

Cary Open House

04/20/07 33 W - + 13 - 9

We're told that there's an open house at Cary Station 7 on Wednesday, April 25, from 9:30 to 12:00. Watch for the guy in the Hawaiian shirt. Maybe even the late-riser will be there.

Man, why did it have to be on a C-shift day?!

Silver - 04/21/07 - 11:22

just stop in any time... come on you know the deal

[CFP 7021] ([Email](#)) - 04/21/07 - 11:37

I know, I know, but I wanted to be there on "the big day" Shev!!! I'll stop in though. What shift are you on?

Silver - 04/21/07 - 11:43

shoot me an email

[CFP 7021] ([Email](#)) - 04/21/07 - 16:09

Mike I work at station-7, hope you can make it out there. I got a engine-7 shirt for ya if you would like one. If your there I will hook ya up with one. The station has turned out to be really nice, take some cool pics for us we would really appreciate it.

TBA - 04/25/07 - 00:24

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](#))

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.

Airport EMS

04/20/07 88 W, 1 I - + 18 - 8

Where has Six Forks EMS been hiding their airport unit all this time? Inside a warehouse at 6901 Mt. Herman Road. The 10,816 square-foot structure was built in 1972 and obtained by RDU in 1990. It's served Six Forks since October 2005 and presently houses a 12-hour unit. Two boats and a light trailer are also parked inside. We're told there's talk of a nearby Lumley Road lot being donated for a permanent EMS facility. The land would be free, but a building would have to be built. Click to enlarge:



Isn't there a unit at the airport during the night?

Wakefirefighter - 04/21/07 - 16:40

From <http://www.sixforksrescue.com/sf-about.h..>

"We operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year utilizing four ambulances during peak hours and two ambulances during off-peak hours."

Presumably those two "night ambulances" are at Station 1 and Station 2, and not at the airport.

Legeros - 04/21/07 - 16:42

Need an ambulance at night? Mapquest times to RDU from...

Six Forks EMS Station 1 – 12.3 miles

Six Forks EMS Station 2 – 12.5 miles

Wake EMS Station 4 – 9.7 miles

Cary EMS – 12.7 miles

Bethesda Fire/EMS Station 1 – 8.0 miles

Parkwood Fire/EMS Station 1 – 9.6 miles

Parkwood Fire/EMS Station 3 – 5.4 miles (they have an ambulance at #3, right?)

etc.

Legeros - 04/21/07 - 16:49

At night, Cary EMS responds to the airport/Brier Creek area from Morrisville.

CJS ([Email](#)) - 04/21/07 - 17:42

Also, about the airport situation... the ambulance that Cary staffs in Morrisville is at Morrisville Station 2 (I'm not sure — that's not my area of concern usually), but that station is not far from RDU, I-40, I-540, and Aviation Parkway... I'm sure that it's closer to the call sometimes than 1273 because of traffic...

But nothing beat the response from the old EMS 6 into the Airport grounds...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 04/21/07 - 19:13

From Mapquest, more distances to RDU...

Morrisville Station 1 – 5.1 miles

Morrisville Station 2 – 4.3 miles

Six Forks EMS Station 3 – 3.1 miles

Old EMS Station 6 – 2.0 miles (estimated)

Original EMS Station 6 – 1.5 miles (estimated)

Legeros - 04/21/07 - 22:33

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'?

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

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.

Nine Months and 46 Years Later

04/21/07 518 W - + 13 - 15

Thus ends the Great Reading. This month Mike finished a research project of reading (or skimming) each day's newspaper between January 1, 1867 and December 31, 1912. Merely 16,801 days worth of newspapers including the *Daily News*, *Daily Sentinel*, *Daily Standard*, *Daily Telegram*, *News & Observer*, *Observer*, *Raleigh News*, *Raleigh Times*, and *Weekly Standard*. The papers were read on microfilm at Olivia Raney Local History Library (ORL) and usually on Monday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. It was more skimming than reading, really, with only the local news sections studied carefully. And even then it was watching for the larger headlines and more obvious news items. The keywords, of course, were "fire" and "fire department" and "firemen." And with so much railroad activity at the time, there were plenty of false positives on the last one. Each year took between two and four hours to browse. (Though only two or sometimes three hours of browsing was possible at a single sitting. Eye strain.) The fewer articles to copy, the faster the browsing. Some 1,850 articles were scanned and subsequently printed at Kinkos.

(The process of scanning and printing actually involved scanning the article as a JPEG image, saving the JPEG file to a flash drive, taking the flash drive home, copying the JPEG files to a computer, generating a Word document with the JPEG images displayed one per page, generating a PDF version of the Word document to submit to Kinkos, submitting the PDF document on the Kinkos site, picking up the printed pages at Kinkos, writing the date and newspaper name on each page, incorporating any notable facts from each page into the RFD history web pages, and merging each page with whatever article pages Mike already had.)

The project was started after consuming a collection of newly donated research materials at ORL. These were the notes and papers of the great Wake County historian [Elizabeth Reid Murray](#). They included boxes, plural, of Raleigh Fire Department information. Mike had volumes of information himself, but Ms. Murray's files had dozens and dozens of new dates and facts and references. And particularly about the hand- and horse-drawn era. See, for a couple years, Mike had been working on a "mini book" about the volunteer era of the Raleigh Fire Department. It covered 1880 to 1912, a span chosen at it matched Mike's research materials. He even released the first two chapters. Part 1 was [posted to the blog](#) in February 2006 and the Part 2 was [posted to the blog](#) in July 2006. Well, the discovery of the Murray Collection put a halt to that project. There was now additional source material to review and compile and incorporate. The new material included a number of newspaper dates, which sent Mike back to the microfilm machines.

So, he started skimming articles in the 1880s and 1870s and late 1860s. And he soon found himself browsing entire years. Well, one thing led to another, and he just decided to keep reading. So eight months and 46 years later, he's learned more than he ever expected to learn about the volunteer era of the Raleigh Fire Department. To be continued.

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

Airport Calls

04/22/07 176 W - + 12 - 18

Now that the airport's on the county radio system, what are the aviation-specific calls types we're hearing? Let's see...

Alert 1 / Alert 2 (aircraft in trouble)

Alert 2 / Alert 3 (aircraft crashed)

Inbound Medical Emergency

De-fueling (stand-by)

What else are we likely to hear?

Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting, Fourth Edition (IFSTA) lists the following types of aircraft accidents/incidents:

Ground Emergencies

Overheated wheel assemblies

Tire/wheel failures

Combustible metal fires

Fuel leaks and spills

Engine fires or auxiliary power unit (APU) fires

Uncontained engine failures

Aircraft interior (or cabin) fires

In-Flight Emergencies:

System failure

Hydraulic problems

Engine failure/fire

Inoperable or malfunctioning flight controls

Gear failure, either hydraulic or mechanical

Special military considerations (explosions become dislodged, ejection seat activated, etc.)

Loss of cabin pressure

Onboard fire

Bird strike

Structural failure

Low or no fuel

Lighting strike, turbulence, wind shear, and icing (not emergencies unto themselves, but effects can cause emergencies)

Plus low-impact crashes (wheels-up or belly landings, ditching, rejected takeoff with runway overrun, helicopter crashes) and high-impact crashes (controlled flight in terrain, hillside crashes, crashes involving structures).

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Station 28

04/22/07 56 W, 2 I - + 15 - 9

The antiques were moved to the new station on Saturday. The two 1982 Macks were also moved there. They'll be combined into a single restored pumper. The remaining Macks still sitting at Services have been sold, we're told. They're still shooting to open tomorrow.



Pretty darn cool.....nice that all of the antiques are together....

Silver - 04/22/07 - 19:28

Name: (real name
preferred)

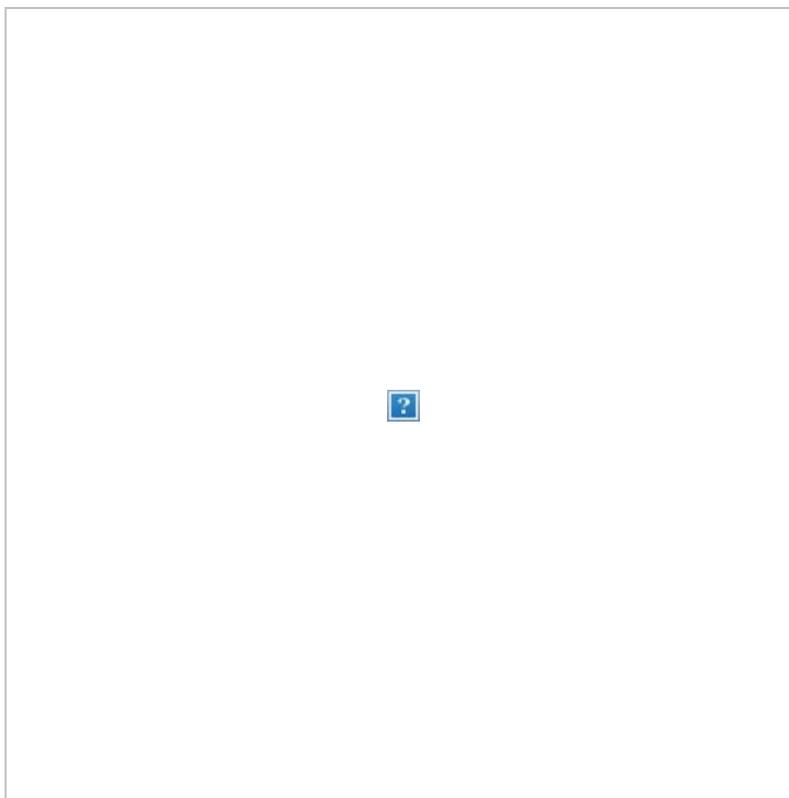
Remember personal info?

Yes

South Orange Rescue

04/22/07 22 W, 1 I - + 11 - 16

Passed along by a reader, here's an [interesting ambulance design in nearby Orange County](#). Check out those rear checkers!



I gotta admit... it's different (and different is not always bad)...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 04/22/07 - 17:03

Hmmmmm...I knew they had some trucks with smaller orange stripes. But those trucks are owned by the county. I don't know...to each their own, I guess...but you got to admit...it IS different. I don't know...I kind of like the big chevrons...

DJ - 04/22/07 - 21:00

Checkmate! I too prefer the chevrons...

Olson - 04/23/07 - 09:21

Please don't let Kirkwood see this or all the trucks will be repainted!

Guest - 04/23/07 - 22:44

We haven't used paint since 2001... and vinyl can come off pretty easy with a heat gun. I keep waiting for them to develop a dry erase marker that won't run in the rain so that we can change striping every few months.

Olson - 04/23/07 - 22:51

I hear you brother! If only they were green again! That was a classic in EMS!

Guest - 04/23/07 - 23:48

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'?

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

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.

Brush Fire

04/23/07 58 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

Talk about timing. Cary to Garner for a planned social call on the far side of the county and it's but blocks from a major brush fire. Clayton, Cleveland School, and later Garner, plus the Forest Service and a pair of big, honking plows. Cue *Smoke Gets In Your Eyes*.



Was this off Cornwallis Rd? Thought I heard NCFs coordinating some air drops on the Mamers Repeater late this afternoon.

Olson - 04/23/07 - 22:52

Yes, that was probably it. I saw a possible spotter plane, but there were no air drops. Perhaps the pilot was coordinating the fire breaks?

Legeros - 04/24/07 - 05:53

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.

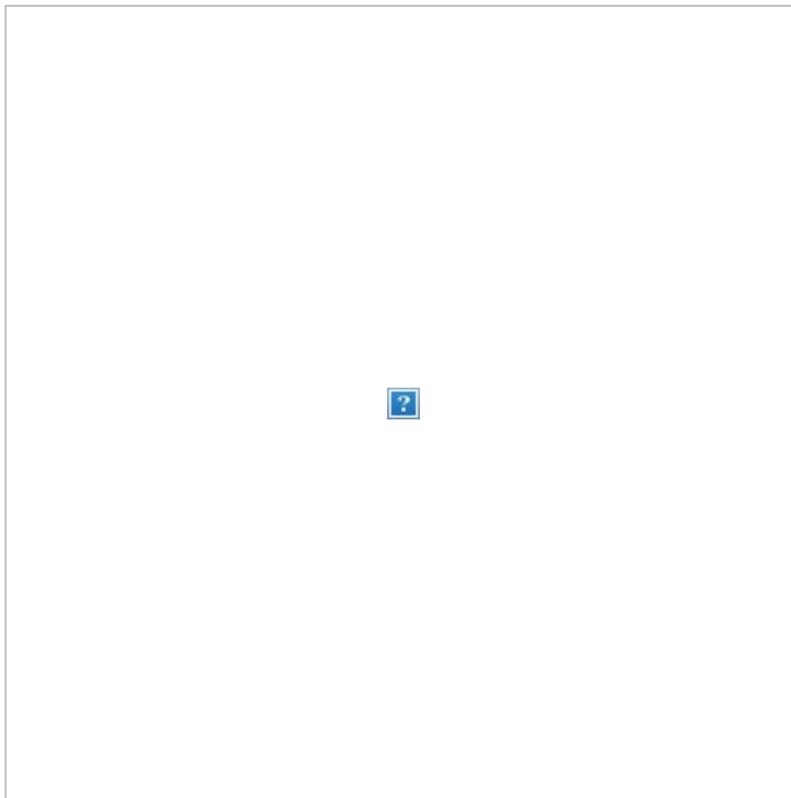
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Suds

04/24/07 31 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

This [Firehouse article](#) links to [video footage](#) of a new Chicago high-expansion foam unit in use. Ah, memories of Raleigh's two foam trucks. They've been gone, what, fifteen years now?



That Chicago unit is pretty damn cool!!!

Silver - 04/25/07 - 10:49

Too bad we couldn't get one at RFD because Chicago already has one...hahahaha!!! Remember, can't duplicate bigger cities, that would be silly!!!!

Guest555 - 04/25/07 - 12:08

^Actually, Raleigh used to have one. But Raleigh didn't need it then and still don't now so they got rid of it.

pal - 04/26/07 - 07:36

They use to have one? Or, was it a pick up truck that carried buckets? I think it's great to be reactive....

guest555 - 04/26/07 - 08:59

If Pal Was Referring To Foam 12, It Definetly Wasnt A Pickup. Guest, Rfd Shouldnt Be Wasting Its Funds On Apparatus Just Because It Is Cool. I Guess They Should Get A Helicopter Too, Because That Would Be Proactive.

eric - 04/26/07 - 11:49

Such curious comments. In 1965 or abouts, there was a fire in Cameron Village. A local high-ex foam system dealer heard the thing on his radio and brought a high-ex unit (on a trailer) to the scene. It was used to extinguish the fire. CV owner Willie York was so impressed that he

bought one for Raleigh and with the request/restriction that same be stationed nearby. Raleigh bought a second unit a year later and it was housed at Station 1. These pick-up truck units remained in service through the early 1990s. They were most effective for basement or other difficult, interior fires.

LJM - 04/26/07 - 12:00

I remember Foam 12, an old LaFrance (then a Mack) I believe. Did they ever use those pick up truck style units? I say hold off on the chopper for now. Five extra ladders would be nice though!!!

Silver - 04/26/07 - 12:53

I know of twice that Foam Unit 1 was used. Both times on basement fires in residential fires where there was 'who-knows-what' in the basement, including ammunition. The basements opened directly to the outside, so the long tube was placed at the door and it was cranked up. The Hi-X foam filled the basement in a few minutes and extinguished the fire. No more water-type damage than using hoselines, and no one actually had to make an attack. They also took one to Enloe HS in 1974 when there was a fire in the wood shop. The fire was extinguished before arrival.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 04/26/07 - 13:00

The aforementioned equipment dealer was Gene Ogburn, who also founded the Fairview Fire Department. Cameron Village also had an underground area later used (and probably earlier used) as retail and commercial space. Plus Penny's and a couple other stores had basement areas. Photos from that era show the foam units used for other purposes. They once sudsed the car of the Durham Fire Chief. It was also used at a train wreck toward Wake Forest, as an attempted (but failed) extinguishing agent. By the early 1990s, RFD also utilized a foam transporter. This was one of the 1960s American LaFrance pumpers with foam cannister stacked in the hose bed. Later replaced by an older Mack pumper, these foam units were discontinued a few years ago.

Legeros - 04/26/07 - 16:34

i am with silver. i am all for having my own traditions but if we are going to take a page from a larger dept lets get some things we need like some more ladders. If raleigh can play the cards right they have a great tool in RDU-CFR no need for another specialized unit to gather dust. I love the RFD but foam 12, first the La france then the mack were nothing more than fancy pick up trucks. They could not even pump water.

Porter - 04/26/07 - 17:07

Special units versus added ladders is apples versus oranges, I believe. Converted foam haulers cost nothing to purchase. No personnel costs either. Add a ladder company, however, and there's a chunk of change for the personnel and/or the apparatus, if bought new. I dare say (dare! dare!) a Chicago-style foam unit, bought new, is probably one-tenth the expense of adding a ladder company. Ergo, apples versus oranges.

Legeros - 04/26/07 - 18:19

A foam unit may be a fraction of the immediate price, but you have to realize A)a ladder truck would be used everyday, foam unit maybe once a month. B)the conversion of the truck may cost nothing but foam itself is expensive. C)we all bitch about duplicating units so why duplicate CFR?

Yes...but... - 04/26/07 - 22:32

Agreed Mike but every penny spent towards something we do not need is a penny further from what we do. No doubt the stuff should be mobile. Fill one of the trailers with it and hitch it behind a mini pumper. How many years did we carry the specialized rescue equipment that way?

Porter - 04/26/07 - 22:41

It's a known fact, we are short when it comes to ladder companies. The "powers that be" are trying to resolve that. Granted that RDU-CFR needs an escort due to their size, they might not be practical. We used them in Apex years ago, but it took some time to get them to the scene. If we can think outside the box, all the new Pierce's have Class A on them. SR2 is loaded down with buckets of the white stuff, let's use it before it expires!!

Look at the buildings too. I know that Chicago, NY, Philly and DC have buildings that are so old and cut up that it's insane to go in due to structural instability. With downtown development going on here, either our old ones' are being torn down, retro-fitted with sprinklers, or at the very least being cleaned up. The downtown units are good about getting out of the house quick, and with an aggressive attack most can be brought under control rather quickly (if they are reported quickly). Porter would know about those foam units, he was at 12 when one was there.

A new hi-expansion foam unit would be nice, but we'll get the biggest bang for our buck with a few more ladder companies. It's called "the cost of doing business", and if a ladder company is expected to operate like one should, then we need more in Raleigh before we get spaced out too far apart. You can relocate units all you want, but eventually it's time to add some, and I know they're trying. Maybe start charging impact fees is the answer to help foot the bill?

Silver - 04/26/07 - 23:05

I wasn't referring to Foam 12. I was referring to what I guess was called Foam unit 5. <http://legeros.com/ralwake/gallery/appar..>
I just noticed Mike put a different picture of same vehicle on this page already.

pal - 04/27/07 - 10:20

pal, there were two of them, 1 and 5. F/U 5 was on an International p/u and F/U 1 was on a Dodge p/u.

DJ (Email) - 04/27/07 - 13:26

Sorry fire guys. City Council decided today to spend \$11 million to dress up the plaza on Fayetteville St. That would have been a bunch of nice aerials, some foam trucks, one County brush truck, and pay the lease on the helicopter for a few years

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/01/07 - 23:18

What would happen if citizens or fire guys (and gals) made their opinions known to City Council regarding aerials and foam trucks and other perceived needs? I presume that no one here has attended any meetings and presented citizen comments on the subject. (Sundry searching of the minutes documents, which I do every so often, hasn't shown anything.) Would Those in Power sit up and take notice if one or more Concerned Taxpayers were there in person? Perhaps with handouts, or a presentation, or some other fact-based, attention-augmenting aids? Maybe it takes a citizen's lobby or advocacy group. But that takes time and energy. And it draws public scrutiny. For those in uniform, it's probably a minefield. No duh, there. But it can be done. Heck, **anything** can be done. It just requires the energy to make it happen.

Legeros - 05/02/07 - 04:32

You know, once upon a time, a small group of firefighters at a local then-not-so-international airport actually stood up and said "Hey, we have a problem!" They did not have decent turnout gear, radios to talk to their mutual aid, a decent station, only three folks on duty but four trucks, a crappy station, and a worn out POS for a rapid intervention vehicle mounted on a 1957 pick-up. Those 12 firefighters stood up and let their concerns be heard.

Well, there were some terrific quotes in the paper. The one that I remember was "Actually, the fire department is overstaffed, overtrained, over equipped, and over paid". It went back and forth in the news.

So what happened? New radios came in. New turnout gear came in. A new rescue truck came in. We went from 3 persons per shift to 5 persons per shift (changed from 12 hour shifts to 24 hour shifts). We got a station renovation that included bunk rooms, a shower, a kitchen, and storage. Twelve people made it happen.

I remember the bumper stickers of the 70s- "200 Raleigh cops can't be wrong".

If you want something and you truly believe in it, you have to have the energy to make it happen. I am sure that fire administration wants more ladders, specialty units, etc. But there is only so much they can do.

My \$0.02.

