett stuff.

So this firefighter had a Dalmatian that was always getting loose at the station and running into the street. This was only a problem during the day, as the station doors were closed at night. And as the station was the only building on the block, drivers always saw the dog in time. One morning, however, a heavy mist had settled across the area and the drivers didn't see the spotted dog when he darted out of the station. He died and the grieving firefighter forever remembered that day whenever the weather conditions repeated themselves. He even gave it a name. It was... wait for it... Sparky the dire fog.

That's it for me! Good night everybody!

New Patch

12/25/06 61 W, 1 I - + 21 - 15

The Cary Fire Department has a neat new patch. Three designs were presented to members, we're told, and this was the winner. They've switched over all Class A jackets and Class B shirts. The new Truck 7 will also have the new patch. Other vehicles will be updated as needed or as money allows.



Any reason for the change?

Adam Brown - 12/26/06 - 13:39

Have you seen the old patch...Need magnifying glass to see the Fire/Rescue which is in the hidden Maltese cross...

guest - 12/27/06 - 18:30

The last patch, which is believed to be the fourth in the modern history of the Cary Fire Department was originally designed as a flag and later reduced down to a patch. The patch was lop sided in shape and very "busy". The biggest problem is that if you were more than 2 feet away you had no idea of the agency or even what service was being provided. The new patch was designed for two reasons, make "Cary Fire Department" obvious from a distance and clean up the busy mess around the old maltese. Thanks to the guy who took the time to do it!!

fireone - 12/27/06 - 19:57

If you already have "Fire Department" on the patch, is it necessary to have "Fire-Rescue" as well? Seems redundant...

Guest - 12/28/06 - 00:16

Why "fire-rescue" in addition to "fire department" on a patch? I suspect it is a branding issue. That is, they seek to identify that they provide both fire and rescue services.

Legeros - 12/28/06 - 09:22

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

Patch Gallery

12/26/06 71 W - + 13 - 13

Here's a [gallery](#) of all FD patches in Wake County. [Mail Mike](#) if any are missing or need updating. Why are the Raleigh and Stony Hill patches identical? Both were derived from Burlington's patch. Raleigh's patch was implimented by Chief Pickard, who had worked in Burlington. Stony Hill's patch was created after Raleigh's. The duplication wasn't caught, however, until after uniforms had been ordered. Or so the story goes.

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Big City Patches

12/26/06 47 W, 1 I - + 20 - 20

How does Raleigh's or Cary's patch compare to the other "big city" fire departments in NC? From the [FireNews patch gallery](#), here are the patches from the ten largest municipalities in the state. Click to enlarge. And one question, is the Wilmington patch current?



...and were Raleigh’s patch ever redesigned— yes, wishful thinking— elements could include “1792” (the year the city was created), some or all of the city seal (<http://www.raleighcitymuseum.org/exhibits/EX09/seal.jpg>), a representation of the State Capitol building, the words “City of Raleigh” and “Fire Dept.”, and icons for fire and EMS and maybe rescue.

Legeros - 12/26/06 - 15:19

I wish RFD would come up with a custom design....

guest - 12/26/06 - 17:26

More wishful thinking, this time on paper. Here’s a custom design for Raleigh, derived from the Cary design. Someone with better design skills could create something considerably cooler: <http://www.legeros.com/temp/patch.jpg>

Legeros - 12/26/06 - 18:00

Wilmington does still have this patch.

car3550 - 12/26/06 - 19:49

Cary’s new patch looks good against the others. Asheville seems to be suffering from the same “busy” problem as Cary’s old patch. Durham could stand a little update as well. Raleighs patch is still a good looking classic that is very recognizable. Greensboro is difficult to see since it is so small. All could use a little work. Does anyone remember High Points last patch, If I remember correct it had a bit of a “phoenix” on it that looked really good. Not sure why they changed it?

Fireone - 12/27/06 - 20:04

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No

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Vintage Film Footage on* « Reader Question / Cou... » Firehouse Fires? DVD

Vintage Film Footage on DVD

12/27/06 98 W, 1 I - + 20 - 16

Calling all history buffs! Mike Legeros has created a DVD collecting color film footage of the Raleigh Fire Department from around 1950. The footage, which runs 30 minutes, includes drills, activity at old Station 1, and a dorm fire at St. Aug. college. You'll also see a bunch of old apparatus, from a 1926 ALF to a 1950 FWD. Santa delivered copies to the stations last week. [Contact Mike](#) for information on obtaining copies. Also see <http://www.legeros.com/film> for scene-by-scene notations and additional information about the film footage. Enjoy!