DJ (Email) - 05/02/07 - 10:04

City council just approved \$21 million for the new City Plaza on Fayetteville St. (according to WRAL).

Silver - 05/02/07 - 11:45

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Recruitment Site

04/25/07 33 W - + 10 - 15

The Raleigh Fire Department recently created a recruitment site that includes stock photography from a certain pair of photographers. Visit www.raleigh-nc.gov/fire and click on the Join RFD banner.

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'?

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

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.

Engine 28

04/25/07 22 W, 1 I - + 14 - 9

...was placed in service at 12:00 noon today. It operates a 1995 Pierce Dash pumper, formerly Engine 15.



Did it get its first call yet, out of 28?

Luke - 04/25/07 - 21:49

I bet it was a sick call!

Duke - 04/25/07 - 23:11

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.

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.

Station 7

04/25/07 195 W, 1 I - + 12 - 17

Cary's new station is a stunner. The 17,200 square-foot facility cost \$4.5 million, which included around \$1 million (!) of additional sewer and water work for that particular location. Three very deep bays housing Engine 7 and Truck 7. Morrisville Engine 3 moves into the facility at the end of the month. Bedrooms for three companies. Two offices, one that opens into the watch room. Watch room has a sliding glass window facing the front lobby. Exercise room and classroom, the latter the first in-station classroom for Cary. The recruit academy is using same. They graduate in October. Day room with giant chairs that opens into a kitchen/dining room. Back patio with a grill, picnic table, and a pair of all-weather ceiling fans. Decon room and tool room off the apparatus floor. Half-story between the building sections for storage. Two doors open above the apparatus bay. On the other side of the bay is a platform with rope pulleys. Though designed for ropes training, the ceiling fixtures probably prohibit its use. Outside is a patch of bricks for future replacement with those inscribed with retiree names. Very cool. Wrap-around driveway with secondary lower lot.



What's to become of the MFD station? We're told the facility is the property of the Morrisville Rural Fire Department corporation (and not the town) and they're hoping to keep the property available for public safety use. Such as, say, Cary EMS.

Legeros - 04/25/07 - 18:05

Maybe a Cary PD substation as well? Anyone know where one is out that way?

Silver - 04/25/07 - 19:27

Beautiful house....glad to say that part of my tax dollars paid for it. You guys deserve it....just remember these nice comments in case you get punched out to 427 Waterford Lake Dr.!!! Hahahaha.....

Silver - 04/25/07 - 19:34

Awesome Station! What kind of call volume is this station expected to run?

Rides A Truck - 04/26/07 - 12:41

Mike, any idea when, if ever, Raleigh and Cary opened fire stations within this close of a time period?

[CFP 7021] (Email) - 04/27/07 - 11:03

Awesome station brothers, yall should be very proud!!!!!!! I am jealous of the kitchen tables, wish we had some at our Lucky 7. We might just have to remove the signs off the Engine and put on our table!!!!!!!

Later from RFD lucky 7 Engine and Rescue!

Jason Lane - 04/27/07 - 22:32

Jason, a couple firefighters from CFD made those tables. I can get the info for you if you want it shoot me an email.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 04/28/07 - 06:33

If you can provide opening dates for Stations 3 through 6, I can check. I only have years for those.

Legeros - 05/01/07 - 19:12

Here's the press release for the opening:

CARY, NC – As part of its ongoing commitment to providing high quality service and quick responses to emergencies, the Town of Cary officially opened its newest, state-of-the art facility – Fire Station #7, 6900 Carpenter Fire Station Road, in a hose uncoupling ceremony today at the new station. Cary Mayor Ernie McAlister and Council member Jennifer Robinson joined Cary Fire Chief Allan Cain and Morrisville Fire Chief Todd Wright in unhooking the hose to officially open the \$4.1 million, 17,021-square-foot building that sits on nearly three acres and features offices, a training room, sleeping quarters, and three bays for housing fire apparatus.

In a unique twist highlighting the benefits of intergovernmental cooperation, the one-story brick station will house two companies from the Cary Fire Department and one from the Morrisville Fire Department. The towns entered into an agreement to co-locate in the facility because of the close proximity of the municipalities' service areas, and the Morrisville FD had outgrown their facility, which is close to the new fire station. The Cary Fire Department will provide fire protection to the Town of Cary, and the Morrisville Fire Department will continue to service their community and unincorporated areas of Wake County. During each of the three shifts, the station will house nine Cary firefighters and 3-4 Morrisville firefighters.

"This new facility is a testament of our continued commitment to finding innovative ways to meet the needs of our citizens," said Cary Mayor Ernie McAlister. "As this project demonstrates, we are dedicated to working together to create the best outcome not only for the people in Cary but also in our neighboring communities."

"We're pleased to bring this facility on-line and to be able to continue providing high quality service to our citizens in this part Cary," said Cary's Fire Chief Allan Cain. "We look forward to sharing the new facility with the Morrisville Fire Department so that we may better protect the lives and property of people in our communities."

"We see this as a win-win for the citizens of the Town of Morrisville, Town of Cary and Wake County, " according to Morrisville's Fire Chief Todd Wright. "The intergovernmental agreement exemplifies the commitment both towns have to provide the best level of service for the citizens of this area."

On July 28, 2005, the Cary Town Council awarded the Fire Station construction project to Centurion Construction of Raleigh, and construction began on the station the following month. The project was funded through the Town's Capital Improvement Budget.

Originally established in 1922 to save lives and property, the Town of Cary Fire Department has evolved from a small volunteer organization providing for the needs of the community into a 209-member multi-faceted and dynamic organization. The Town's seven stations house a total of seven engines in service, three aerial trucks, two service ladder trucks and two special response units. The Cary Fire Department has been internationally accredited since 1999.

For more about Fire Station #7, visit <http://www.townofcary.org/depts/dsdept/e...>

Legeros - 05/01/07 - 21:40

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Falls New Engine

04/25/07 11 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Fresh from the factory and [photographed by Lee](#):



Awesome new engine. More photos on there updated website. <http://www.fallsfd.com>

Andrew - 04/26/07 - 16:44

If you look on the falls website photos and this photo, it looks like the lettering on the door was changed.

Andrew - 04/26/07 - 16:46

Wow that is a good looking engine, impressive.

Porter - 04/26/07 - 17:09

Sharp looking engine. When did Falls get the nickname "River Rats?"

Luke - 04/26/07 - 23:41

Its not an Engine, its a "Pumper"

LtEng3 - 04/26/07 - 23:45

Its what a group of Falls community residents called themselves at one point before the Fire Department was even formed. From my understanding the Falls "River Rats" used to play the Stony Hill "Harricanes" (excuse me if I spelled it wrong) in softball games. If anyone can add to this, please do.

Flip - 04/27/07 - 00:34

What a great looking rig. I really like the black over red coloring that some county departments have began using. Are there any other departments going with this paint scheme in the future?

Josh ([Email](#)) - 04/27/07 - 17:55

While not around here, Charleston, SC has recently started with this scheme as well. Some of their recent deliveries can be found on Sutphen's website

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 04/27/07 - 21:00

Correct LT.ENG3-R, it is a Pumper.

stash - 04/27/07 - 23:07

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.

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.

Fighting Fire with Fire

04/26/07 57 W, 1 I + 12 - 15

The Spring 2007 issue of *Carolina Fire Rescue EMS Journal* features a feature on steam fire engines by Mike. It's a two-page piece with three wee photos. You can also download a PDF version of the entire issue from [their web site](#). Be warned, it's a 70 MB file.



Here's a local version of the article, with a couple more pics and a new sidebar: <http://www.legeros.com/history/steamers/>

Legeros - 04/27/07 - 07:04

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'?

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

Firefighter Fashion Show

04/26/07 95 W - + 14 - 11

Press release. Raleigh firefighters are again participating in the [Southern Women's Show](#) this weekend. They'll be passing the boot for the Wake County Chapter of the Firefighters Burned Children Fund, as well as modeling Talbot's Men's fashions on Friday night and Sunday afternoon. At Sunday's show, the Raleigh Fire Department Honor Guard will open the ceremony. In addition to the Talbot's men's fashions, the fire department's new dress uniforms will be shown. There will also be a booth with information on fire safety, child passenger seat safety, and Raleigh Fire Department recruiting.

New dress uniform?

Flip - 04/26/07 - 19:01

Yes, that's correct. We are FINALLY getting true "Class A" uniforms. From the dress pants, to the coat, to the traditional "bell style" hat. Raleigh FD will look sharp when everyone has one, right now just the Chief officers have them (and they look good). The Captains have been fitted, then it will trickle down from there.

Silver - 04/26/07 - 23:11

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'?

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

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.

Robeson County Former Firehouses

04/28/07 83 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Four former firehouses in Robeson County. Left to right, top to bottom: Lumberton Old City Hall at 112 North Elm Street (built 1917, closed 1976), St. Paul's Old Fire Station at the present Municipal Building at 210 West Blue Street (built 1968, closed ?), Lumberton Old Station 2 and Old Public Safety Center at the present Police Department at 1305 Godwin Street (built 1962, closed 1983?), Lumberton Old Station 2 at the old Armory and present Recreation Center in the 1100 block of North Cedar Street (built ?, closed 1962). 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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

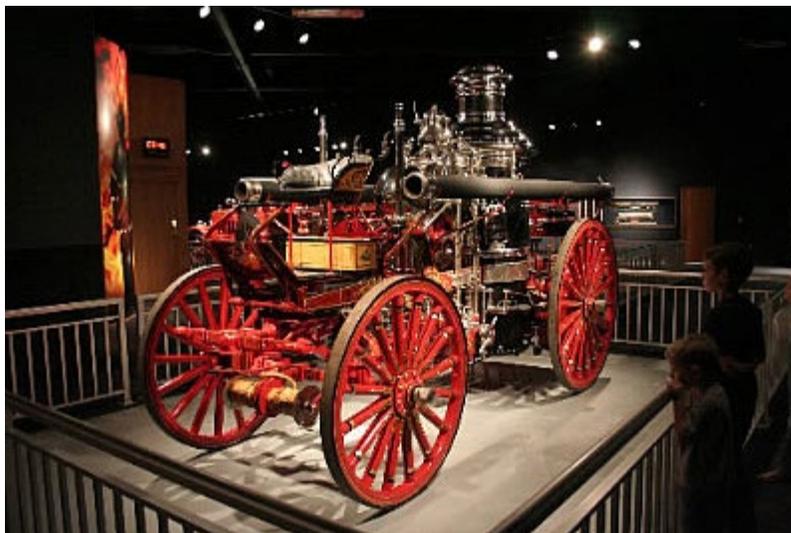
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

North Charleston and American LaFrance Fire Museum and Education Center

04/28/07 712 W, 1 I - + 14 - 15

Photos [posted](#).



Preliminary notes below.

- North Charleston and American LaFrance Fire Museum and Education Center.
- <http://www.legacyofheroes.org/>
- Joint venture between city and company.
- Funded entirely by the city, except for ownership of the American LaFrance Collection.
- Paid with money derived from a special tax district.
- Site chosen for high traffic, adjoining an outlet mall that was planned at the time of the museum planning.
- American LaFrance approached the city about a museum a few years ago, at the time their collection was still housed in Cleveland, N.C.
- Project embraced by city as an education aid (fire safety is the museum's main issue), a quality of life enhancement, and an added tourist attraction.
- Two full-time employees employed by the city of North Charleston.
- Six part-time employees.
- Eighteen pieces of rolling stock displayed, built between 1857 and 1969. Includes one hand engine, one hand hose reel, and two steamers.
- Collection valued between \$3.5 and \$5.5 million.
- Project time approximately 4.5 years.
- Building designed by Coast Architects.
- Structure measures nearly 27,000 square-feet.
- Designed to evoke an old firehouse.
- Exterior materials include brick, metal roof, wooden doors, and cast stone. The exterior bay doors (two of which are functional) also evoke Charleston's Visitor Center complex, formerly a railroad warehouse.
- Building is basically two rectangles: smaller entrance hall, much larger exhibit space.
- Entrance hall includes space for Charleston Area Visitors Bureau, which occupies the space for free.
- Entrance hall also includes admission booth, gift shop, rest rooms, kitchen, and a partition that can separate part of the entrance hall.
- Entrance hall also includes Silsby steam engine on display.
- Six words carved into cast-stone columns in front of structure: "Courage, Valor, Protect, Service, Honor, Loyalty."

- Front includes school bus drop-off area.
- Rear includes small sheltered pavilion that can serve as outdoor classroom.
- Lobby uses natural light, while exhibit space is darker and uses spotlights.
- Exhibit space measures 100 by 200 feet. Darkened walls and ceilings and spotlights focus attention on the exhibits.
- Two exhibits produce simulate smoke using glycol-based substance: multimedia home hazards display and the narrated backdrop of an 1857 hand engine.
- Other exhibits include:
 - History of firefighting wall display.
 - Home exit drills standing display.
 - Nozzle pressure interactive display.
 - Personal protective equipment standing display.
 - Parts of a fire engine interactive display that narrates the parts of a full-size modern fire engine, with spotlights showing the part.
 - Vintage dispatch center display with dressed mannequin in front of desk with telephone, telegraph punch register, etc.
 - Great fires standing display.
 - Fire tool "match" game interactive display with full-size tools behind glass.
 - The Great Escape that lets children slide down a fire pole, and also includes a window and escape ladder for guided participation.
 - Vintage helmets and uniforms from around the world, behind glass.
 - Vintage American artifacts behind glass, including helmets, helmet shields, insurance marks, medals, belts, trumpets, extinguishers, nozzles, spanners, etc.
 - Patch gallery.
- American LaFrance plans to take the entire collection outside yearly, to drive them around and ensure they remain in good working order.
- Exhibit space allows each piece to be driven or towed out of the building.
- Building cost about \$4.4 million to build, and about \$2.2 million to furnish.
- MuseumArts of Dallas (<http://www.museumarts.net/>) designed the exhibits, and Brunson Construction Co. of Hampton built it.
- Land was donated by developer of adjoining Tanger Outlet stores complex.
- Five acres valued at \$1.5 million per acre.
- Museum and shopping center located just beyond main runway at the Charleston Air Force Base, at the end of its first crash zone.
- Located around the corner from a coliseum and convention center.
- Official opens Monday, April 30.
- Hours 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.
- Ages 13 and over charged \$6.00.
- No charge for visiting school groups.

Opinion

- Best fire museum that Mike has seen to date.
- Reminds him of pictures he's seen of the [Tokyo Fire Museum](#).
- Money makes all the difference in the world.
- Location, location, location.
- Observe the aligning of forces: donated high-traffic location, municipal funding in the millions, leased artifact collection already in top-notch presentation state.

Sources

- "The Post & Courier," Fire truck museum still planned, September 13, 2005
- "The Post & Courier," With 18 trucks on display, new fire museum will prove to be a hot ticket, Monday, April 23, 2007

- Charleston Area Visitors Bureau press release

Mike,

In your opinion would the structure withstand another hurricane the size of Hugo?

stretch - 05/01/07 - 08:11

Added this note: Building designed to withstand winds up to 130 mph sustained.

Legeros - 05/01/07 - 18:59

This is a wonderful combination of history and education. The collection to date is of great interest and to combine this with the message of fire safety for the public is a real value. The two objectives have been well blended. I can only hope that children and families from all over the world visit this excellent venue in the Charleston area. As a 39 year firefighter I thoroughly enjoyed it and the interactive displays were very well done.

Tom Rinaldi ([Email](#)) - 06/05/07 - 21:34

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'?

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

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.

Smithfield's Fire

04/30/07 57 W, 1 I - + 11 - 16

The perfect ending to the perfect weekend, a four-day stay in Charleston for the purpose of a fire museum opening slash first-year wedding anniversary? Smithfield, Selma, Four Oaks, Micro, Strickland's Crossroads, Thanksgiving, Cleveland, and others at a scrap metal plant off Highway 301. You could see the smoke from Raleigh.



are they testing for lead, which may be present as a coating or alloy on scrap?

[hnizdo] - 05/02/07 - 00:09

Updates on this story include a news radio site stating that over a million (!) gallons of water were used, http://www.1270wmpm.com/wmpm_local_news.... Here's the Smithfield Herald's story: <http://www.smithfieldherald.com/105/stor..>

Legeros - 05/03/07 - 05:32

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

Kinston Ladder

04/30/07 26 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

Seen in a field off I-95 between Benson and Fayetteville, an American LaFrance 700 Series (?) ladder lettered for Kinston.



Maybe the "Old shrimp troller" Ladder 16. Not sure due to the amount of rust on it. Ladder 16 was last in service in late 2000.

bolduc - 04/30/07 - 22:52

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](#))

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.

YouTube Videos?

05/01/07 29 W - + 15 - 10

Who or what departments around here have videos on [YouTube](#)? Searching the words "[Durham Highway](#)" and "[Falls Fire](#)" yields a couple. Who else has 'em out there?

New DHFD video came out today by C.Weier
 New FFD video came out today by J.Graney

Both should be posted on You tube very soon.

Falls201 - 05/01/07 - 23:57

City of Durham has a new one up. heres the link –

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPDvcfdzk..>

Guest from your city to the west - 05/03/07 - 11:56

New FFD video link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KND6TAo-5..>

Falls201 - 05/04/07 - 17:01

Knightdale Video

Volume One: Stay Tuned For Next Series

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVSsvbXRP..>

Knightdale ([Web Site](#)) - 05/11/07 - 22:31

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.

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.

Brush Trucks

05/01/07 37 W, 1 I - + 12 - 20

Several if not all of this year's brush trucks have been delivered to their respective Wake County fire departments. Ford chassis with Seagrave body. Here's Zebulon's, courtesy of ZFD:



At \$80,000 each, they ought to climb trees. Whatever happened to pick ups with skid units? No wonder there is no money left to staff fire stations...

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/01/07 - 23:04

Cuz', you gotta have them chrome rims, special light packages and all the bells and whistles!!! Heck with staffing!!!

Guest - 05/02/07 - 11:48

I like what he is thinking. Imagine the staffing they could afford instead of this "crap".

Charles Swahwb - 05/02/07 - 12:24

Chrome rims and chrome nerf bars, they help put fires out!!!

Guest555 - 05/02/07 - 12:37

As much as I agree with this discussion, I can't help but mention that this is small change compared to what some of our money goes to. Ever heard of the Heery projects? Stations need parking lots patched, only to have them completely dug up and repaved at the tune of a couple hundred thousand dollars. Now that's something to start a blog about. A couple million dollars on dirt and concrete when much less would suffice; how many firefighters is that?

Concerned II - 05/02/07 - 12:53

Back on topic... was there a change in the body supplier? I know when we (WWFR) got our new brush truck, it had a standard utility body on it (Reading, I think). I noticed the Seagrave diamond plate body on ZFD's, and am curious if the apparatus committee has changed the spec.

[barrett] - 05/02/07 - 13:16

Last year's brush trucks, I'm told, cost a bit less than \$60,000. The chassis, body, and skid units were purchased separately, which required the vehicles be moved between vendors during construction. This also meant dealing with three different vendors for purchasing and, later, for repairs.

This year's brush trucks, at the base level, cost a bit less than \$80,000. But with per-department add-ons, the cost increases ever so much.

Why was a flatbed style chosen this year? Don't know. I'm told that the apparatus committee, which designed the spec, chose a single-source vendor to eliminate the confusion of dealing with separate vendors. Was the second a factor of the first? Don't know.

Five brush trucks were purchased this year, with 100% funding by the county. Apex, Holly Springs, Morrisville, Wake Forest, Zebulon.

So, for those eying the \$20K increase, that's \$100K above last year's cost. What does \$100K buy with regard to staffing? Three full-time positions, estimating \$30K for entry level, for salary and benefits?

Commence marching down to the next Wake County Fire Commission meeting, to become involved in future decisions such as brush truck spec'ing.

Legeros - 05/02/07 - 18:07

Barrett – to answer your question, yes there was a change in supplier. From what I know, the apparatus committee used a new spec for this year. They put it out for bids, and Seagrave was awarded the bid. The five departments Mike mentioned were notified that they had a truck scheduled to be replaced (based on the replacement schedule). Each could pick from about ten options to add on the base, much like the pumper/tanker orders (except much fewer options). I think Garner and a couple others are scheduled to get brush trucks this coming year. I'm not sure if they plan to order this coming year's off the same spec, but I think so.

Zeb101 - 05/02/07 - 18:48

I hope the process was better than the previous brush truck orders. This is how it went last time : Truck Chassis delivered to station, Drive truck to Rocky Mount for utility body, pick up truck in Rocky Mount and take to Pittsboro for tank and pump. Whatever happened to one company buying the Chassis and doing the rest?

Rauer - 05/02/07 - 19:39

Thanks for the detail Mike. With direction of the current apparatus committee, it sounds like next years brush trucks will likely be on the Pierce Quantum chassis with all-wheel steer. I think dealing with 3 vendors was worth \$100,000 to the citizens. Stop the insanity.

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/02/07 - 23:51

Ok. Let me see if I can understand this. After a quick internet search, a 1-ton Ford F-350 pickup truck – specified by the NC Forest Service for wildland firefighting – is available on State Contract for \$21,999 and Slagle's is selling their "top of the line" skid unit starting at \$11,800. So for around \$40,000 (gotta have some options in there), Wake could have purchased functional brush trucks? Can anyone here explain why the taxpayers are financing these \$80,000 toys?