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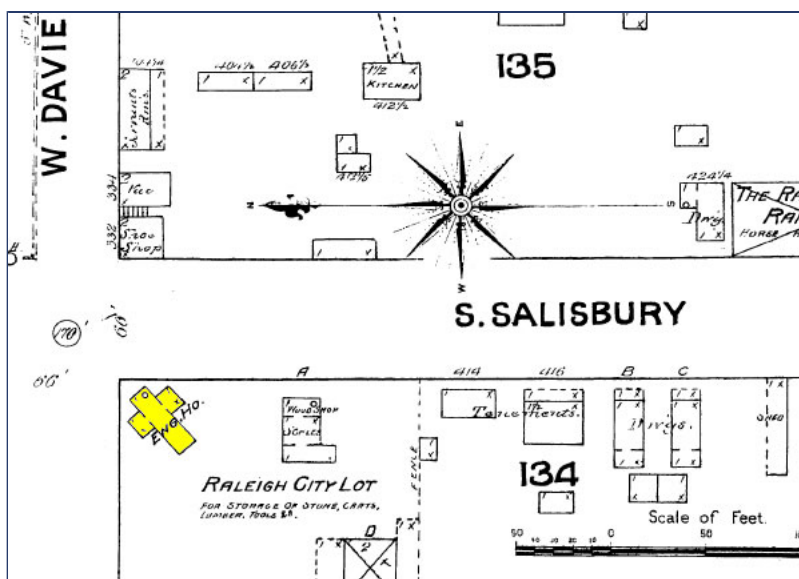
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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

Firehouse Fires?

12/28/06 134 W, 3 I - + 19 - 12

Random question. What firehouses have caught fire around here? In Raleigh, the Victor Company engine house was "partially consumed" on April 7, 1897. It was a single-story wooden structure at the City Lot. Two horses were killed and the apparatus, a horse-drawn reel, was damaged. The replacement building, opened the following year at the corner of Hargett and Blount Streets, would later become the original Fire Station 3.



Others?

The Falls fire station suffered a small fire in the late 1970s or early 1980s, when a small section of the building caught fire above the bay doors, at or behind an exterior light fixture. Click to enlarge:



The old Wake Forest Fire Department #2 station on Taylor Street burned on February 2, 1983. The building, closed as a fire station in 1982,

was being used as a community center.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Station 28

12/28/06 11 W, 1 I - + 23 - 18

As of this morning...



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No

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Cisterns

12/29/06 330 W, 1 I - + 17 - 21

Historical trivia. In 1851, a fire destroyed more than 17 structures on Fayetteville, Hargett, and Wilmington Streets. The blaze, controlled by means including dynamite, inspired improvements in fire protection including the installation of underground water cisterns. Their locations included the northeast and southwest corners of the Capitol Building, along Fayetteville Street, and on Hargett Street near Wilmington Street. They had capacities between 4,000 and 6,000 gallons, which was fine for the hand-powered pumps of the time. The cisterns were filled with rainwater, piped from the gutters of adjoining buildings. Presumably they could also be manually filled using any well pumps that were nearby.

When Raleigh's first steam engine was delivered in 1870, officials discovered that the cisterns could be quickly depleted. The underground tanks was subsequently enlarged or replaced with larger versions, with capacities ranging from 13,000 to 34,000 gallons. Fire hydrants were installed in 1887, allowing the use of hydrant pressure for hoses instead of the steam engine. The hydrants could also be used as a water supply for the steamer. One hand engine remained in use, however. It may have continued to draw water from the cisterns.

At least a couple cisterns remained filled into the next century, as a precaution against water system failure. When the News & Observer building burned on April 24, 1913, a water main failed about 1:15 into the incident. Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell directed the steam engine-- used at that time as reserve piece, or for major emergencies-- to the intersection of Fayetteville and Davie Streets, to utilize one of the old cisterns.