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/03/07 - 00:10

Occam's razor, that principle of logic, says something like "when faced with a bunch of explanations for something, the simplest one [that makes the fewest assumptions] is the best one." In this case, seemingly overpriced (or over-spec'ed?) brush trucks, there are a couple "simplest" explanations. Simplest explanation #1: They represent the greatest functionality and value for the money. Simplest explanation #2: The opposite of the first explanation, e.g. the county got hosed. (It's a pretty good logic problem, if you think about it.) So which way should we go? Which direction should we base our first impressions?? Myself, wisely or naively so, I am inclined in the first direction. That the trucks are designed for requirements that the NC Forest Service rigs don't meet, ditto top-of-the-line skid units from places like Slagle's. But this line of thinking, my line of thinking, leads down the path of speculations and assumed justifications and before long I will sound like a butt-boy for the WCFC (too late, right? LOL). Perhaps an Apparatus Committee member will make an appearance and enlighten this forum. Or, a reader will touch base with that group and report back.

Legeros - 05/03/07 - 05:01

ps- Here's a Seagrave brochure that describes these rigs: <http://www.seagrave.com/MySeagrave/Conte..>

Legeros - 05/03/07 - 05:06

"Concerned", like someone said above "chrome rims, chrome nerf bars", and I'm sure other extra crap eventually adds up. Let's take a look back at the economical purchasing Apex did a few years ago. Apex purchased two F-350 4x4 diesel pickups (XL model), removed the old skid units from the old brush trucks and tuned them up a little. Then, placed the skids in the new pickups, added lights, striping and radios. For about \$38,000 a piece we had 2 nice brush trucks that did the job. But, they have painted rims, solid black bumpers, am/fm radio, a/c and vinyl interiors. But, it's a brush truck!! That's all you need to get the job done, especially if the thing is going to get scratched up.

Silver - 05/03/07 - 09:59

I was thinking the same thing, Silver. I guess a good pick-up with a skid unit is a thing of the past. Those trucks did the job and could be run as First Responder trucks, if staffing allowed so. Congrats to those departments that got the new trucks, they do look sharp.

Have any of the 'concerned taxpayers' made their voice(s) heard to those that actually make the decisions? I guess you can't fault a

department for getting something that was paid for by the County. Those (the decision makers) are the ones who need to hear the "uproar" from a 'concerned taxpayer.'

Mike, just out of curiosity, do you know off-hand what additional requirements these trucks meet the the NC Forest Service rigs don't meet? I would think if anyone knew what was necessary to fight a brush fire, the NC Forestry Service would.

Luke - 05/03/07 - 11:30

All the departments that got new trucks his year are towns, the county doesn't need to be 100% financing new apparatus for them, assist them with the purchases yes, but they should have never bought the full trucks for them (i understand the towns paid for the extras)

Why with county money... - 05/03/07 - 11:50

The current arrangement is that the County pays 100% of brush trucks and tankers for the contracted municipalities, but nothing on ladder trucks in these towns. For example, Apex and Holly Springs both just got brush trucks paid at 100%, but the County didn't help with the purchase of their ladder trucks. I think these are the only vehicles which are not paid for jointly. I guess you could pay a portion on everything, but it would probably work out to be about the same money (or even cost the County more?).

Zeb101 - 05/03/07 - 13:39

Zeb101 – Thanks for the answer. I was just curious on what changed, since I don't personally know all the details of the process. Congrats on the new truck, that looks sharp! I'm glad I'm not the one that has to try and keep all that diamond plate looking pretty! Stay safe!

[barrett] - 05/03/07 - 19:13

Wait a minute, regarding ladder trucks, didn't the county partially (or fully?) pay for Wendell's replacement ladder? They are a town?? They are NOT a town-run department, however. Is that the criteria that makes all the difference?

Legeros - 05/04/07 - 05:19

No, it's not because they are not "town-run". The Town of Wendell is part of the county's fire tax district, meaning their citizens pay fire tax like everybody out in the county. Wendell's the only town like that and it's also why the County bought the ladder. You know there's always an exception to every rule.

Zeb101 - 05/04/07 - 11:45

That's one thing I've noticed. It seems as if a lot of people are concerned with "the look" of an apparatus versus the practical use. A pick up with a skid is ideal, and there's nothing harmed when the first scratch gets put on it.

Guest - 05/04/07 - 11:57

It is worth noting that Wendell's ladder, as well as all the other apparatus of the last two years purchased for non-municipal departments, are titled to the county. WFD operates it, but doesn't own it.

Legeros - 05/04/07 - 17:55

I believe that apparatus purchased in the past 2 years were titled to the departments and insured by the departments. At least our tanker is. As for how future apparatus titling will be handled, not sure at this time, maybe someone else can advise.

McGraw ([Email](#)) - 05/05/07 - 09:05

My information is incorrect. Apparatus purchased using fire tax district funds are titled to the department. The purchasing agreement, however, states that if the department dissolves, or doesn't need the truck, or such, ownership reverts to the county. If it is determined that the truck is to be sold, the money goes to the county.

Legeros - 05/07/07 - 17:25

So while the individual departments hold the titles, at the end of the day they belong to the County. Who will decide when these units are replaced? I would not expect a brush truck to withstand 20 years of service, but for \$80,000 I would hope we'll still see them around in 10 to 15 years. Is there a replacement schedule for them?

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/07/07 - 21:25

There's an apparatus replacement plan that the Apparatus Committee of the Wake County Fire Commission created. It runs through 2016.

Legeros - 05/07/07 - 22:08

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

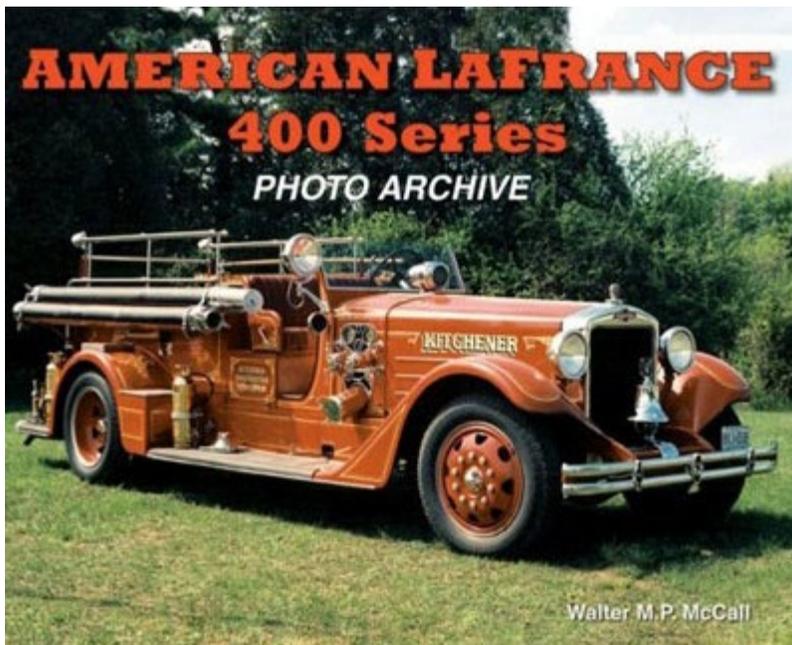
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

American LaFrance 400 Series

05/01/07 54 W, 1 I - + 20 - 11

Walt McCall has a new book out. [American LaFrance 400 Series Photo Archive](#) was published the other week by Iconografix. Paperback, 128 pages, with crisp, clear photos of one of the most stylish fire engines ever. Raleigh had one, too, though no photo appears in the book.



The title for most stylish fire truck would have to be a toss-up between the ALF 400 series, the Mack L, and the Ahrens-Fox piston. Having seen all three up close, I would have to go with the Fox....

DJ ([Email](#)) - 05/02/07 - 18:34

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

Rolesville Ambulance Update

05/03/07 21 W - + 14 - 19

From [this morning's newspaper article](#), Rolesville might be able to keep its second ambulance but with some restrictions.

Here's a Wake Weekly article on same as well. Always forget about the smaller papers: <http://www.wakeweekly.com/index.php?cate..>

Legeros - 05/07/07 - 19:04

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.

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.

Parkwood

05/04/07 16 W - + 15 - 17

Contracts, coverage, and annexation are the familiar issues in this [News & Observer article](#) this morning.

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'?

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

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.

Blog Dinner, Wednesday, May 23

05/04/07 56 W - + 18 - 14

Let's try another blog dinner, this time at Fat Daddy's on Glenwood Avenue on the west side of town. Wednesday, May 23, at 7:00 p.m. Mike will be there some minutes early. RSVP not required, nor are excuses if not attending. In-service units welcome. Look for the guy in the tropical print shirt.

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'?

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

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.

You're Very Welcome

05/05/07 80 W, 1 I - + 19 - 17

At last night's annual Wake County EMS System banquet, which included good food, great company, and the legendary "Tramp" Dunn telling stories, Lee and Mike received recognition for their photography contributions. We appreciate the honor and all the support. It remains our pleasure and privilege to serve both the EMS community and other responders, and we thank you for the opportunity to direct our interest and enthusiasm in the service of those who serve. Click to enlarge:



congrats on the plaques, you both deserve them.

NH100 (Email) - 05/05/07 - 22:54

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'?

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *National Fallen Firefighters* « **You're Very Welcome** » **The Longest Wait**
Foundation Golf Tournament

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Golf Tournament

05/05/07 221 W - + 18 - 16

Announcement. For the past three years, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has sponsored a golf tournament to raise funds. This event has historically been held near the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. It has been such a success that this year the tournament has been expanded to eleven regional sites.

The Raleigh Fire Department has been honored with the opportunity to host the event for this region. They hope to have participation from across the state and invite you to join them in supporting the NFFF by participating in the tournament as a player or as a sponsor.

There are still plenty of openings in the 144 member field. A donation of \$75 buys you a round of golf with extras including two meals and other gifts and prizes. Sponsorships are also sought. Hole sponsorships start at only \$200, although no donation is too small. They also seeking gift items to be auctioned and given away to participants.

The tournament will be held on June 14 at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club near Garner. For complete details please visit <http://fallenfirefightergolf.info>. If you are interested in playing, please contact Division Chief Rusty Styons directly. His contact information:

Rusty Styons
Raleigh Fire Department Division Chief
NFFF Golf Tournament Coordinator
rusty.styons@ci.raleigh.nc.us
919 625-0731.

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

The Longest Wait

05/05/07 154 W - + 18 - 16

Thump in the distance, a couple cars ahead. North on McDowell, approaching Lane. Brake lights and scattering cars. Roll to a halt and there's a motorcycle against a dented minivan. Inch forward and see a single person on the pavement. Three block south is a square full of first responders. Irony. Pull over and hop out. Somebody's already talking to 911. Kneel behind the victim. He's conscious, still and speaking. And cracking jokes. No blood, no signs of shock. Don't move. Keep your head still. There'll be an ambulance here in a second. Many seconds, of course. That's the longest wait, though there's no hysterics here. It's people screaming that *really* slows time. The other driver is crying but not wailing. EMS arrives within minutes, ambo and bike team. Engine 3 a couple minutes later. Back away, retrieve vest, circle scene once with camera, and continue on. Just another day in the city.

Bike team?

Flip ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/06/07 - 04:28<http://www.wakegov.com/ems/news/38631.ht..>**Legeros** - 05/06/07 - 04:59

Raleigh Fire, Cary EMS and Rex ERT also have bike teams in the county

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/06/07 - 09:05

Wake County EMS has a bike team with 14 certified members, supported by a an equipment trailer. The team works special events downtown, RBC center, South Glenwood, etc.

Nice pix of them rendering care elsewhere on legeros.com.

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/07/07 - 09:45Name: (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'?[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Tornado Footage

05/05/07 37 W - + 20 - 18

What does a tornado look like up close? Here's some [pucker-inducing footage from YouTube](#). Oklahoma, which is why it's so clear. Twisters around here usually (almost always?) concealed in thunderstorms. Good driving in reverse, too.

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'?

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

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.

Character Over Performance

05/06/07 110 W - + 16 - 19

Does the better firefighter have higher performance or higher character? Found on another blog, Wharton Business School has published an article summarizing a panel on [Leadership Lessons Learned from Sports](#). The panel asked "What are the qualities that make someone a sports leader, especially on the playing field, and can the successful qualities of a winner in athletics be applied to the world of business?" The answer they agreed was "Start with a foundation of players with personal character and a winning attitude, then hire coaches with the right kind of intelligence and the motivational skills to get the most out of them." Reflect and/or discuss.

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'?

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

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.

Station 28

05/06/07 14 W, 1 I - + 14 - 16

...has been lettered and looks like this:



Pretty basic, and a little small, just my opinion. I'd be proud of that house, fill up the brick!!!

Silver - 05/06/07 - 13:09

Lettering should not be done on a arc for clarity sake.

That goes for truck doors, too. It's done all the time, but that doesn't make it graphically correct or clear.

Instead of black, a silver color would have given a better contrast above the station doors on 28.

I'm also getting tired of seeing RES10CUE on trucks. That's not how you should write out Rescue 10.

It all started with RESCUE 3 in the FDNY, but they still use ten-codes, which is another thing you really don't want to emulate.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/06/07 - 21:06

The first time I saw something like RES10CUE was back in 1976. Parkwood did that with their ambulances, which in Durham County back then they were all called "RESCUE", along with the lone actual rescue truck in Durham then, RESCUE 11.

RES*CUE, with the Star of Life between the S and the C, was the way the two Parkwood ambulances were lettered. They were RESCUE 9 and RESCUE 10. I also saw that on several other ambulances around the state back then, when most ambulances in the rural areas were operated by volunteer rescue squads.

When Durham started the paramedic service during the early 80s, I believe that was when everything changed to MEDIC —.

DJ - 05/06/07 - 21:26

DJ, you just clarified for me where "Rescue 11" came from!! Thanks!! Having been a fireman in the Bull City, I always wondered. I guess that was the next number, and because they ran in the county makes it all come together. Where were Rescue 1, 2, 3....?

Harkey, I agree with you that "silver" would have been better. Straight across the top, over all the bay doors would look sharp.

Silver - 05/07/07 - 08:53

I think it would have looked nice if they had put Engine 28 over the bay where the eng sits instead of Station 28, or had Eng 28 engraved in the space below the brick

Mike - 05/07/07 - 09:57

It's always a nice touch with company names over their own doors... Engine Company 1 – Engine Company 13 – Ladder Company 1.....

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/07/07 - 10:36

Earlier post in another blog stated that you see more emphasis on "Station 30" versus "Engine Company 30". Don't know why that is, but a good portion of RFD is like that, station focus versus company focus....

Silver - 05/07/07 - 12:30

I like 22's....stands out....

Guest - 05/07/07 - 13:47

Silver-

When Durham County Hosp first started the EMS over there, the ambulances were RESCUE 1, RESCUE 2, etc. There was no differentiation between engines, tankers, brush trucks, either. Every night at 1900 they did a radio test, which we were included in out at RDU. When they did the roll cal of all the trucks in the county (city units not included) you heard "BAHAMA ONE, BAHAMA TWO..." all the way up through "AIRPORT ONE, AIRPORT TWO...".

RESCUE 11 was quartered downtown, along with two units ENGINE 13 and TANKER 15, which were operated by the city but actually answered calls in the county. Where all of the other trucks said "CITY OF DURHAM" on the, E14 and T15 had "DURHAM COUNTY" on the doors.

And by the way, RESCUE 11 was probably the busiest rescue unit anywhere around at that time.

DJ - 05/07/07 - 17:45

Oh yeah, Silver-

The city trucks were named for their station. Station two had ENGINE 20, AERIAL 21, etc. The only one that had it's own number was SNORKEL ONE. The double digit number was due to the Public Safety concept. You would hear fire calls dispatched as "ENGINE 40, CAR 42, CAR 44, CAR 46". Excpet for stations one, two, and I think three, there was just a driver at the other ones. The cars were "PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS", who were cross trained as police and fire. Fortunately, sounder minds prevailed, and around 1987 or so they split the departments back up.

DJ - 05/07/07 - 17:52

Yeah, I knew they were P.S. in the 80's. I just never knew where Rescue 11 came into play. Thanks for the info.....

Silver - 05/07/07 - 20:59

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.

Heap Big Fire Department

05/06/07 1304 W - + 18 - 12

Near the end of 1912, Raleigh Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell attended a school of instruction with the New York City Fire Department. His adventures were chronicled in *New York World Magazine*. The *News & Observer* reprinted the article some time later. The headline read BROCKWELL AND HEAP BIG FIRE DEPARTMENT. The second headline read New York World Describes Raleigh Chief's Enthusiasm at Big Blaze-- Discipline and Fearlessness Are Characteristic-- Companies Scuffle to Get Hose in First-- They "Know How to Lick a Fire".

Now for the higher education of a sterner kind. New York has her Columbia and New York universities, her College of the City of New York and her Fordham. But in the College of Fire and Smoke her students brave peril and excitement in daily tasks and her campus is the vast city, where the flames are busier every hour than any other place in the world.

The Empire city saps the vitality of sister cities by absorbing their most talented men, but in this case New York gives out the fullness of her riches. The underwriters have declared that the post-graduate for firemen maintained by the metropolis yearly saves the cities and towns of the United State[s] untold wealth by teaching the chiefs the high stand and proficiency gained here through superior experience.

Strategy tells. They know tactics here. The battled brings out the greatest generals. So to get where actual service counts most, the out of town fire commanders have taken the exhausting course in our colleges, and that is why there are several today working as no other student must work.

Captain Biggers of [Engine] 20 on Lafayette Street doesn't look like a professor. He is not spectacled and grave and he does not have that air of being detached from the world so familiar in less strenuous halls of learning. But he is one of the expert tutors in our unique university.

"Break in firemen here? You mean break in chiefs of other cities, don't you?" cried Biggers. "Got one here. Sherwood Brockwell-- queer name for a fireman-- chief of the Raleigh, N.C., department, and he"--

The crash of the alarm rang out. The man never lived who has outgrown the emotion that surges through him when he hears the thrilling call. Nerves tingled as the men sprang into action. With ease and grace the tough-fibered firemen sped down the brass pole from three stories above. One was at the wheel of the big motor in an instant, another had whirled the crank, still another had dropped the chain at the doors. The crew swung to positions on the truck. Out it screeched and roared across Lafayette street, headed for West Broadway.

And there among the privates in the ranks was the eager Brockwell. Not chief now, but one to take orders and work, work, work.

The papers next day told of the dash of Sherwood Brockwell into the furnace. Nobody dared more than he. But all the time Brockwell's keen eyes were taking in the details of the methods used by the learned professions in quelling that stubborn blaze.

"That certainly was a stiff fire," said Brockwell-- he is twenty-six and the youngest chief in the United States-- when at 1 o'clock in the morning he rolled in with the crew. He was caked with black grime. Gleaming teeth sparkled against the ebony background and his eyes flashed with the joy of battle. The student had been hours at his lesson.

"That blaze would have been a monster in our town," continued Brockwell, speaking in the soft, slurring accent of his birthplace. "But these here boys just took that beast by the horns, yanked him out and hit him right in the face. These boys certainly do know how to lick a fire."

The practical lesson in the college curriculum had been a splendid one. The fire had been in a six-story factory at No. 495 West Broadway. The roaring flames had dodge and twisted, slyly breaking out suddenly here and pretending to be crushed there. Two alarms had been necessary; the firemen had to stretch their hose across the elevated tracks.

That's the kind of laboratory New York provides for the students. The apparatus is of the most varied and complete kind and these are some of the courses Sherwood Brockwell is taking:

General fire fighting.

Use of apparatus and tools.

Engines and boilers.
Use of high pressure systems.
Marine fires.
Care of horses.
Care of hose.
Sapping and mining.
High tension electric current.
Combustibles and explosives.
Gasoline motor engineering.
Fire alarm telegraphs, including auxiliary systems.
Auxiliary fire apparatus.
First aid to injured.
Discipline and administration.

This is why many cities have been sending their chiefs and captains here, where a helmet and a rubber coat are the cap and gown. Hartford and Springfield, Mass., and Patterson, N.J., have recently gained thereby, and Chief May, of Charleston, S.C., is now taking his course. Captain William J. Cunningham, of Troy recently finished.

"My opinion," said Chief Brockwell, as, after the big fire, he finished washing the grime away, "about the New York fire department? There can be but on opinion. It's the greatest in the world. I knew that before I came here, but still you don't think there was such as class of men on earth as you've got. This isn't enthusiasm, it's fact."

"I didn't think any human being could stand smoke the way they do. They rush into it and work in it. They follow their captain's lantern, and what's more, they fight among themselves to see who'll be in first."

"Same way with getting the hose in. I've seen companies scuffle to see which would get in first. Their rule is 'Save a life, even if you lose your own.' That, sir, is an unwritten law in your department."

"Take these boys here. When that alarm rings and they rush out, there isn't one of them certain that he'll return alive. But they follow orders and risk death or injury. Each does what he's ordered to do until he drops, and if you praise him he'll think you're kidding. That's the makeup of the New York fireman, and when we fellows see them in action we're just naturally swept off our feet."

"There's another thing I can't get over. That is, how the men get along with so little sleep. Why, some nights they're out at fires three and four times. No sleep at all, you might say, night after night. And of course there's little sleeping here in the day time. No, sire, all day long the houses are open for inspection. The department is on a strictly military basis. The men are always on duty except for their weekly leave of absence."

"Look at them now. Wouldn't you think they'd be in bed after fighting that fire for three hours? But they take their time about going upstairs."

"Another thing I want you to put in strong," said the young chief, "say that they treat us strangers with open hearts and willing hands-- that's the phrase, 'Open hearts and willing hands.'"

"And," he laughed, "I took the 'initiation' and seems to me they gave it to me good. I was put 'under the blanket' and joined in 'the long-distance butting contents' all right. I wish I could tell you about it, but that's a secret and I want the next fellow to get his. The boys in this company call the initiation 'Instructing in Fire' but it's all fun. There's no danger in it as there sometimes is in college initiations."

"And now," said the chief, "I'll try to get some sleep and when I get back to Raleigh I'll try to make its department just as much like New York's as I can."

HAHAHAHA!!!!!! I'll keep my comments to myself for once.....

Silver - 05/06/07 - 20:03

And another chance for someone to show their discontent.

Porter - 05/09/07 - 10:52

Porter, thanks for reading and responding.

Please explain or expand upon your comment.

Legeros - 05/09/07 - 18:06

bq."There's another thing I can't get over. That is, how the men get along with so little sleep. Why, some nights they're out at fires three and four times. No sleep at all, you might say, night after night. And of course there's little sleeping here in the day time. No, sire, all day long the houses are open for inspection. The department is on a strictly military basis.

bq."And," he laughed, "I took the 'initiation' and seems to me they gave it to me good. I was put 'under the blanket' and joined in 'the long-distance butting contents' all right. I wish I could tell you about it, but that's a secret and I want the next fellow to get his. The boys in this company call the initiation 'Instructing in Fire' but it's all fun. There's no danger in it as there sometimes is in college initiations."

It's just a shame how much of a pushover this education thing has become because the way I see it the true, dedicated professionals it takes to be a dept. like this is becoming a thing of the past.

pal - 05/09/07 - 19:05

Sorry Mike i was refering to Silver and his as usual pride in the dept he works for.

Porter - 05/09/07 - 19:09

Thanks for the explanation. Play nice please.

Legeros - 05/09/07 - 19:11

I think the article is outstanding and shows how the fire profession began. It makes me proud to know where the roots of the Fire Dept I work for came from. I hope in some aspect we are the equal to any dept in the country. that is in no way a slight on other depts in the area just pride in the one I work for.

Porter - 05/09/07 - 19:12

Yes sir

Porter - 05/09/07 - 19:12

Here's the rest of that article.

Over at Engine No. 88 in Great Jones Street, Chief May, of Charleston, S.C., had the same story to tell and with just as much enthusiasm.

"I've fought fires for twenty years in my town," said he, "but after a week with the boys here I certainly take off my hat to New York. I've been lucky enough to get three good works— this chief calls a fire a 'worker'— and how your men can fight in the smoke is something I can't figure out yet. It must be because they're used to it and because they're all healthy and powerful."

"I got into that Gansevoort market fire— that was a three-alarm boy— and we had ammonia tanks to look out for, but the boys didn't seem to care much whether they exploded or not. There were four fire boats at work and every one was needed, for a half dozen buildings went down and the flames wiped up about \$200,000. Oh, I learned something about licking a fire that night and I saw how this department handles a big worker."

"Those fellows go at a fire from the front. They don't attack it from the rear, as they do in most other cities, unless it's necessary. They just surround it and keep hammering away until they lick it. It's that fearless front attack that gave the New York department its reputation."

"Did I learn anything? Say, firefighters from another city can't be in No. 33 for an hour without learning. The discipline and administration you observe is the big thing in itself. And the actual experience in tenement and cellar fires is of course invaluable."

"I'm here to get hold of the whole system and I'm going to put Charleston's on the same basis, as soon as I can. Say for me that the boys of the department are the huskiest, manliest crowd you can meet and that they don't know the meaning of danger."

"That's right," broke in Chief Thomas Coyle, of Patterson, who had dropped in to No. 33 to pay his respects to Chief Kenlon. "I took a course here at old No. 33 and in thirty days went to sixty-four firs, so I ought to know something about the way these fellows eat smoke. They're the greatest in the world, that's all I can say."

Legeros - 05/09/07 - 19:17

Alas, they also lost 778 firefighters between 1865 and September 11, 2001. Biggest, baddest, and perhaps most dangerous

Legeros - 05/09/07 - 19:20

Just to clarify what I was saying; I catch more flack for my ideas, input or whatever else you want to call it. The radio straps, the "NY Roof Hooks, aka Cinni Hook", at first received negative comments to which some turned positive. Though not perfect and I know they have there issues like everywhere else, something is to be learned from FDNY. Tech. rescue, hi-rise gigs, hazmat; they do it EVERY DAY. Some things I've seen/learned are from there, so I try to share the love. Just like if someone learned something from LA, Houston, Atlanta or wherever else, I'd hope they'd contribute and share as well.

It's been said before, why re-invent the wheel when some things have been done for many, many years? Porter, it's awesome to see Captains like yourself who are, what I consider, "the new breed". The ones' with new ideas (new for RFD), who are bringing them to the RFD, and not just training with them but putting them to use. Example; there was a conversation during a shift change one morning regarding daily station uniforms. Though there was NEVER a reference made to FDNY, a Southern gentleman involved in the conversation automatically assumed that one side of the conversation was based on the FDNY, and he was 100% wrong. So, why such an ill taste towards them? Is it the North/South thing, and we can't forget "The War"?

I want the RFD to stand high above the rest, and for other departments to come here to see how we "do things". With the EMS program in this city/county like it is, you can bet on that happening. Did that last e-mail not say that we are 3rd in the nation for resuscitations??!! That is freakin' awesome, and we as a department need to keep the progression going!!! Especially since, what, 70% of our calls are medicals?!

That's all I have, stay safe.

Silver - 05/10/07 - 09:45

Silver, I catch it at work as well. But 99% of the time I just let it slide. Hell, if they didn't like you they wouldn't even talk to you. Besides I bet they use the hell out of that roof hook when they get the chance. Same with the Yankee straps. I had smack talked to me about those, but a lot more guys have them now and love them. If another dept anywhere in the nation is doing something that can help us do our job, why not give it a try and see it is works. There are so many depts out there that do this job so much more than we do day in and day out that there are always tricks of the trade that we can pick up from them.

People are starting to come around in this area, it is just slow and frustrating sometimes.

FTM-PTB

Mike - 05/10/07 - 10:19

Has RFD changed their responses to fire alarms? Chief Stanford on WRAL stating that 3 engines, 1 ladder and a batt. chief respond, anyone clarify?

Guest - 05/10/07 - 13:11

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

This Afternoon's Fire

05/07/07 51 W - + 16 - 19

Wake Forest and company fought a good fight this afternoon, from the sound of it. WFFD plus Rolesville, Falls, New Hope, Stony Hill, and Raleigh Engine 28. The [WRAL story](#) has some aerial footage and an amusing forum comment from a reader on the subject of the word "company."

Looking at the pic on WRAL.COM, we can all learn a valuable lesson on apparatus placement, and reinforce pulling past the building involved for better placement of a ladder company.

RidesALadder - 05/07/07 - 21:04

When the engine was spotted the ladder company was considered as room was left for them to move past the engine for a better position however a WSO cruiser ended up blocking the way. I know because I was the one driving the engine. The wind was blowing toward the house of exposure D, so I stopped short of the house so that the ladder could get to the A/D corner, but the cruiser ended up blocking the way! But hey, thanks Lee!

Wayne - 05/07/07 - 23:56

Why do LE officers always feel the need to park directly in front of the house if they are one of the first to arrive? Here's another fine example: <http://www.the1house.com/Rozzles%20Ferry..> (pics 6, 7, & 8). Oh well, poor guys, guess they don't know any better.

I'm suprised you're not on the Ladder, Wayne. Everyone went home and (in the end) that's all that matters. Stay safe!

Luke - 05/08/07 - 01:27

Good job everyone. All those "companies" worked well together at the fire. If we could just get LE to realize those patrol cars don't need to be in the way. (That needs to be addressed nationwide) I would like to mention EMS did a good job of staying clear and assisting with accountability. The dispatch system still continues to be a hinderance...Mutual aid companies were requested but it took about 5 minutes to get them dispatched. We heard the request for aid and rolled immediately, but that wouldn't have been the case @ 2am. Dispatch plays such a crucial role and isn't as good as it could be.

AB - 05/08/07 - 04:55

Yeah, dang LEO's!! I love `em, but maybe training with them will help them understand? Durham FD/PD usually did a good job about getting "non-essential" vehicles out of the way. Pull in a driveway, park down the street or put it in someones' yard so the big boys can go to work!

On another note, was there a delay in getting RFD #28 to the scene? I heard New Hope actually was dispatched before them, and had to pass #28 to get there (heard the fire was off Forestville Rd.). Any truth (just trying to clear rumors)?

Silver - 05/08/07 - 08:25

Checked with someone who listened...Engine 28 was special called along with Stony Hill for mutual aid manpower. Chief Swift called for the next nearest departments that had not yet sent units.

Silver - 05/08/07 - 08:59

The ladder is not staffed yet, if it does get out, it usually on gets out driver only and then late in the game. Luke, my driving days are numbered as I am getting ready to be promoted to Capt. Don't know if I'll be on the engine or ladder yet. The chief is waiting on some final logistical stuff before making the promotions.

By the way, great job to all that were there!!! Thanks for the help

Wayne - 05/08/07 - 09:12

Jeff-

Yes New Hope was dispatched first, as the chief requested them while enroute. Once he arrived on scene and realized the amount of fire,

requested E-28 and Stony Hill for manpower.

Wayne - 05/08/07 - 09:15

NH and Falls were requested 1st. Stony Hill and RFD #28 were requested after NH and Falls arrived, no delays.

AB - 05/08/07 - 09:16

Hey Wayne! Good job on the fire. The first comment above was not from me. No doubt you know what you're doing, and I wouldn't question it. Why not just push the car out of the way? Maybe he'll get the picture next time. BTW, did ya'll lay your own line?

Rides A Truck- LB - 05/08/07 - 10:54

Well the car showed up after I stopped, and I was a little busy to keep up with who was parking where. Yes I caught my own hydrant, it was in the front yard. Sorry, I glanced at the signature thought it was you.

Wayne - 05/08/07 - 12:50

The cop cars everywhere was a sight. Even both EMS units had the sense to pull out of the street – but then two whackers showed up, one with the family, in their POVs and parked right in the street between the engines. Then as units were clearing out, they were having to back around them.

Rode4thDue - 05/09/07 - 22:24

Sometimes we are too eager to see the action. Not me personally b/c I know better, but other officers will park on the WORST place ever. One reason is that we are rarely called out to fires with y'all. Most don't know any better and don't realize the importance of placement. We all have the same cars and carry our equipment on our belts unlike in our vehicles. EMS works so closely with fire that they have been told and know what to do. Officers probably have never been told and few actually get called to fire scenes. I'm sorry on their behalf, but next time you could kindly point out that there are better places to park (such as down the street to keep people out, or in yards/driveways/sidewalks). Good job none the less despite our parking job.

LEO - 05/10/07 - 00:43

Rode4thDue, thanks for reading and responding.

For the benefit of those readers not in the know, what is a "whacker" as defined by yourself (and others in our area)? Is it aligned with this definition, found via Google on the amusingly named policeposers.com: <http://www.policeposers.com/whacker.php> ?

Legeros - 05/10/07 - 05:14

Whackers are vollies with their 15 million strobe lights that look like they could light up the airport, and have a crap load of stickers on their vehs, making them look like they are an ad for Galls.

Mike - 05/10/07 - 10:24

And Mike, were proud of it!

Volunteer - 05/11/07 - 05:22

Mike, they are LED not strobe any more. and since when are you better then a vollie?

Vollie - 05/11/07 - 11:31

I don't usually get into this, but my question is: How does having 15 million LEDs or strobes make ANYONE better? I personally do not believe in having all of that crap on a POV, unless you are a chief and can also have a siren to go with it, because chief officers should be the only ones allowed to respond to incidents via POV. But even that does not make them better than someone else

Wayne - 05/11/07 - 12:50

Wayne you never had all those back in your South Boston, VA days?

Rauer - 05/11/07 - 13:09

For Vollie and Volunteer, the question was asked what a Whacker is. I gave the definition of what one is. No need to get your panties in a twist about it unless you are offended because you are one.

Mike - 05/11/07 - 15:53

I'm not even from north of the Mason-Dixon line and I knew what a whacker was. And my comment had nothing to do with lights, strobes, etc. – Whacker is a mentality. It's the mentality that says "I am a FF therefore I can do whatever I want to". True, they may drive the ultimate holly-jolly-volly pickup – but they are also those that tend to freelance on fire scenes, say stupid things at training meetings, and generally act

the role that many of us try in vain to disprove. Just stay out of my way

Rode4thDue - 05/11/07 - 16:19

^hello hammer said the head of the nail

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/11/07 - 18:35

Nope, only had one on my truck. I wasn't trying to slam anyone, I was just posing a question. Miss you Jay, can't wait to work together again downtown!

Wayne - 05/11/07 - 19:49

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'?

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

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.

Baltimore

05/07/07 122 W - + 16 - 15

May means the start of summer and summer means the [Baltimore Fire Expo](#). This'll be the seventh year for Mike, and the second without the spouse. Staying again in Columbia, about fifteen minutes from the Inner Harbor, but near [Famous Daves](#). Same itinerary as always. Race there on Friday and make a quick sweep of the exhibit floor that afternoon. Spend Saturday at a more leisurely pace, wandering the floor and connecting with the [modelers upstairs](#). Sunday is the morning flea market and parade, the latter skipped for the former. They park the parade rigs inside afterward, though, so everyone can spend some quality time with the apparatus. Return to the real world on Monday afternoon. That's the plan for now.

Mike would allow someone (a fellow NC) to tag along withyou up to Baltimore? email me back if interested.

Clay Simmons ([Email](#)) - 05/11/07 - 22:38

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](#))

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.

Heard on Scanner

05/07/07 17 W - + 18 - 16

Ca-lee-bray Chase. That's Locution's pronunciation of Calibre Chase, location of Engine 9's working fire.

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'?

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

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.

Three-Dimensional Printing

05/09/07 151 W - + 21 - 12

Imagine the fun at the firehouse when [these things](#) become commonplace. Give it a decade or two. Also interesting in Sunday's *New York Times* is the subject of [genetics and obesity](#). Imagine a future where, say, genetic testing for obesity markers (or heart disease or...) is part of the hiring process. Finally, for us geeks, there's this great quote from a [book review by Dave Barry](#): "I do almost all of my communicating by e-mail. I've been known to e-mail people who were literally standing next to me, which I know sounds crazy, because at that distance I could easily call them on my cellphone. But I prefer e-mail, because it's such an effective way of getting information to somebody without running the risk of becoming involved in human conversation." Who needs Nextel when you can e-mail someone on the other side of the station? Ha ha.

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](#))

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.

Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, 5/10 - Corrected Date

05/08/07 51 W - + 12 - 13

Corrected date. The next Wake County Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10, at 7:00 PM, at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building on Carya Drive near I-440 and Poole Road. Agenda forthcoming.

The agenda:

Call meeting to order

- o Invocation
- o Roll of members present
- o Approval of Agenda

Minutes

- o Adoption of Minutes for March 15, 2007, Regular Meeting
- o Adoption of Minutes for April 16, 2007, Special Called Meeting

Regular Agenda

- o FY 08 Budget Recommendation
- o Wake Forest Fire Department – Request for 3000 Gallon Tanker
- o Facility Committee
- o Staffing Committee

Information Agenda

- o Western Wake Fire Station #2 Ad Hoc Committee
- o Chair Report
- o Fire/Rescue Services Director Report

Other Business

Public Comments

- o 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person

Adjournment

Legeros - 05/08/07 - 22:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Brock

05/09/07 43 W, 1 I - + 14 - 15

Here's some more on Sherwood Brockwell and his exploits with the FDNY. This appeared in the *Raleigh Times* on October 9, 1912, reprinted from a New York newspaper. The drawing is likely a woodcut, common among news illustrations of the time. Click to enlarge:



I seriously thought this was going to be about a certain RFD Battalion Chief that Lee and I both know from way back :-)

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/09/07 - 20:44

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

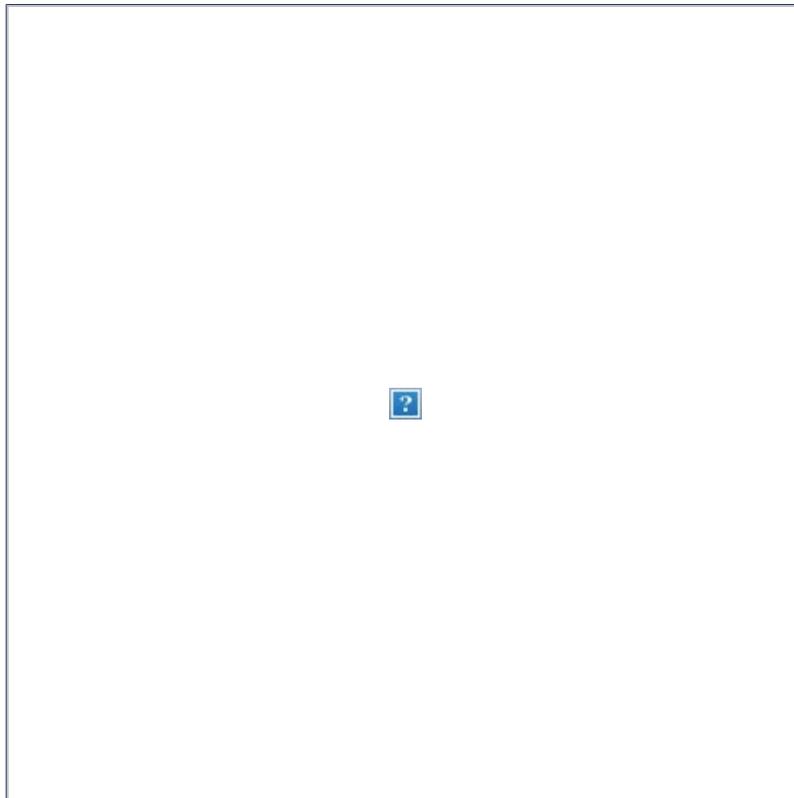
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Weegee

05/10/07 137 W, 1 I - + 14 - 17

Arthur Fellig turned tragedy into art in his black-and-white renderings of New York City [crime scenes and car wrecks](#) among other subjects. Weegee was his pseudonym, explains the [Wikipedia entry](#), "a phonetic rendering of Ouija, due to his frequent arrival at scenes only minutes after crimes, fires or other emergencies were reported to authorities." Was his era a more sensational one than the present? Was the Big Apple more tolerant of photographers and flashbulbs? Today it's tough to shoot sorrow. Few are comfortable when a camera captures death or extreme injury. It may be legal, but it's rarely popular. Weegee later worked in Hollywood and even had a hand in Stanley Kubrick's great film [Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb](#). Click to enlarge or [go here](#) to see more:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Bloggging, Comments, and Consequences

05/10/07 316 W - + 15 - 18

What happens when you blog (and your blog is actually read)? Well, for starters, the words "off the record" start appearing in conversation. Or the phrase "don't put this on the blog." It's a bit disheartening at times, but entirely expected. Does being a blogger reduce the flow of incoming information? Yes. Though Mike has (or thinks he has) reasonably strict criteria for what he kisses and tells about, he's also the ONLY one who knows that criteria. Sure, you could parse every blog entry to date. Or be a post-by-post, word-by-word reader. But that's unlikely. Thus there are multiple blogs. There's the blog as Mike perceives it. There's the blog as readers perceive it. There's the blog as those that have heard about it perceive it. And guess what, they're all different. But, hey, that's Human Perception 101. Same thing applies across all people, interactions, and situations.

What happens when you respond to a blog? If yours is an anonymous comment, you probably never hear of it again, unless you ID yourself to others. If yours is a signed comment, then additional conditionals apply. Are you a citizen, official, or uniformed responder? Are you friends with, peers with, or supervise other readers? Is the captain, the chief, or the big chief reading? Are you presenting facts or opinions? Are your opinions perceived as facts, or your facts perceived as opinion (or a confusing combination of both)? Is simply posting a comment considered an opinion or a blip on the radar by others, regardless of what you write? Are your comments read and understood exactly as written? Are your comments summarized or incorrectly repeated to others? And so on.

The perils of bloggging are many, and we are still learning what happens when we converse in public. Wish it were easier, but you never learn without doing. Or at least by silently watching.

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'?

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

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.

Angier & Black River Fire Department Line of Duty Death

05/10/07 98 W - + 20 - 16

The Angier & Black River Fire Department regrets to announce the passing of volunteer firefighter Ottis Earl Stephenson. Mr. Stephenson was a 21-year veteran of the Angier & Black River Fire Department. He is survived by his two sisters, Mrs. Ann Moore and Mrs. Molly Phillips. Visitation will be at Bryan Lee Funeral Home, 300 East Mciver Street, Angier on Saturday, May 12, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The funeral will be at Angier Baptist Church, 155 South Hickory Street, Angier, Sunday, May 13 at 2:00 p.m. Burial will follow at Lakeside Memorial Gardens in Angier.