Decades later, when Fayetteville Street was being converted from a beloved roadway to a despised pedestrian mall (editorial opinion added), workers uncovered one of the old cisterns. It is pictured below. After this discovery, we've heard, drivers were told to avoid parking aerial apparatus on the completed mall. Just in case. Need to verify that one. Alas, we never heard of any subsequent discoveries when the mall was recently demolished and the roadway reopened.



Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
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Remember personal info?
☐ Yes
☐ No

More Patches

12/29/06 68 W, 1 I - + 23 - 14

Readers submitted these new or improved patches. The revised Apex patch replaced the words "volunteer" with "established." Here's what the [old patch looked like](#). The year 1939 reflects the year AFD was re-formed. The first town fire department was [organized in 1927](#). The Durham Highway patch, recently added, was drawn by a Rescue Company company. An Engine 4 patch should appear next month.



The Apex patch was just recently changed in the past year or so. If you want to be politically correct, the patch should read "Established 2002" or so. The Town merged with the corporated fire department in 2002 or 2003.

Guest - 12/29/06 - 12:00

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Station 7

12/29/06 16 W, 1 I - + 18 - 18

Cary's (and Morrisville's) new station is just about ready...



expect partial occupancy mid feb, full occupancy may not be until June or July

Stations 8 and 9 and possibly a replacement for Station 2 will be in the near future

CFP 7021 - 12/29/06 - 18:42

What does partial occupancy mean? Only half the people or only half the time?

Guest - 12/29/06 - 20:05

the sewer lines being run to the station are way behind schedule, thus the reason for the "partial occupancy" but that it will be open and operational for the most part hopefully by mid-february, with final completion by July at the latest.

CFP 7021 - 12/30/06 - 16:48

What are the locations for station eight and nine? Also will station 2 be in same existing area?

Stretch - 12/30/06 - 21:48

Word is St. 8 on O'Kelly Chapel Road and St. 9 at Brooks Park on Green Level Church Road. St. 2 should stay in the same general area.

car3550 - 12/30/06 - 22:24

Some details on CFD capital improvements in this year's budget: <http://www.townofcary.org/depts/budget/c..>

Main town of Cary FY 2007 budget page: <http://www.townofcary.org/depts/budget/c..>

Legeros - 12/30/06 - 22:28

Also see the town's ten-year capital improvements plan: <http://www.townofcary.org/depts/budget/c..>

Wish Raleigh had such detailed stuff online (of, if they do, that it was even remotely easy to find)...

Legeros - 12/30/06 - 22:31

Station 8, as stated, should be in the area of O'Kelly Chapel Rd and Alston Ave. Station 9 will be north of Brooks Park as the FD "gave" the land back to the town for a water tower. The new location may be in the area of Green Level Church Rd and Green Level to Durham Rd. Station 2 will most likely be on the land next to the current Station 2 in between there and Cary HS 9th grade center. It will most likely not face Maynard

but face the road that runs from Maynard Rd to Ryan Rd. Rumor puts Station 10 somewhere in the area of Green Level West and Green Level to Durham Rd area.

CFP 7021 - 12/31/06 - 01:05

Here’s a map that mixes the CIP station projections (and dates) with the rumored locations noted above: <http://www.legeros.com/temp/cfd-stations..>

Legeros - 12/31/06 - 06:34

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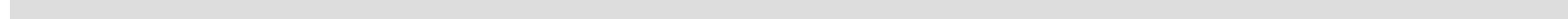
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Drawings

12/30/06 59 W, 1 I - + 16 - 20

Random historical bit. Before photographs were available to news photographers, drawings were used to represent major events, such as the destruction of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad shops in 1896. The pictures, top to bottom, left to right, are titled "Ruins After the Fire," "Saving the Oil House," and "Where the Fire Originated."



RUINS AFTER THE FIRE.



SAVING THE OIL HOUSE



WHERE THE FIRE ORIGINATED.

Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Blue Ridge Parkway Plane Crash12/30/06 59 W - + 18 - 16

Earlier today, a light plane crashed near mile marker 371 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Reems Creek responded, along with a number mutual aid departments, including Asheville Rescue 1. It went for manpower and high-level rescue. How far did R1 travel? By rough estimate, I-40 west to the Parkway, that's about 20 miles. Not counting elevation changes.

Name: (real name preferred)

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