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'?

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

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.

Next Stop Whackerville?

05/10/07 31 W, 1 I - + 19 - 17

The Mike Mobile has a new tag. Can't believe it wasn't already taken. The color matches many of the driver's shirts. Bonus.



Cool Deal Mike...I like the new Red lettering as well...although I do admit I am partial to my tag :D



Marshall Sherard CFP[714] (Email) (Web Site) - 05/11/07 - 19:21

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)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Fire Commission Meeting

05/10/07 192 W, 1 I - + 18 - 20

Tonight's meeting was a hoot and a half. Three big issues took the bulk of the evening: next year's budget (\$1.8M fewer uncommitted funds, no new staffing), Wake Forest's request for a 3,000-gallon pumper-tanker (sent back to committee), and approval for the long-planned renovation/rebuild of Bay Leaf Station #1 (\$4.79 million) bundled with funding for an east-side-of-Wake-County station for FY2010 (another \$2 mil, both approved). The discussions were quite colorful, though hard to hear this time. (The EMS classroom is configured in a way, it was explained, that you can either amplify speakers or show presentations but not both.) The high point? Chief Swift's superbly detailed presentation on why his department wants what it wants. The low point? As noted by at least one member, the persistent lack of unifying vision that ties staffing, facility, budget, and other subcommittee efforts together. Curious occasional confusion, as well, on the part of members during discussion and even voting. 'Twas a long, loquacious night. Contact the [county fire-rescue office](#) for an audio recording of this public meeting, but set aside some time for listening. Tonight took three hours.



And, I guess, call your county commissioner if you don't like what happened with one of the above issues. They're the final say.

Legeros - 05/10/07 - 23:17

and still no staffing.

WCFirefighter - 05/11/07 - 11:02

Was there circus music playing during the meeting?

Wayne - 05/11/07 - 12:46

Maybe one day the county will understand that firefighters make a difference not fire stations. Put the money where it is needed most, the staff
!!!!!!!

[Jason] - 05/11/07 - 20:01

4 million dollars towards a station renovation cut that in half give 2 million towards station renovation and 2 million towards staffing, you get about 65 full time firefighters at 30,000 a pop.

Roger - 05/11/07 - 21:46

This topic is also being discussed on the Watch Desk and includes this well-thought comment: <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/showth..>

Legeros - 05/11/07 - 21:51

roger, thats a good idea, but 2 million would only give you 14 positions, 3 people per position. 42 firefighters. You have to include your bene's and taxes. each firefighter that makes 30k per year cost the department 43k per year. I agree we should have staffing as the first priority.

klp205 - 05/12/07 - 08:13

Regarding operational (staffing) versus capital (facility) spending, the latter is a one-time versus ongoing expense. Or as someone said Thursday, instead of building a station, we can hire a bunch of firefighters. But will we have to fire them the next year?

Legeros - 05/12/07 - 08:25

I know we need stations, but without the firefighters to put in the station, the only expense you are sure to see are lawsuits or worse. John Q public will not understand when a pretty new engine, that came out of a pretty new station, pulls up on a structure fire and cant put his/her house out because there isnt enough people on the truck. So I agree with Roger, cutt spending on these stations and put some people in them.

[Jason] - 05/12/07 - 17:27

I know this is kind of off topic from this discussion but what about volunteers, doesnt have to be all of raleigh but maybe a few station with volunteers? What do you guys think about the current volunteer fire depts like morrisville?

Adam - 05/13/07 - 20:14

If it works, it works.

Roger - 05/13/07 - 22:06

Just wondering what kind of renovations are taking place for 4.9 million. You could tear it down rebuild it and still have money in the bank.

David L. ([Email](#)) - 05/14/07 - 11:05

The Bay Leaf station project is a REBUILD, not a renovation, as I incorrectly noted. From a meeting handout, the facility will replace the present BLFD station with a 14,700 square-foot headquarters station. The two-story facility will support 24/7 operations with code-compliant sleeping areas, training space, and office space for admin functions. The station's service area is expected to remain unincorporated for the next 25 years, thus the choice to remain in that location (coupled with the watershed restrictions which would require a giant, pricey parcel if built elsewhere). Costs (in FY 2005) dollars include \$285K for planning and design, \$1 mil for site/civil/septic/landscape, and \$2.89 mil for building construction. Ownership of the building— BLFD or the county or a combination— is TBD. The architect is Stewart Cooper & Newell. That's the short and hopefully accurate version.

Legeros - 05/14/07 - 21:23

<http://www.fire-facilities.com/bayleaf.a..>

for more details and a potential drawing

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/14/07 - 22:57

I have been told that the new Bay Leaf station is going to have a pole or 2 in it as well. It is funny that a lot has been said about BL getting a new station but no one has agreed or disagreed about Garner getting a 4th one, that is after all what the other money was budgeted for. I have heard it is a joint venture between the town and county.

Ear to the ground! - 05/15/07 - 15:57

Regarding the other fire station that received budget approval, the facility is planned for FY2010 and will cover "no man's land" on the east side of the county, east of Garner. As reported in the meeting, the county either is in or will be in negotiations with Garner Fire Department to see if they're interested in contracted operation of same. I believe they also indicated that a location had been identified. Not sure what the town's role in the facility is.

Legeros - 05/15/07 - 17:27

white oak area?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/15/07 - 19:07

I have heard a little further east toward Raynor Rd.

Ear to the ground - 05/15/07 - 23:39

Ohhh the fire commission.....

Yes, the elusive Fire Commission. Some question to their legal authority in the management and oversight of taxpayer money (some one please agree or clarify...)

I know the fire commission was "created" by the County Commissioners to make recommendations regarding the operation and administration of the Wake County Fire Service. I also know their website is not current. What I don't understand is why the fire commission seats are "appointed", and not Elected like the school board. Does not the school board in wake county make decisions on administration and operation of the school system? And with those Elected seats, the people who are affected the most (citizens, students, and employees of the schools) are allowed some say-so over Who sits on that board by way of a vote. That sounds democratic, yes? Then where do we as firefighters (employees) and Citizens stand? Where do we stand when members of the commission are in seats which they should not be in (department affiliation in a citizen seat).

I've always wondered this, since the fire commission has a few hands tied in this county with regards to a Progressive fire service. My main point here is, how many of you think the seats should be elected publicly by district, like they are with the school board; versus being restricted to Fire Chiefs from only departments which receive county funding, and citizens with deep pockets and private agendas (let us not forget the only 2 Democratically elected positions, that of the WC Firefighter's Association President and Commissioner Coble). Don't get me wrong, I like the idea of Regional Representation in the fire service seats. My main concern is the CITIZEN seats.

How many Citizens in Wake County do you think know about this "Fire Commission" that deals with public funds, when they meet, what they do, and how to contact representatives?

Just a thought

Concerned WCFirefighter ([Email](#)) - 05/19/07 - 15:46

This page on the county site, <http://www.wakegov.com/commissions/>, has some information on boards and committees.

Legeros - 05/19/07 - 16:37

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

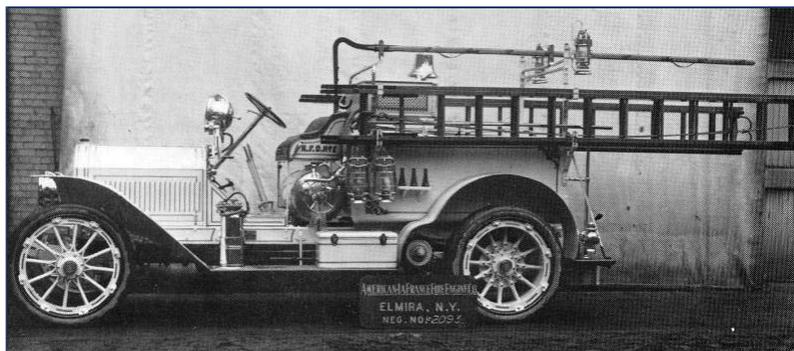
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

First Fire Engine

05/11/07 62 W, 1 I - + 13 - 20

At long last, a delivery photo of Raleigh's first fire engine. This was one of two American LaFrance Type 5 combination chemical hose cars delivered in early 1913. They were powered by 48 HP four-cylinder engines and equipped with 40-gallon chemical tanks and 1,000 feet of hose plus other equipment. The photo source is the new [American LaFrance apparatus registry](#). 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.

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.

Alarm Clocks and Umbrellas

05/12/07 124 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Sleep stops. Did a dream end or a siren sound? Seconds later, Engine 16 or Ladder 16 is warbling at the end of the block. Better check the pager. Structure fire on Snelling Road, just around the corner. 'Tis a great way to wake up. The only thing better might be a vollie-style siren. Don't think the wife would like that, though. Now, for shooting in the rain, just use a big umbrella. Hold camera in other hand. Tilt in direction of wind as needed. Prep camera before leaving vehicle, e.g. camera settings. Pick and stick with one lens. And don your all-weather gear BEFORE you leave instead of after you arrive. Works every time.



Excuse the ignorance, but what exactly is a "vollie-style" siren?

AB - 05/15/07 - 16:28

To answer your question, a vollie-style siren is an exterior siren of the style used to summon volunteer firefighters in earlier days.

Legeros - 05/15/07 - 17:26

This is what I think of: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/galleryw/stat..>

Luke - 05/16/07 - 00:01

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Storage

05/12/07 105 W - + 19 - 14

From a reader, how do we store our digital images for the long term? Mike has a quartet of external hard drives. Two are huge and two are small. One a good day, everything on the two small drives is also on one of the large drives. The second of the large drives is stored off-site and will hopefully never be used for disaster recovery. Mike names all individual image files as they're seen on his web site: YYYY-MM-DD-agency-street-mjl. Example: 2007-05-12-rfd-snelling-rd-mjl. Those are stored in folders named: YYYY-MM-DD-agency-street. Works pretty well. For fast renaming of files, Mike uses the application [Flash Renamer](#).

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'?

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

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.

Seen on Beltline

05/12/07 16 W - + 18 - 15

Silver Crown Vic with license tag NOTACOP! Unknown if driver looked the part.

Hey, thats my ride!

NOTACOP - 05/13/07 - 11:31

Pleased to meetcha. Crown Vics are great, as are their smaller cousins, the Taurus. After three Fords and associated repair bills, however, I am happy to have a Honda.

Legeros - 05/13/07 - 12:43

I know the feeling about the repair bills, don't remind me!

NOTACOP - 05/15/07 - 06:15

Chevy fan!!

AMAFIREMAN - 05/15/07 - 10:43

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'?

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

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.

Long Runs

05/12/07 55 W, 1 I - + 19 - 18

That short spell of storms saw some interesting runs on the north side. Western Wake sent an engine to the working fire on Springdale Drive, 8.94 miles. Wake Forest also sent their ladder, a mere 18.84 miles. Now that's a run! Raleigh, Durham Highway, Bay Leaf, and Falls also.



I think that until staffing is addressed in the county, we will see more and more of the long runs for departments...we got to have help from someone....somewhere...out there.....

klp205 - 05/12/07 - 17:04

I thought that coverage was also HUGE today. Does anyone know how many working fires there were today? I know Cary had at least one, and was also surprisingly sent to fairview station 1 for coverage.

Adam - 05/12/07 - 18:21

I know of the DHFD fire on Springdale drive. My Engine Company was second due (DHFD Engine 4) behind Raleigh Ladder 23. Quick knock down and excellent coordination between crews. Responding agencies included: Durham Highway Fire, Falls Fire, Bayleaf Fire, Raleigh Fire, Western Wake Fire, Wake Forest Fire, Six Forks EMS, and Wake SO. I thought I heard something of a fire in Fuquay and one in Fairview.

Falls201 - 05/12/07 - 21:43

Anyone have a complete run down of the units? Who was dispatched on the first alarm, any second alarm, special called, or self-dispatched?

Legeros - 05/12/07 - 21:55

CFP7: DURHAM HWY (WAKE) **WORKING FIRE+** 9420 SPRINGDALE DR X- ST TRAIL RIDGE/FIELD AND STREAM. 2-STY BRK, STRUCK BY LIGHTNING. FIRE IN ATTIC. 2 L/S/O, 1 ADDL CAFS LINE FOR OVERHAUL. EMS1271 EMS1272 EMS205 L23 DHE4 WWE196 FLE211 BLE361 BLE122 WFL65 DHE1 (702/7474/700/700.25 O/S) [700] 90/19/*

CFP7: FUQUAY-VARINA (WAKE) **WORKING FIRE** 8421 SETTLER HILL RD X- ST TROUBLE RD. E4 E5 K3 K2 K4, GARNER R2, EMS14 R881 EMS204. MOBILE HOME FIRE. [700] 90/19

CFP7: FAIRVIEW (WAKE) **2ND ALM EQ** 3900 JOHNSON POND RD X- ST HEAVY WEIGHT DR/OAK PARK DR. ABDN STRUCT, FULLY INVOLVED. ADDING ADDL TANKERS FR A DUPLICATE CALL. HEAVY STORMS IN AREA, LAYING LDH DOWN A LONG DRIVEWAY. E2 E1 K6 K7 R1, HOLLY SPGs E1 E2, EMS1471 EMS580 EMS204, SWIFT CRK K6 K2, GARNER K12. CARY ENG FOR COVERAGE. [700] 90/19

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/12/07 - 22:54

The Cary job was 103 Darlington Oak, in E7's primary area. Working fire with fire held to attic. Add E5, L5, T7, R2, B2 and MO' E3. A 20 minute run for the Rescue coming from #2. Truck 6, (on an Engine) did the cover assignment for Fairview FD.

guest - 05/13/07 - 19:26

Where is Darlington Oak located?

Silver - 05/13/07 - 20:14

Amberly

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/13/07 - 22:24

Nothing wrong with long runs. Like klp said. We have to get help from somewhere.

Dt - 05/14/07 - 07:33

For the record, didnt say there was anything wrong with long runs, but if Cary (and Raleigh for that matter) subscribed to the closest unit response as it should be maybe one could have been there faster.

Guest - 05/14/07 - 08:23

I thought RFD is on board with it? I mean, Dillard Drive School is in the city but Swift Creek is always dispatched as well. Same with the street "Southern Cross", and the other streets in the subdivision off of Jones Franklin Rd. Swift Creek is dispatched along with city units....anyone clarify?

Silver - 05/14/07 - 10:02

Silver – Swift Creek set up some areas 2-3 years ago with RFD for closest station response. Some of those areas of response were arranged and coordinated between Chief McCollum and RFD before the closest station/closest unit became more fully implemented across the city/county. I think WWFR may have done so also, not sure on thier end.

McGraw ([Email](#)) - 05/14/07 - 15:48

Ok Rob, Thanks for clarifying.

Silver - 05/14/07 - 16:03

Cary has agreed to the closest station response agreement as well. It is in the hands of the RWECC to program the CAD, so it is out of the hands of any fire administration.

There are some areas that WWFR runs with RFD, but since at the time the response was based on Police Beats there were areas that WWFR was being dispatched to that RFD was closer to, so the system didn't really work 100%. There are some areas that used to be WWFR down Edwards Mill towards the mall that WWFR still goes with RFD to. There is also a pretty good relationship between RFD and Station 14, and 8.

Swift Creek and Cary also have an agreement set up for a specific area around the SCFD station.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/14/07 - 18:13

How quick do volunteer departments get there compared to paid though? What do you think about volunteer fire departments?

Adam - 05/14/07 - 19:19

In reference to the comment I made about closest response, where I came from and the way the system should work is: If there was one dispatch center in the county and they knew where everyone one would be coming from, then R2 from Cary may not have been on the call if Mo'ville R1 or maybe Apex R1 were in service. Alas, Apex ladder 1 wouldnt be driving through Cary to get to Mo'ville and R-14 and E-8 wouldnt be coming to I-40 and Cary Town when Cary station 2 could hit a golf ball to it, and WWFR wouldnt be passing 2 Cary stations to get there as well. I didnt say there wasnt a closest unit response to some calls on occassion, but its not all the time and its not always getting all the closest units. And if you think that Cary has agreed to it and its in RWECC hands, think again. That is a good excuse to use when a house burns down, but no Cary is not in all the way, nor do they support it. There are places in Cary as we speak that are with in view of a cary fire house but are in the county, if you have a cardiac arrest and call for help Cary 911 may get the call, but they transfer it and never send the closest unit. And yes they know where it is and how close the station is!

guest - 05/14/07 - 20:34

Well then I guess you can call Cary Fire Admin and talk to Chief Cain or Deputy Chief Poole, as when the question was posed to him about closest station they have stated that they have agreed to it, but that it has not been implemented as it is waiting to be programmed into CAD

and the maps created, etc. I guess you could also talk to Chris Perry to see if there have been any meetings or agreements. There are many spots in "around" Cary that will get a Cary unit that are in the county, and vice versa. But at the end of the day Telecommunicators can only do what they are allowed to do and what CAD recommends. That and I would not count on any telecommunicator to know where every area is around the city or the county and know where each fire station or EMS station is and who's call it is and who they "should" send vs. what CAD says.

We are all in agreement on how the system should work, but we have to remember that municipalities have a legal obligation to provide services within their city limits (as I-40 at Cary Towne is within the city limits of Raleigh now). You speak about one dispatch center, well it doesn't take one center, look at how Holly Springs and Apex work. They are tied into the RWECC, but operate and communicate with their units independent of RWECC. It can work, but at the end of the day the county cannot force any municipality to use RWECC, heck it costs money for each dispatch and I have heard that other municipalities are looking at doing things the way that Apex/Holly Springs does, or breaking off all together.

And we still have to remember that the IC of any call can cancel or substitute units. If a Morrisville officer hears an Apex Ladder dispatched, and knows that Cary L-1 or L-5 is closer they can always asked for them to be dispatched until all the CAD systems are programmed and correct. The system cannot be fixed in a day, or two days. But then again I guess those people that live across from Cary Station 1 can always ask to be annexed so they can enjoy the municipality's services and pay the associated taxes. Not that it's right or wrong, but it's the reality of the situation.

At the end of the day I don't think that anyone cares what the name is on the truck or the gear, and I know that those of us that ride the trucks don't care either, we're all in it to provide a service to the community. But like most things we are strangled from the things up top, and the political BS that's entailed in a "closest station" agreement, especially when city limits are involved.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/14/07 - 22:53

"Guest", to back up "7021", you have to be careful about sending units from other departments. The reason, some aren't staffed, we go around and around with this. Apex R-1 isn't staffed, but it is showed as "in service" in CAD. Before they move forward with this county-wide dispatch crap, they need to set forth guidelines for staffing levels and what dictates a unit being "in service". If Cary R-"whatever" is dispatched to a fire, Cary knows that a dedicated crew of 3 or 4 is en-route at the time of dispatch. A unit SHOULD NOT be dispatched if it doesn't have a dedicated crew, plain and simple.

Silver - 05/15/07 - 10:55

OK...if we stick to "it has to be staffed with a dedicated crew", then in reality we can immediately sell of anywhere from 1/3 to 2/3 fo the apparatus fleet in the county. It ain't gonna happen anytime soon. So...take a page from the playbook in Marlyand, specifically Anne Arundel County. They have a combination service with a service area similar to Wake County.

Units are listed in CAD according to their staffing status, which is accomplished through their DEK boxes-

STATUS 1- In service, dependent crew, meaning the crew is shared with another unit(s) in the station

STATUS 2- In service, dedicated crew (self explanatory)

The way their CAD is programmed (it is all a programming issue), it recognizes that it can only dispatch one unit out of a station that has a dependent crew, and once that is done, the others are place in STATUS 8, which for them was 'out of service'. So, if a call was dispatched CAD would only recognize a unit listed as independent, or would dispatch only one of the 'dependent' units. So, in my station up there, Odenton #28, the engine was listed in STATUS 2 at all times, while the second and third engine and the ladder were listed as STATUS 1. For a box alarm, CAD would select ENGINE 281 and TRUCK 28, but would not dispatch ENGINE 282 or ENGINE 283. To fill out the assignment, it would select what it needed from adjacent stations to get 3 engines, 1 ladder, 1 squad (heavy rescue), a battalion chief, and 2 paramedic ambulances. Volunteers who were not on duty at the station could go to the station and place whatever units up into STATUS 2 for the next call, move ups, or if needed and requested by COMMAND, respond to the original call.

They've been doing that for years and it works. Of course, there is a county department along with the volunteer companies, a single, unified chain of command, a single county fire chief, etc. The Battalion Chiefs are county employees, but the volunteer chiefs can function as a BC within their own first due, provided they have met the county's training requirements. Outside of their fist due, they are a captain.

This set-up would accomodate the 'if it is not staffed it should not be dispatched' stance, since if there is not a crew available, it will not be

dispatched. Of course, you have to provide some sort of oversight, which is where a county fire administration would come into play, independent of the volunteer company chiefs.

Now, could anything like this happen in Wake County? Stranger things have happened. I would have never thought that we would have all come on board with a single radio system or somewhat single specs for apparatus (I won't touch the brush truck issue)...of course we still haven't got the single numbering system...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 05/15/07 - 11:50

we've been around this bush before haven't we?

hope everyone is having a good day!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/15/07 - 14:15

Yes Shev, we have. DJ, I like your thinking.

Silver - 05/15/07 - 14:57

Take this into consideration; Apex Engine 1 usually has 2 or 3 people dedicated to it. Rescue 1 is housed with Engine 1, as well as Tanker 1 and Brush 1. While the Engine is in the house, it can be known as "staffed with dependent crew". But, if Engine 1 were to go to Station 3 for training, does that entail pushing every other DEK button in the other units to mark them out of service? Or, does one call to the comm. center on the radio do it all? Just wondering DJ, sounds like an excellent concept though. You should work on a formal presentation to the big wigs before they try to reinvent the wheel.

Silver - 05/15/07 - 15:09

We (New Hope) have implemented a pilot program of marking equipment out of service on weekdays (7a-6p M-F) that isn't staffed. (as a test/experiment if you will). It forces CAD to dispatch equipment that actually responds, rather than dispatched and never marking enroute. It isn't a permanent policy, but being used to gather information and statistics, as well as provide more staffing for structural calls. So far I like it because at least what is dispatched actually responds. We are in the same boat as most...inadequate staffing. If volunteers standby at the station they mark the equipment back in service.

AB - 05/15/07 - 15:27

Aaron is this test program a WNH program or did the county ask you to try it out?

Mike - 05/15/07 - 15:51

It was brought to the County by NH (because of CAD and other issues) and they endorsed it. They were also interested in obtaining some data from the program.

AB - 05/15/07 - 15:58

Sounds like a good idea. Maybe the county could get a couple of departments on the different sides of the county to try it as well.

Mike - 05/15/07 - 16:40

Yeah...we are beating this horse again...but hey...it is so much fun.

As to doing all of the DEK boxes if the main crew goes for training, I believe it was all done with one call to the center (it has been several years...I was up there from 1990 to 1993). However, another aspect that seemed to prevail there that does not translate well here, was if you could not regularly staff it you didn't buy it.

Take Odenton VFC- We had three engines, a ladder, a BLS ambulance, and two brush vehicles. We normally had two engines and the ladder independently staffed, and the ambo and brush units, along with the third engine, were dependent. The county provided us with one 24-hour paid engineer and two paid firefighters M-F. Engine 282 and Engine 283 could get out 99+% of the time with crews of 4-5, and Truck 28 had a crew of 4-5 also. Our neighboring stations, while serving areas equal in density and population to ours, had fewer trucks. Maryland City #27 only had an engine (county provided driver and M-F FF) and a BLS ambulance (dependent crew), while Jessup #29 only had an engine (county driver and M-F FF), a brush (dependent crew), and a paramedic ambulance (independently staffed by the county. The volunteers would fill out the crews as needed. The volunteers participated, but they gravitated to certain stations for various reasons. Big volliie houses included Odenton 28, Earleigh Heights 12, Riviera Bch #13, and Orchard Bch #11. And there were also dedicated county staffed stations throughout.

DJ - 05/15/07 - 17:27

DJ, Yes we have discussed this before. But, your input is important because you've "been there and done that". This is new to mostly

everyone. I'd take my input to the county level if I were you. Like I said before, do it before they try to reinvent the wheel.

Silver - 05/16/07 - 08:11

Thumbs up to the folks at WNH for marking their unstaffed units out of service. This will eliminate, at least in their district, the very real problem of dispatching units for which no staff is available on calls that happen while another call is going on.

This happens with some frequency, and has presented some potentially life-threatening problems (critical patients with only the EMS crew to care for them) around the county.

It's bad to be expecting help, none shows up, and then later you found out that nobody was ever even en route.

Skip

EMS100 ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/17/07 - 22:04

In regards to the question about this being a County requested program. I have learned it was more of a "cooperative effort" between NH and the County in an attempt to accomplish the things noted above. EMS100, I agree with your statement. Hopefully maintaining status this way will reduce those occurrences.

AB - 05/18/07 - 10:53

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh's Proposed Budget

05/16/07 587 W, 3 I - + 19 - 10

The city's [proposed annual budget](#) has been released. Highlights from the [public safety section](#), of proposed FD expenses: replace one engine, add three full-time fire investigators, add five mobile data terminals for chief officers, continue offering Capital Leadership training program to personnel, and replace a gas chemical identifier. The list of accomplishments from the prior budget year is notably robust and provides a detailed look into the department's workings and beyond the usual stations / apparatus / personnel perspective. Other budget items: the ECC is getting the city Radio Shop, and adding ten telecommunicator positions; PD is moving to the 800 mhz radio system. From [CIP documents](#), funding is listed for a northeast fire station starting this year, replacing Station 3 starting FY2009, and another fire station starting FY2010. Plus radios, station improvements, a storage building, etc. The CEL Public Safety Center is also listed, under Alternative Financing Projects and starting FY2009.

Details on select CIP items:

2. Fire Station Improvements: \$615,000

This project will provide maintenance to the city's fire stations, half of which are over 30 years old. Others are more than 40 years old. Renovations are needed at many of these stations. Over the next five years, this request will pay for roof, kitchen, bathroom, floor, window, boiler, driveway and parking area repaving as well as other repair/replacements needed to maintain these facilities.

3. Fire 800 MHz. Radios: \$463,000

This request is a continuation of the previous two year's CIP projects which provided funding for 800 MHz radios. This funding was required in order to receive \$1.17 million federal funding through Wake County for 800 MHz infrastructure. The FY08 request will provide for the addition of a fourth hand held radio on each fire apparatus. The FY09 request provides for base radios for all stations and the FY10 request provides for the addition of a fifth hand held radio on those 19 fire apparatus with 5 personnel assigned.

4. Replace Fire Station 3: \$4,250,320

This is a proposal to construct a new fire station to replace Station 3, located at 13 South East Street. Station 3, built in 1951, is inadequate to serve as a city fire station. Though there have been improvements, it remains functionally obsolete and is too small. A new fire station, located in the same area, would be better equipped to respond to the needs of those in this area of Raleigh.

5. Fire Station, Northeast Raleigh: \$4,315,000

This is a request to construct a fire station in the rapidly growing northeastern portion of the city to serve such areas as recently annexed River Towne. The station would house two companies (an engine and a ladder) and would be staffed by 30 personnel, 10 per shift.

7. Fire Storage Building: \$240,000

Construct a 60' X 80' butler-type building at the fire services facility on New Bern Avenue. The purpose of this building is to serve as a garage for five (5) reserve fire apparatus that currently are kept outdoors. They are very susceptible to damage including rusting and general deterioration resulting from outside storage. The addition of this structure will protect the fire apparatus thus keeping it in ready-response condition and lengthening its useful life.

8. Fire Station: \$3,901,000

A new fire station is projected to be constructed in response to population growth in Raleigh.

Clarence Lightner Safety Center: \$107,658,444

Construction of a Public Safety Center located in the Downtown Business District. The facility will comprise an estimated 146,000 net sq. ft. and include the ECC, Emergency Operations, Traffic Signal Control and Public Safety Center functions as well as general office space as part of a proposed 260,000 gross sq. ft. office tower and 800 parking spaces in a new offsite deck.

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'?

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

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.

Cary's Proposed Budget

05/16/07 82 W - + 16 - 17

Looking at the town of Cary's proposed budget, the [fire department section](#) reviews accomplishments and a host of performance measures and workload indicators. In the CIP section, [these capital expenses](#) are listed: thermal imaging camera replacement, SCBA upgrade and replacement, service truck replacement, and site acquisition for Station #8 in southwest Cary. The [ten-year CIP plan](#) is also available. Nice that the town's site offers both PDF and HTML views of these documents, as well, and in very small sections.

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'?

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

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.

Other Proposed Budgets

05/16/07 307 W, 2 I - + 16 - 14

For the rest of Wake County's municipalities, here are more proposed budgets. Or attempts at finding proposed budgets. Not all municipal web sites are create equal.

Apex, not readily found on [town web site](#).

Fuquay-Varina, not yet available on [Administration department page](#).

Garner, nothing about fire spending readily noted on their [Annual Operating Budget page](#) and expectedly so.

Holly Springs, [unwieldy budget document](#) notes ten added FD personnel: three BCs, three Captains, Three FFs, and a trainer/inspector. What else of note?

Knightdale, not readily found on [town web site](#).

Morrisville, [budget document](#) notes no staffing changes or capital expenses, and a nice summary of the stats and objectives. The Public Safety Center project is also detailed, with \$5.7 mil of the expenses in FY2007. Looks like new construction is no longer planned, but the purchase and conversion of an existing building. Fire Administration will relocate immediately allowing for Station 1 renovations.

Rolesville, not yet available on [budget page](#).

Wake Forest, only a budget message available on their [budget page](#). Fire is summarized as "The Wake Forest Fire Department requested funding in the amount of \$2,862,784 for the coming year. This would require a tax rate increase of more than \$0.04. The tax rate for fire service is recommended to remain unchanged. The Department has made significant changes in its request this year as compared to previous years. In this next year alone, they want to hire 20 full time firemen. Over the next five years they want to build, equip and staff three (3) more fire stations with a rumor the chief is considering a fourth. We have included funding for an impact fee analysis for fire services capital needs."

Wendell, not readily found on [town web site](#) and probably will not include much detail beyond amount of contracted fire protection.

Zebulon, not yet available on [Town Documents page](#).

So RFD staffing/personnel expenses are roughly \$38 Million to staff 28 stations and the County has about \$18 Million to staff over 40 stations (if you count every station, not just department). I'm a not mathematicianbut that doesn't add up. Meanwhile the WC school bus operations can't account for even more funds while the fire service suffers because the school system takes most of the revenue. IMPACT FEES!

Guest - 05/16/07 - 08:44

If you look at the HS budget, the BCs, captains, and the trainer/inspector (?) are not recommended by the town manager. The three firefighter positions are recommended for a half-year, which I would assume means hiring them after the first of the calendar year, actually getting them on board around February or March, so that would actually post a 'savings' in the budget. I've seen that done many times before in other places.

DJ (Email) - 05/16/07 - 08:46

Let's all remember, the city/town manager has the sole task of balancing the budget. They really don't understand the importance of Batt. Chief's or minimum staffing requirements, because of the "mirage fire station" theory. The public can see a fire engine in the firehouse, sitting all shiny and everything is fine. Little do they know that only 2 people are riding it.

Our line of work doesn't affect people like crime getting out of control, or trash piling up on the streets. We do our job, and we do it to the best of our ability with the hand we're dealt, 2 person staffing and all. Will it take us pulling up to a fire with 2 person staffing and sitting on the bumper to wait for back-up? Yes, but that's not our nature. But, if it was to happen, you'd see things change and people would then realize that we need manpower, just like the cops do.

Silver - 05/16/07 - 10:09

Also, there are those in the public that consider parks, recreation, libraries, and more to be just as important as fire protection, law enforcement, and EMS. And of course everything on the county level is eclipsed by the ongoing debate over how to address the school system's issues.

DJ (Email) - 05/16/07 - 11:56

Bring on the toll roads and higher property taxes for Wake County home owners.

Mike - 05/17/07 - 11:22

Any more \$80,000 brush trucks on the list?

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/17/07 - 13:29

Knightdale's proposed budget includes a new pumper, and a new fire station: <http://www.easternwakenews.com/front/sto..>

Legeros - 05/31/07 - 06:12

Holly Springs' approved budget included three 1/2 firefighter positions (but none of the other requested positions), two Hurst tools, hose, pagers, turnout gear, and replacement of a 1997 Chevy Tahoe budgeted at \$30,000. The requested replacement ambulance (\$125,000) was not funded.

The link: <http://www.hollyspringsnc.us/dept/financ..>

Legeros - 06/07/07 - 06:45

Wake Forest's budget was approved this week, and included a 1% increase to help pay for fire department funding:

<http://www.newsobserver.com/nrn/story/61..>

Never did find any Apex budget information on the town's site. How weird and seemingly secretive is that?

Knightdale has a PDF budget summary on their town's site: <http://www.ci.knightdale.nc.us/07-08%20b..>

Legeros - 06/22/07 - 04:47

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'?

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

Charleston Former Firehouses

05/16/07 57 W, 1 I - + 18 - 18

Random information compilation, a [dozen or so historic fire service structures](#) in the great walled city. This is a placeholder page, where Mike will add details from time to time. And better pictures, whenever he can get back to Charleston. Watch for a web or print article someday.



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'?

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

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.

EMS, Ambulances, Response Times, Pittsburgh

05/18/07 157 W, 1 I - + 18 - 18

Here's an [interesting article about Pittsburgh EMS](#), with a television station turning their eye that EMS system after a lower-priority (e.g. non-life threatening injury) patient waited 26 minutes for an ambulance to arrive. Is that ultimately what's required for better funding, media or public reaction or outrage? Nobody typically cares until something affects them. Witness the school system business. Or does it take more direct involvement, such as an elected official who is the one experiencing the service? The article also cites "national standards" that call for paramedics to arrive at life-threatening emergencies within eight minutes 90% of the time. Couldn't easily find (via Google) references to national standards. What are Wake County's average response times? [Last year's budget document](#) cites 11:59 minutes as the FY07 target for both Wake EMS and the Wake EMS system, for "emergency responses" for an ambulance. Unknown if "emergency responses" equal "life-threatening emergencies," so comparisons could be unfair.

This article could have been written about any EMS system in the country – including Wake County. There are times, in every system, when demand far outstrips capacity. Think Friday afternoon, rush hour, with a thunderstorm cell rolling through.

There really are no "national standards" for response performance (and their probably can't be, given that population density and demand for service varies so much. For example, in Wake County we handle someplace around 78 EMS calls per 1,000 population. In other metro areas, that demand is as low as 40 per 1,000 and as high as 312 per 1,000.

The "8:59" that everybody talks about is interesting. It has been around a long time. Some people cite the old "Seattle CPR study" by Cummings et al, who said that if you don't get CPR in 8 minutes, brain death will occur. So who would pick a standard that would guarantee that your patients would die? Really, it is a contracting standard (as opposed to medical) having to do with the economics of service delivery by private ambulance companies.

Also....when do you start the clock?

In many systems, they start the clock when the tones are transmitted. That totally ignores how long it takes to answer the call, interrogate the caller, and dispatch the call. In Wake County, we start the clock when the 911 phone rings (when the time begins from the view of the patient/caller). Thus we include everybody that is involved in the call in the time line. To the patient, our 11:59 and the other guys 8:59 look awfully similar!

We also don't discuss averages, because they can hide truly awful services. Average is about the 50th percentile – half the calls will be worse and half will be better, but you can't tell how much worse or better (without also the standard deviation, but you don't want to go there). We use the 90th percentile – the goal is that 90% of the time the EMS unit will be there before 12 minutes. That's much better service than "50% of the time...." Across the county, we typically achieve that standard 86-91% of the time. (What that shows is that we just barely have enough units spread around to do the job we've set out to do.) Can we keep doing it in the face of all the growth? We darn sure will try!

Last, what is a critical call? That varies from system to system. We measure ourselves for all calls dispatched as BRAVO, CHARLIE, DELTA, and ECHO. Many count only DELTA and ECHO, and call BRAVO and CHARLIE "serious" or something. If it's bad enough to run hot to the call, we measure it and count it.

Enough school for today. Thanks for asking.

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/18/07 - 09:55

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'?

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

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.

Wake Celebrates EMS Week May 20-26

05/18/07 120 W - + 19 - 13

From [this press release also available on the county site](#), there's an EMS day on Sunday, May 20, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at the Kroger supermarket, 1610 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Their cool new Major Operations Support Unit will be on display. There will also be a ceremony to honor Wake EMS paramedics and Raleigh firefighters involved in cardiac arrest resuscitations on Monday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fletcher Opera Theater in Raleigh. And there will be a baseball game for EMS responders and their families (and the general public) at Five County Stadium on Thursday, May 24, at 7:15 p.m. Unknown if EMS personnel or officials will be singing the national anthem. Play ball!

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'?

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

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.

Wake County Proposed Budget

05/18/07 86 W - + 12 - 14

...does not appear to be available on the [Wake County budget site](#). What's up with that? Past budgets are not available, either. The [lone budget document](#), for FY07, is but a single document. No separated chapters or smaller documents. Curiouser and curiouser. Using the site-wide search, however, older budget information is surfaced. Somebody in the Budget department could do worse than to request greater and easier transparency for the presentation of current and prior budgets, both adopted and proposed, on the web.

I don't think you see any documents until either the County Manager presents his proposed budget (next Monday, or the following?), or until the Board of County Commissioners actually adopts the budget. Until then, everything is a work in progress and is probably changing every day.

Stay tuned!

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/18/07 - 09:57

The proposed budget has been released: <http://www.wakegov.com/about/budget/fy20..>

Legeros - 05/21/07 - 22:11

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'?

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

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.

Browser Comptability

05/18/07 145 W, 1 I - + 19 - 14

How many people use Firefox or another non-Microsoft web browser? Keep those hands raised. On legeros.com this week, using web analytics software provided by the service provider, about 40% of users use Internet Explorer. Another 39% percent use a Mozilla Compatible Agent, such as Netscape Navigator. Less than 7% use Firefox. Okay, translate that into something we can all see. On the Wake County Emergency Information page, the main page, there is a left-side navigation menu that takes you to Fire or EMS or elsewhere. UNLESS, that is, you are using version 2.0.0.1 of Firefox. Then there's nothing. Nada. Just the text and image in the main part of the page. How many users in that situation would know to try another browser? So, for site admins reading this, is YOUR site compatible with multiple browsers? Check and see. You may be surprised. Click to enlarge:

Browser	Sessions	Percent
Internet Explorer	5,905	40.19%
Mozilla Compatible Agent	5,673	38.60%
Firefox	976	6.64%
msnbot	725	4.93%
Mozilla	351	2.39%
Feedfetcher Google	199	1.33%
Unknown	174	1.18%
Opera	92	0.63%
User Agent: Mozilla	73	0.50%
Safari	69	0.46%
Total	14,697	100.00%

ps- Google Analytics does all this and it's free: http://www.google.com/analytics/. The requirements are (1.) a Google account (free), (2.) a Google analytics account (free), and (3.) a snippet of HTML that is added to every page that you wish to track (can be easy to add).

Legeros - 05/18/07 - 05:40

I am proud to admit I am part of that 7% that use Firefox...although I will use the IE page rendering extension for those pages not setup properly for firefox...for the rest of you firefox users you can find the link here:

http://ieview.mozdev.org/

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] (Email) (Web Site) - 05/18/07 - 08:00

One of the .63% Opera users right here. And I almost never have trouble with page rendering (just with plugins like Flash).

[barrett] - 05/18/07 - 10:14

I am also a Firefox user (v2.0.0.3) and the county page referred to here works fine on this platform. Mozilla developers have traditionally been great about tracking problems and offering bug-fixes in version updates.

[bombero.loco] - 05/18/07 - 19:27

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

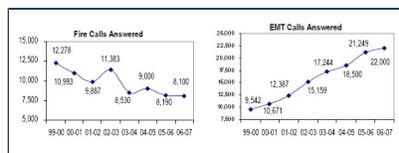
No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Call Volume

05/18/07 46 W, 2 I - + 19 - 15

From the [public safety section](#) of the city's proposed budget, two graphs illustrate fire and EMS calls answered by RFD. Wonder what the call types looked like over time, on both the fire and EMS side? Love looking at data... 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.

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.

New Buggy

05/18/07 38 W, 2 I - + 21 - 19

Raleigh's Division Chief has a new ride, a 2007 Chevy Tahoe that replaces a 2005 Ford Expedition. Check out the pin-stripped lettering. Now that's bling!



Nice ride. But, yet another new design! Will we ever have Chief vehicles that look alike? Uniformity is always preached, but hardly ever performed.

Guest - 05/18/07 - 21:19

who cares, it's a sweet ride.

Graney - 05/19/07 - 13:06

Do you work for RFD? Designs are changed as much as people change their socks....let's stick with 1 design for a few years at the very least.

Guest - 05/19/07 - 15:25

Whats wrong with change guest? Lets stop being so negative and be happy with the direction THE Raleigh Fire Dept.is headed!

LtEng3 - 05/19/07 - 21:28

Yeah Who cares with what a rig looks like weather it be a buggy,pumper,truck or whatever just aslong as it works. Heck like LtEng3 said Great job Raleigh for keeping the fleet up to date, I wish my city had half on the money raleigh did for Fleet upkeep.

YourGuest from the City to Your West. - 05/19/07 - 22:32

"LtEng3" and "Guest to the West", I think what "Guest" is trying to say is that it would be nice to keep a little bit of uniformity in the RFD with the Chief units. I'm glad to see that the fleet is staying updated, but, that word "uniformity" is thrown around a lot but it seems it only matters when it suits certain people at certain times.

The ride is sweet, but it would be even more nice to have 3 of them showing up on the scene that look somewhat the same, versus a maroon tahoe (B-3), a white tahoe w/ no stripes (C-5) and a white excursion with red and gold stripes (B-2). That's all....

Silver - 05/20/07 - 00:17

If I remember correctly, when the maroon tahoes were bought, it was a low bid deal and a different paint color would have been extra. I believe it was something about Chevy using that color for contracts. They also used white but I believe they were trying to be uniform with some of the Crown Vics (Car 1) at the time.

Gen3fire - 05/20/07 - 10:24

P.S. I think the new tahoe looks good.

Gen3fire - 05/20/07 - 10:25

Whatever happened to having striped public safety vehicles? At least EMS in Raleigh takes responder safety into account when designing graphics for their vehicles. This looks like the lead vehicle for a funeral home, not a Division Chief's vehicle for a metropolitan fire department.

Concerned Taxpayer - 05/21/07 - 15:12

While I don't agree with your assessment, it could use some reflective strips

DT - 05/21/07 - 15:30

Still a sweet ride.

Graney - 06/04/07 - 18:05

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh Promotions

05/18/07 90 W - + 14 - 17

Congratulations to Raleigh's newest Captains and Lieutenants. They were honored at a ceremony on Tuesday at the City Council Chambers. The new Captains: D .M. Davidson, T. N. Duke, L. C. Johnson, M. S. Porter, R. M. Siebel, A. D. Tant, J. L. Ward, C. W. Wilson: The new Lieutenants: T. D. Aspend, B. J. Averette, B. A. Batten, R. E. Byrd, L. F. Hufham, J. C. Ford, M. T. Furr, B. J. Kilmer, H. P. Kissenger, J. R. Patterson, M. A. Stone. Here's the [city's press release](#).

Congrates to all.

Andrew - 05/19/07 - 13:03

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'?

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

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.

Lightner Public Safety Center Location Chosen

05/18/07 121 W - + 18 - 17

The corner of Hargett and McDowell streets was approved this week as the future location of the Clarence E. Lightner Public Safety Center. The long-planned project will comprise an estimated 146,000 net square feet and be headquarters for fire and police. It will also house the Emergency Communications Center, Emergency Operations, and Traffic Signal Control, as well as general office space as part of a proposed 260,000 gross square foot office tower. At one time there was talk of also including a fire station in the facility, though that was since dropped from the project we're told. The fire department's administrative offices are presently located at 310 West Martin Street and at Station 1. Here's the [related press release](#).

I spoke with a gentleman who is heavily involved in the construction of this who works for the city. He told me that this was the plan many, many years ago, but it never happened. He also said that you'll probably see all of "One Exchange Plaza", a 10-story city building on Fayetteville St., emptied out and put in this building. Finally, he told me that P.D. admin would have to relocate for 3 years due to the demolition and then construction of the 17 floor "City Complex".

Silver - 05/18/07 - 21:24

I currently work for Raleigh-Wake ECC, and they have told us that we'll be moving out of the basement when this building is complete... they're talking the top 2 floors (16 & 17)... that's a great thing.

CJS ([Email](#)) - 05/19/07 - 08:47

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'?

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

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 Apparatus Update

05/19/07 34 W - + 18 - 17

The two Pierce rescues should be ready in June, we're told. The new Pierce engine and ladder, however, are still due in August. The four trucks were originally expected in May.

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'?

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

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.

Media and Retiree Day

05/20/07 179 W, 1 I - + 13 - 18

There was love to spare Saturday at the first-ever Raleigh Fire Department Media and Retiree Day. Dozens of former FFs (and widows of former FFs) and their family members arrived at the Keeter Training Center, shuttled from an off-site parking location. They were treated to lunch and fellowship, and given photo ID cards created on the spot. Apparatus and equipment was displayed on both the upper drill pad and the lower parking lot. The drill tower was open, as was the new Field Comm unit. Haz-mat and USAR were also present. EMS was there and showing the new Major Operations Unit. There were wandering bagpipers, a patrolling bike team, and the wafting wonderful smell of BBQ. Inside was a history room with posters, slideshows, and even some old color movies. Lee took pictures all day and Mike helped create the history room. Here are [PDF versions of the history stuff](#). 'Twas a half-day event, not open to the public. Four hours of heaven and perfect weather, too. Pictures forthcoming.



The Raleigh Chronicle attended and has posted its pics: <http://www.raleighchronicle.com/20070522..>

FireNews was also present and has posted a slideshow: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/firenews/se..>

Legeros - 05/22/07 - 22:01

Lee has posted his photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a..>

Legeros - 05/26/07 - 05:59

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department History Quiz

05/20/07 1003 W - + 18 - 11

Take the quiz! This was created for yesterday's event. You can also [download a PDF-version version](#) as desired. Answers at the bottom:

1. What fire company operated Raleigh's first steam fire engine, beginning in 1870?
 - a. Rescue
 - b. Victor
 - c. Capital
 - d. L. A. Mahler

2. What fire company operated Raleigh's first chemical fire engines, beginning in 1879?
 - a. Phoenix
 - b. Independent
 - c. Bucket & Ladder
 - d. Eureka

3. Where was Station 1 first located?
 - a. Fayetteville Street
 - b. West Morgan Street
 - c. South Salisbury Street
 - d. South Dawson Street

4. What year did the Raleigh Fire Department become fully-paid?
 - a. 1892
 - b. 1902
 - c. 1912
 - d. 1922

5. Who was Raleigh's first full-time Fire Chief?
 - a. Walter Woollcott
 - b. Lonnie Lumsden
 - c. Sherwood Brockwell
 - d. Charles Farmer

6. Raleigh's first motorized fire engines were made by
 - a. Ahrens-Fox
 - b. American LaFrance
 - c. Mack
 - d. Seagrave

7. Raleigh's first aerial ladder was delivered in
 - a. 1913
 - b. 1916

- c. 1922
- d. 1926

8. Station 4 was first located on

- a. Jefferson Street
- c. Old Wake Forest Road
- b. Glenwood Avenue
- d. Northway Court

9. During World War II, a used American LaFrance pumper was purchased from what city?

- a. Durham
- b. Farmville
- c. Tarboro
- d. Wilmington

10. Station 6 was first housed in a rented building that faced

- a. Fairview Road
- b. Oberlin Road
- c. Park Drive
- d. St. Mary's Street

11. The ladies auxiliary was organized in

- a. 1949
- b. 1951
- c. 1953
- d. 1955

12. The alarm house behind Station 1 on South Dawson Street has how many stories?

- a. 1
- b. 1-1/2
- c. 2
- d. 2-1/2

13. Raleigh's first new apparatus delivered after World War II was a

- a. FWD pumper
- c. Pirsch pumper
- b. American LaFrance aerial ladder
- d. Pierce aerial ladder

14. The first drill tower in South Raleigh was built in

- a. 1944
- b. 1954
- c. 1964
- d. 1974

15. The second engine at Station 1 was previously numbered

- a. Engine 9
- b. Engine 10
- c. Engine 15
- d. All of the above

16. Raleigh's first rescue squad operated a

- a. Panel van
- b. Box truck
- c. Station wagon
- d. Hearse

17. The old squad or auxiliary truck responded to all but ONE of these types of calls in the 1940s and 1950

- a. grass fires
- b. First Responder calls
- c. car fires
- d. structure fires in the county

18. The Fire Prevention division was created in

- a. 1941
- b. 1949
- c. 1951
- d. 1959

19. Who was hospitalized after the Pullen Hall fire on February 22, 1965?

- a. C. A. Lloyd and F. T. Pipkin
- b. H. S. Stephenson and R. R. High
- c. V. J. Smith, J. T. White, and A. R. Woodlief

20. Which is the correct sequence of chiefs?

- a. Lloyd, Keeter, Puryear, Keith
- b. Keeter, Lloyd, Puryear, Keith
- c. Keeter, Lloyd, Keith, Puryear

21. Raleigh operated two tankers made by

- a. Chevy
- b. Ford
- c. GMC
- d. Mack

22. The union was chartered three times. Which year doesn't belong?

- a. 1938
- b. 1951
- c. 1969
- d. 1986

23. The first female firefighters were hired in what year and how many were hired?

- a. Eleven women hired in 1976
- c. Eight women hired in 1978
- b. Eight women hired in 1976
- d. Ten women hired in 1978

24. The last alarm transmitted from a fire box was received in

- a. 1970
- b. 1973
- c. 1980
- d. 1981

25. The 1977 Mack/Baker aerial platform cost

- a. \$65,000 b. \$95,000
- c. \$175,000
- d. \$225,000

26. The building housing Station 23 was originally operated by

- a. Six Forks Fire Department
- b. Durham Highway Fire Department
- c. Bay Leaf Fire Department
- d. Northern Wake Rescue Squad

27. The last service ladder company was retired in

- a. 1979
- b. 1982
- c. 1987
- d. 1989

28. Station 26 has a unique feature; it also contains a

- a. Emergency Communications Center training facility
- c. Maintenance shop
- b. Career development center
- d. Barbecue pit

29. When were the first and last Mack CF pumpers delivered?

- a. 1973 and 1975
- c. 1973 and 1982
- b. 1971 and 1981
- d. 1970 and 1982

30. How many Mack CF pumpers were delivered?

- a. 11
- b. 13
- c. 15
- d. 21

31. Fire department personnel built the following except

- a. The smokehouse at the training center
- c. The field command unit
- b. The chief's quarters at Station 8
- d. The new training tower

--

Answers

1. What fire company operated Raleigh's first steam fire engine, beginning in 1870?
a. Rescue
2. What fire company operated Raleigh's first chemical fire engines, beginning in 1879?
a. Phoenix
3. Where was Station 1 first located?
b. West Morgan Street
4. What year did the Raleigh Fire Department become fully-paid?
c. 1912
5. Who was Raleigh's first full-time Fire Chief?
c. Sherwood Brockwell
6. Raleigh's first motorized fire engines were made by
b. American LaFrance
7. Raleigh's first aerial ladder was delivered in
b. 1916
8. Station 4 was first located on
a. Jefferson Street
9. During World War II, a used American LaFrance pumper was purchased from what city?
b. Farmville
10. Station 6 was first housed in a rented building that faced
a. Fairview Road
11. The ladies auxiliary was organized in
b. 1951
12. The alarm house behind Station 1 on South Dawson Street has how many stories?
c. 2
13. Raleigh's first new apparatus delivered after World War II was a:
a. FWD pumper
14. The first drill tower in South Raleigh was built in
b. 1954
15. The second engine at Station 1 was previously numbered

d. All of the above

16. Raleigh's first rescue squad operated a

a. Panel van

17. The old squad or auxiliary truck responded to all but ONE of these types of calls in the 1940s and 1950

b. First Responder calls

18. The Fire Prevention division was created in

b. 1949

19. Who was hospitalized after the Pullen Hall fire on February 22, 1965?

a. C. A. Lloyd and F. T. Pipkin

20. Which is the correct sequence of chiefs?

a. Lloyd, Keeter, Puryear, Keith

21. Raleigh operated two tankers made by

c. GMC

22. The union was chartered three times. Which year doesn't belong?

b. 1951

23. The first female firefighters were hired in what year and how many were hired?

c. Eight women hired in 1978

24. The last alarm transmitted from a fire box was received in

b. 1973

25. The 1977 Mack/Baker aerial platform cost

c. \$175,000

26. The building housing Station 23 was originally operated by

b. Durham Highway Fire Department

27. The last service ladder company was retired in

d. 1989

28. Station 26 has a unique feature; it also contains a

a. Emergency Communications Center training facility

29. When were the first and last Mack CF pumpers delivered?

d. 1970 and 1982

30. How many Mack CF pumpers were delivered?

c. 15

31. Fire department personnel built the following except

d. The new training tower

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'?

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

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.

Former and Historic North Carolina Firehouses

05/20/07 83 W, 1 I - + 18 - 13

Mike has uploaded a new collection of photos of [former and historic NC firehouses](#) to his Flickr site. The 162 photographs were taken over the last three years. Quite a few were "Photoshopped" to correct [converging verticals](#). You know, where straight lines in a photograph appear tilted? Photoshop Elements 5.0 has a Correct Camera Distortion filter that works wonders for that. Next up is learning how to prevent or minimize same when shooting.



I haven't had my hands on one for years, but in school, we used a "perspective corrective" lense specifically designed for architectural photography. This was before the days of auto-focus and of course digital photography, but it worked on a 35mm film camera. It was pretty much a wide angle with a big knob on the side that would adjust the convergence as the building fell away from you. I recently ran across either an ad or an article in a photography magazine about a location that would rent you a lense at a very reasonable price.

I also recently read about a place that would rent you a radio scanner, so you check it out before you buy!

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/21/07 - 09:34

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Blog Dinner Wednesday Night

05/21/07 20 W - + 16 - 19

Fat Daddy's on Glenwood Avenue, Wednesday, May 23, at 7:00 p.m. RSVP not required. In-service units welcome.

Your Treat?

I'll Be There! - 05/21/07 - 20:08

Not.

Legeros - 05/21/07 - 21:11

A shift is working, so I will sit this one out....

DJ - 05/21/07 - 21:19

If I lived anywhere close to NC, I'd be there.

Dan - 05/22/07 - 01:57

How was the dinner?

How Was It? - 05/24/07 - 00:40

No attendees. I had a hamburger and read the paper and returned to my tasks.

Legeros - 05/24/07 - 04:45

There probably were some attendees but they couldn't locate you!

pal - 05/24/07 - 09:41

I was cleverly disguised as myself.

Legeros - 05/24/07 - 12:28

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'?

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

Leaving the Station

05/21/07 43 W, 1 I - + 22 - 14

This is what Ladder 1 looks like leaving the station on a run. Mike's lens was just wide enough. Admit it, there are few things more fun than steering the rear of a tiller truck.



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'?

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

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.

Affecting Change

05/21/07 111 W - + 17 - 17

At tonight's ceremony honoring Wake EMS paramedics and Raleigh firefighters involved in cardiac arrest resuscitations, Wake EMS Chief Skip Kirkwood reminded the audience of the economic challenges facing Wake County. As the population grows-- 98 people per day-- so do demands on emergency services. And more delivery means more funding. Advocates of the school system have got it right, with their printed t-shirts that they wear when attending county meetings. What then do WE need to do, ourselves, to boost city and county fire, rescue, and EMS services? Or, more appropriately, what are we WILLING to do? Brainstorming is easy-- [see this Watch Desk entry](#)-- but actions make it happen.

Man, it is so nice to see this, FINALLY!!! One question though, to those that didn't wear a dress hat, where art thou??? I thought that was "uniform".....

Silver - 05/22/07 - 16:08

question, was it just for "wake EMS and RFD firefighters" or was it a county wide affair?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/22/07 - 17:57

Correct, the ceremony was conducted for Wake EMS paramedics and Raleigh firefighters, honoring city-wide cardiac saves, not county- or EMS system-wide.

Legeros - 05/22/07 - 18:01

I was told that the email that was sent out side dress shirts and ties only. Some people didn't read it well enough and wore their new hats.

Nice to see and Engine company appreciation day!!!

Ear to the ground - 05/22/07 - 23:59

Silver, yes you are correct that is part of our uniform and yes some of us did not have them. Some of us were advised to leave it at the station and some advised to carry the cover! Remember some are still struggling with the hole uniform thing anyway! Hell I see guys wearing there BLUE t shirts under their grey golf shirts and that looks like dog crap when you can read the t shirt. But that is my opinion! Communications is the key some of the crews were advised to invite family and others had no idea, so some felt left out. But it was really cool to have a award ceremony even if some of our co workers didn't even bother to show up to get 2 cardiac save awards!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We want forget the covers next time no matter what!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Later dude

Jason Lane - 05/23/07 - 00:05

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

Proposed County Budget, Fire

05/22/07 350 W, 4 I - + 11 - 17

The proposed FY08 budget for Wake County was released yesterday. The [budget document web page](#) is divided into chapters, with each chapter as a PDF document. Unlike a municipal budget, this one requires a bit of decoding. Fire department operating expenses are listed in the [Special Revenue Funds chapter](#), under Fire Tax District. It notes with minimal per-expense line-item detail:

Issues for FY 2008

- The number of active volunteers continues to decline, and most fire departments are experiencing volunteer member shortages.
- Analyze potential station closure for Western Wake Fire Station #2 and negotiate coverage with Cary Fire Department if station is closed.
- Refine staffing and facility sections of Long-Range Business Plan.
- Analyze how departments use full-time, part-time, and volunteers to staff; determine if most cost-effective staffing patterns are used.

Horizon Issues

- The decline in volunteers and the increase in service demand is leading to a transition to increasing reliance on career personnel.
- Evaluate and, if approved, incorporate additional capital needs into Long-Range Business Plan. Such needs include new stations, service trucks, and breathing apparatus.
- Monitor and analyze impact of municipal annexation on fire service demand; Analyze how annexation plans affect fire tax district as a whole, and individual departments.

Fire department capital expenses are listed in their own [Capital Improvements sub-chapter](#). There's a spreadsheet that lists totals for 800 MHz Radios, Brush Trucks, Heavy Improvements, Large Apparatus, New Stations, etc. The totals for Station Replacement include the amounts for the Bay Leaf Station 1 replacement and the Garner-area station in FY2010. Curiously, neither appears to be labeled as such. There's precious little summary information in the CIP section. Are either of these stations/projects mentioned by name ANYWHERE in the budget document? Very interesting.

Fire/Rescue Division operating expenses are listed in the [Public Safety chapter](#). They note FY08 and horizon issues relating to inspections, training, and administration. There's also a page of service-level measurements.

The [Budget Highlights chapter](#) includes a Requests Not Funded section. Too bad those Fire Tax-funded requests that didn't make the cut, such as staffing, are not or could not be listed there. Might raise awareness.

Anyone know where the new station will be located and which department it will be operated by?

Gooch - 05/22/07 - 12:21

When will the county wake up and answer the needs of the citizens and the fire service? Staffing is the main issue here, and yes 4 fire departments lay within city limits, but before we close them lets look at beefing up staffing, possible station relocations. Is it going to ntake a brother or sister getting killed to realize the severity of the staffing issue? if so, at least I know the group whose hands will be bloody...(will the fire commission and county commissioners please stand up)

concerned WCFirefighter ([Email](#)) - 05/28/07 - 22:23

The adopted budget: <http://www.wakegov.com/budget/fy08/>

Legeros - 06/26/07 - 18:51

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Proposed County Budget, EMS

05/22/07 359 W, 3 I - + 18 - 6

From the Wake County [budget document web page](#), EMS expenditures are listed in the [Public Safety chapter](#). Performance measures and major accomplishments are also listed. Here's what they say about expenses:

Issues for FY 2008

- The dispatches-per-hour rate (unit hour utilization) for downtown units is becoming excessive for employees working 24-hour shifts. One possible solution, the deployment of Peak Activity Units, has been delayed due to high paramedic turnover and lack of staff to support the expansion units.
- Improvement of coverage in the Durant Road area has been delayed due to the lack of an appropriate facility to house an overnight ambulance unit and crew.
- EMS made a request through the Capital Regional Advisory Committee for \$250,000 in grand funding to provide necessary pandemic flu personal protective equipment. This request was based on federal guidelines but unfortunately was not funded for FY07.

Horizon Issues

- De-cluster EMS units located at EMS station 1 (downtown) and EMS station 5 (Millbrook).
- Consider alternatives in the event that EMS parking spaces in the Public Safety Center become necessary for criminal justice functions.
- Implement an in-vehicle navigation (IVN) system to work in cooperation with the automated vehicle locator (AVL) and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) systems to enhance system-wide response performance.
- Using GIS and planning data, expand the analysis of response data to determine the deployment of EMS resources,
- Expand staff in the Office of Professional Development to meet expanded training demands of EMS system, including the capacity to conduct in-house paramedic pre-service training.
- Consider alternative staffing models to improve clinical and operational performance.
- Consolidation of EMS administrative personnel and expanded operational capabilities through design and acquisition of Central Operations Facility.

EMS capital projects are a bit harder to find. [The Capital Improvement Plan section](#) of the Capital Improvements chapter notes an EMS Facility Planning expense for FY08, as well as a Horizon Issue expense for EMS Facilities.

The [Budget Highlights chapter](#) includes a section on Requests Not Funded. The EMS requests not funded were:

- Additional Staff: 12.7 FTEs
- Fleet Upgrade: District Chief Response
- Six new vehicles including two ambulances
- Financial Services Contract
- EMS Special Operations
- Induced hypothermia Protocol Fluid Coolers
- Employee illness prevention
- 12 hour shift change

The adopted budget: <http://www.wakegov.com/budget/fy08/>

Legeros - 06/26/07 - 18:51

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'?

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

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.

This Evening's Fire

05/22/07 82 W, 1 I - + 20 - 18

And on some days the stars are aligned, and a working fire is right around the corner, and there's an unobtrusive vantage point, and the ISO and other settings are working as they should at night. Still feels like it takes forever to get out of the house, even with the car backed into the garage. Maybe the next step is trip lights and a rip 'n' run. The wife would love that.



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.

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.

Blaze in a Hen Coop Draws Crowd

05/22/07 91 W - + 16 - 16

From the *Raleigh Times* on May 29, 1912: "An alarm from box 27, this morning at 9:30, called the fire department to 311 East Cabarrus street, where a small blaze was discovered in the hen house of Mr. Bob Conrad. Somebody said that Bob had been feeding his chickens red pepper and the warm weather caused a spontaneous combustion. Anyway it wasn't much of a conflagration, as a brave fire laddie kicked over the drinking pan and the fire was no more. The usual parade of spectators was held."

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'?

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

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.

Save Zebulon's Old Mack Pumper

05/23/07 155 W, 1 I - + 16 - 17

Who wants to buy a fire truck? Zebulon's 1948 Mack Type 45 pumper is being auctioned as part of a two-day auction on June 15th and 16th. The post-War engine was purchased new by the town for \$7,150. It is equipped with a 500 GPM pump and a 150 gallon tank. Later bought by a private citizen, the classic apparatus has been used several times a year by the fire department for education and other public events. It was also maintained as needed by fire department members. Here's the [auction web site](#). The vehicle sale starts Saturday, June 16th at 1:00 p.m. Note that Mike's records say 1948 as the model year, and the auction site says 1945. Not sure who is correct. We're told the thing could catch \$8,000 to \$10,000, or maybe higher, or maybe much higher. Let's hope someone local can buy it and keep it from leaving Wake County.



I believe that Mike is correct, the truck is a 1948 model.

Zeb101 - 05/23/07 - 17:09

Wouldn't it be great if the county or someone with some change could purchase it so that it could be used as a caisson.

Mike - 05/23/07 - 17:43

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'?

Random Thoughts

05/23/07 392 W - + 18 - 22

Heard on scanner, subject has something stuck in her throat and her mouth is wired shut. Crazy... Eyes tired after two hours of working on footnotes, for an upcoming RFD history piece. Separating the quotations from the paraphrasing is the hardest part.. Nobody at the blog dinner, except for Yours Truly. Ate a hamburger and read the paper... Structure fire earlier, with Headquarters asking command if they wanted to upgrade to a working fire. Yes, upgrade. One second later, the tones start. Five seconds later, command continues on the other channel, but hold off on notifications. They are quick on the draw at dispatch... Ordered a subscription to "Firehouse" magazine. Want to read some of those articles that our own [Barry Furey](#) has been writing... The history piece is about the transition from volunteer to fully-paid. Twenty-eight pages, with a few pictures. Almost done... Speaking "Firehouse," still debating if Baltimore is the best destination for a solo summer vacation. With fire museums on the mind, maybe a trip to Phoenix would be better. [Hall of Flame](#), there. Wake Forest wants three, count 'em three, new stations, and the staffing to staff 'em. That's going to be interesting... Speaking of museums, that [American LaFrance registry](#) is growing, slowly. Cool stuff... The Station 28 dedication is scheduled for June 4. Weekday, of course. Sigh. Details coming... Lee and Mike have both been busy these last few days. Lots to shoot. Wrecks, working fires, formal and informal events. We're posting pics as quickly as we can... Two-way radio + big ol' wad of chewing tobacco. Cracks you up every time you hear it... Zebulon's Mack is sure sweet. And they're an old fire department, one of the first formed in Wake County outside of Raleigh... Already subscribe to [Fire Apparatus Journal](#), of course, and the [Extra Alarm Association](#) newsletter out of the Twin Cities. That's a strong buffing group. Raise your hand if you're also from Minneapolis-St. Paul... Those posters and signs for retiree day on Saturday? Notes are coming are how to produce, print, and cheaply display them. It's easier than you think... Good picture on the front page of today's *News & Observer*, of one of the LEOs at yesterday's post-chase shooting. What a story. Robbed store first, pumped gas second. Ended in tragedy. But that's the business. Some are saved and some are lost.

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'?

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

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.

Fire Truck vs. Stone Wall

05/23/07 38 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Seen in this [Firehouse web site article](#), an apparatus accident in Upper Darby Township, PA. Yowza. Seven FFs injured, including one requiring extrication expected to be released from the hospital today. [More info.](#)



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'?

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

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.

Garner Road

05/24/07 52 W, 1 I - + 17 - 19

Here's a strong picture of the abandoned building on Garner Road that burned on Monday night, from [this series by Lee](#). Capturing all the light from a fully-involved structure is trickier than you think. Another abandoned building on Garner Road burned the next night.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Virtual Museums

05/25/07 62 W - + 20 - 19

Something interesting from the [National Emergency Medical Services Museum Foundation](#), the grand opening of a [virtual museum](#). Super neat, though with challenging navigation in places. Usability testing will fix that. Looks like a lot of content throughout. Very cool. Virtual museums are easy to create, or at least to name as such. Witness this far-simpler [Raleigh Fire Department Virtual Museum](#).

Great story about Molly – 1913

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 05/28/07 - 17:08

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'?

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

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.

Like a Mississippi Bullfrog Sittin' on a Hollow Stump

05/25/07 444 W - + 17 - 16

Which hat shall we wear today? Photographer? Researcher? Historian? Blogger? There are so many flavors of buffing to choose from, and they all compete for the same span of free time. It's a daily battle of choice, and one that probably won't be made easier after retirement (in a couple decades) or winning the lottery (in our dreams). I'll rest when I'm dead, said someone once.

Photographer is the easiest part to play. Just listen for calls, then respond and take pictures. Takes time, yeah, lots of time, but it's rewarding on so many levels. You create art, refine a craft, provide a service, participate in activities, experience stimulating situations, build personal relationships, etc. That's a hard one to beat. Just have a lot of disk space on hand.

Researcher is a fun hat, too, though a more methodical and considerably less visceral vocation. Hours upon hours-- in digestible chunks-- spent sifting through microfilm or paper records. Fact checking and rechecking. Charts and lists and checking them twice. Compiling and quoting and summarizing and paraphrasing. Takes a couple years to really get the hang of it-- much like incident photography-- but, oh, the things that you learn! Great way to avoid people, sunlight, exercise, etc.

Historian is similar to Researcher, but there's more presentation and organization and higher-level thinking. The Historian sets the direction of the Researcher. What shall we research today? Age of this fire chief when appointed, so let's check census records. Details of that apparatus delivery, so let's look through some old newspapers. The Historian also sets the scope of the research. Raleigh FD history versus Wake County FD histories versus North Carolina FD histories. Heck, even South Carolina is becoming interesting these days! Alas, there are only so many days and weeks in a lifetime.

Then there's that other hat, Blogger. Time there is taken in spurts. Long-winded postings (like this one) take the longest. Ditto for transcriptions of cool old news articles. Short bits are a breeze, as are monitoring comments. Editing isn't really required that much. Blogging is all about communication, and communication is all about relationships. Thinking, then, probably takes the biggest chunk of time. What are we trying to say? What does the reader want to hear? Is this piece of information interesting? Is that piece of information proper?

Hats, hats, and more hats. Each is different, each takes time. In a good week/month/year, there's balance. Hopefully photography, history, blogging-- and other favored aspects of buffing-- benefit equally. Is mastery of one (or more) possible? Don't know. Don't want to know. Too busy being busy.

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

Station 28 Opening Ceremony

05/25/07 44 W - + 15 - 19

The opening ceremony for Station 28 is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, at 2:00 p.m., we're told. The event, open to the public, will include a housing ceremony for the engine. This traditional activity involves pushing the engine by hand into the station.

What are the origins of housing ceremonies?

From <http://www.fortwashingtonfc.org/events.h..>

"Housing" is a tradition among fire stations throughout the country. The records of many early fire companies mention the housing of new apparatus, though not actually using that term in all cases.

It was a tradition born in the 1830's with the proliferation of fire and hose companies in our eastern cities. Many new companies purchased – or borrowed – used equipment from other companies. The selling company, usually in Philadelphia or New York, would often deliver the engine or carriage and have the honor of "housing" it at its new owner's house. Many times, when a newly-built engine or carriage arrived, one of the city's companies would be given the honor of escorting it to the owning company's house and placing it in service.

Part of the traditional housing ceremony includes having the firefighters push the new apparatus into the firehouse which stemmed from the time of horse drawn equipment could not be easily be backed into the building by the horses.

From http://www.midlandtexas.gov/press_releas..

According to our research, firehouse legend holds that the housing ritual dates back to the early 1800s. Fire Engine companies would invite guests to the stations to see their new fire rigs. They backed their apparatus into the stations by pushing it into the stations instead of hooking up the horse teams. A "Housing Ceremony" was then started from those early days. The community would get involved along with the firefighters, in a gala event denoting a new start. The firefighters would clean and decorate the fire station, wear their best parade dress uniforms, and invite the community to help celebrate the fire company's new good fortune. The ceremony includes pushing the apparatus back into the station three times, symbolizing the Holy Trinity. Due to the weight of modern day engines, engine power is used to assist the participants. For added luck, a dollar bill is sometimes placed behind one of the wheels before it is moved. In closing the ceremony, the fire apparatus is blessed into service.

Legeros - 05/25/07 - 21:41

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

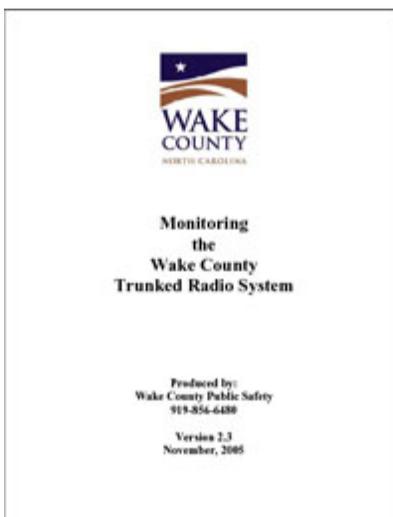
Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Monitoring the Wake County Trunked Radio System

05/26/07 57 W, 2 I - + 17 - 21

Answering a reader question, WCPS published a PDF-format [guide to monitoring the radio system](#) back when they were moving to the 800 system. If you have never seen same, or have been looking for it lately, a copy is linked from [RadioReference.com's VIPER page](#).



Thanks for this info Mike, I guess I will be investing in a new scanner very soon...

David ([Email](#)) - 05/29/07 - 14:49

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'?

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

First Relay Pumping

05/26/07 118 W - + 20 - 17

Found while answering to a reader question regarding the location of the original structure, this the *News & Observer* article from June 3, 1937, suggests the first relay pumping in Raleigh occurred when the home of George W. Mordecai on Wake Forest Road burned: "From an oil plant 300 yards away, firemen ran one two-inch hose to take advantage of the meager water supply available there. They found it necessary to employ booster pumps at both ends of the line-- the first time this had been attempted here, Chief Holland said. One pumper was parked at the oil plant to boost the water up grade to the burning house. Another pumper was stationed there to increase the line pressure."

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'?

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

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.

Birth of a Fire Department

05/26/07 100 W, 2 I - + 12 - 21

For your holiday reading enjoyment, here's a new history piece on the [development of the Raleigh Fire Department in the early 1910s](#). During this period the first full-time fire chief was appointed, the first fully-paid firefighters were hired, and the first motor apparatus was purchased. The narrative is drawn primarily from newspaper accounts and city minutes, and consists nearly entirely of paraphrasing or direct quotations. And though its has been proofed some dozen times, there's probably a typo or two to be found. Feel free to red pen accordingly.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Apparatus Pictures

05/27/07 29 W, 1 I - + 22 - 23

Lee has posted pics of [new apparatus from Zebulon, Fuquay, and Falls](#). Includes one of those popular new brush trucks. LOL.



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'?

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

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.

How to Photograph Fire Apparatus

05/27/07 54 W - + 18 - 18

For those wanting to learn how to photograph or better photograph fire apparatus, FireNews created this [guide to apparatus photography](#) last year. It includes Truck Placement, Do's and Don'ts, Technical Stuff, Examples, and a Photographer's Checklist. The Do's and Don'ts page has some particularly good examples of common mistakes.

Thanks Mike!

[hnizdo] - 05/27/07 - 16:27

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'?

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

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.

Outer Banks Former Firehouses

05/27/07 53 W, 1 I - + 23 - 19

Day trip due east found four former firehouses near the shore, or on the way there. Left to right, top to bottom: Kitty Hawk (built 1953, former wine store), Kitty Hawk (built by 1967, public works), Manteo (built 1941, private owned), and Plymouth (built 1970, town storage).



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'?

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

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

Amazon Japan / Books / Refunds

05/28/07 185 W, 1 I - + 16 - 23

For a few years now, Mike has occasionally ordered Japanese fire apparatus books from [Amazon Japan](#). The site is same as Amazon US, just with Kanji characters. So with trial and error, and the help of a [translation site](#), it was reasonably easy to order books. Searching for books was trickier, until Mike figured out he could paste characters as keywords from Japanese fire apparatus site. (He neither reads nor speaks Japanese, but just finds their fire apparatus to be cool.) Shipping was a bit expensive, but the books were breathtaking and with some of sharpest image reproduction seen in print. Some of his faves include [this one](#), [this one](#), and [this one](#). Last May, Mike moved. In November, he ordered some books but they were sent to his old address. The parcel never surfaced, despite the delivery confirmation at the old address. Mike re-ordered the books and forgot about the whole thing. This weekend, a refund arrived. Six months later, the original parcel had unexpectedly found its way back to Japan. Total refunded: 4,981 yen (\$40.95).



I'm losing the language bit by bit since I'm not hearing it every day, and I could never read it well, but I can always pull out my trusty Kanji dictionary to look up difficult characters. Looks like I'll have to sign up for that overpriced \$25 a month Japanese channel on Dish Network before I lose it all!

Speaking of cool, the orange cover's title "Kakoi-Zo Haipa-Resukyu" translates into "Cool Hyper Rescue" "kakoi" is the word for "cool". The first cover reads "Isoge Patoka Shoubousha" "isoge" means "make haste" "patoka" is "patrol car" and "shoubousha" is "fire engine".

The third one reads "Hashire Sairenka" "hashire" translates to "run", "sairenka" is "siren car". The last one is "Sairenka". I can't make out the small text.

E-mail me any text that's troublesome. I need the practice. BTW, the first two kanji on the first cover read "shoudou" which translates to "impulse" or "on the spur of the moment". The last kanji is "sha" is vehicle.

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 05/28/07 - 17:04

I have a few pictures of some Japanese fire apparatus from when I was working a contract over there. The pictures are alright...I believe one is a Nissan stick..... from the Amori prefecture and another is one going to a call in Tokyo... not top quality, but good for the collection.

I don't think I can post them, but if anybody wants to see them let me know.

skibo ([Email](#)) - 05/29/07 - 10:47

From tarheelcanary, via private mail:

firefighting – 消防 – shoubou (ou is for long o, which is spelled ou in JP)

firefighter – 消防士 – shouboushi

firehouse – 消防署 – shoubousho

fireboat – 消防艇 – shouboutei

fire engine – 消防車 – shoubousha

fire extinguisher – 消火器 – shoukaki

fire hydrant – 消火栓 – shoukasen

Legeros - 05/29/07 - 22:42

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'?

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

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.

Japanese Apparatus

05/29/07 42 W, 1 I - + 26 - 22

As blogged on an [earlier posting](#), here are some links to galleries of Japanese fire apparatus: [Tokyo Fire Department](#) (four galleries), [Morita](#) (manufacturer), [Nagano](#) (manufacturer), [Nikki](#) (manufacturer), a [buff's gallery](#) and [another buff's gallery](#).



Why so much heavy equipment, such as cranes, excavators, and such? For moving rubble after earthquakes. Same for motorcycles, which can easily navigate rubble-strewn streets. (That's my understanding, at least. They are BIG on disaster preparedness in Japan.)

Legeros - 05/29/07 - 17:54

lots of mountains – lots of landslides – lots of earthquakes and there are frequent highway and road closures as a result – you will see mountains with nearly vertical drops – walls of stone held by wire – also, many roads are so narrow that if there is a boulder collapse, the whole town is isolated and many of these roads would not be passable with a normal vehicle, let alone a truck – the highway system is very good though – at every rest stop, you will see a national map highlighting all road closures, traffic conditions etc – as for residential neighborhoods, the old neighborhoods are the most dangerous since the houses are very close together and many old timers still heat with kerosene – you live with the potential for great disaster there every day – the heavy equipment there looks like miniaturized versions of what we have here, since they would not be able to navigate the roads otherwise – also, many narrow roads have no barriers, so you'll be inches away from falling into the rice paddy – it's even worse if you have a disaster in the mountains with a 3000ft nearly vertical drop and a tiny 1 ft high street barrier as protection!

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 05/29/07 - 18:50

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

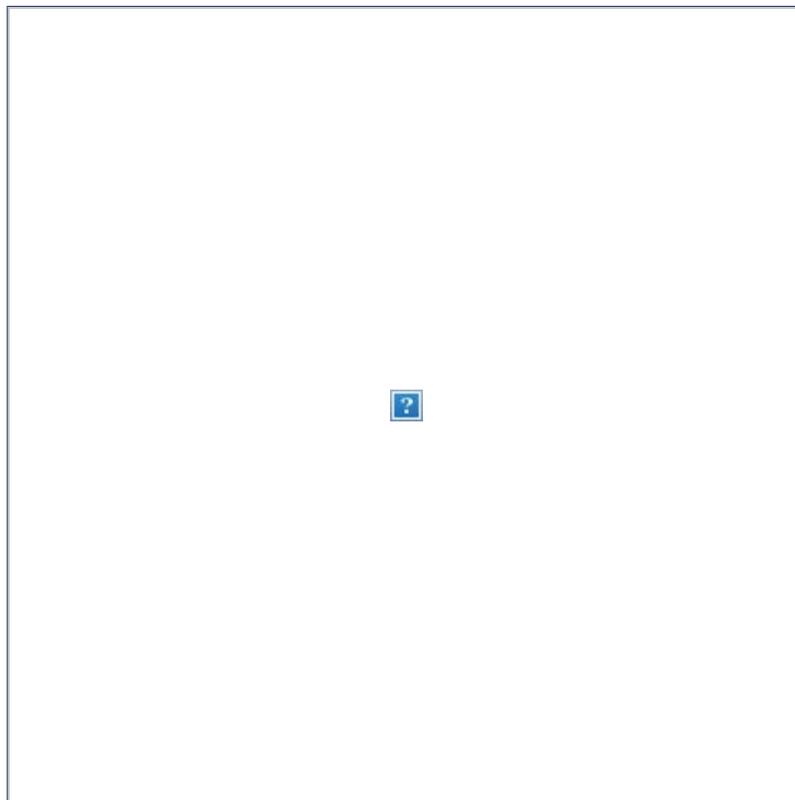
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

EMS Major Operations Support Unit

05/29/07 24 W, 1 I - + 21 - 21

The Wake County EMS major ops vehicle is [featured on the Hackney web site](#). Cool pics and good article.



We're also told that the rig has been named "Truck 1." Huh?

Legeros - 05/30/07 - 20:05

True enough. It is a truck, and it is our first.

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/31/07 - 08:35

and it was absolutely awesome and invaluable at the trench call in holly springs last night. Kudos to the crews that were working on it, a definite plus at any extended operation.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/31/07 - 08:52

Will EMS personal be required to get a class B license?

[Skibo] - 05/31/07 - 14:19

I agree with Sheavis, the truck was used very well at the trench call. I was also impressed by the USAR medics. Good job

Apex Batt Chief - 05/31/07 - 20:31

EMS [personnel who are going to drive TRUCK 1 will have to have a class B, per what we have been told.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 05/31/07 - 21:23

What will be the response criteria, or will it just be special called? Is it going to be standard on any run cards?

I think it responded to Johnston County with Cleveland (Gary M/A) on a house fire yesterday.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/01/07 - 10:04

It did respond to the structure fire in JoCo yesterday, in support of the two Wake County units that were first-in as EMS response to the fire (another story for another writer).

Those who drive TRUCK 1 will have a class B non-CDL license to meet the requirements of the weight class. The first groups to be required to get the license and the training to operate the vehicle are chief officers, field training officers, and special operations medics (tactical and USAR/HazMat medics). Since our FTO program is expanding such that there will be an FTO on every unit, there will always be plenty of staff on duty who can deploy the truck when it is needed.

This truck has two purposes. First, it is an MCI unit, designed to get the equipment and supplies needed to handle 25 patients to a scene in a quick, organized manner. The second purpose, which we expect to be used for with much greater frequency, is responder rehab. It has fans, cooling chairs, water, ice, gator aide, etc., and the medical equipment to take vitals and keep rehab records on a larger group of providers. It also has awnings on both sides, so that folks needing rehab can get out of the sun or rain.

Within 90 days, there will be some call classes that will result in automatic dispatch (bus wreck, plane crash, etc.) when 5 or more patients are likely. It will also be dispatched whenever a working fire becomes a major working fire. Or, it can be special called by EMS personnel or the Medical Branch Director for any incident where its capabilities are needed.

So far, the response to this new capability has been very positive. From the EMS perspective, we value our partnerships with Wake County's fire and law enforcement agencies, and we are pleased to be able to offer this enhanced level of service to our colleagues in the public safety community. To see more about the truck, check out the Hackney web site described above.

Thanks!

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/01/07 - 17:11

No question, a great addition. Rolesville's fire right now makes three days in a row! I guess this means it will roll on Raleigh multiple alarms as well.

Can anyone in Wake County advise what constitutes a "Major Working Fire" in the county?

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/01/07 - 18:15

It isn't a set term for the county currently which is another big issue that this county's fire service has, no working fire dispatch nor major work, etc.

Roger - 06/01/07 - 21:24

I saw Truck 1 running down Capitol Blvd. this afternoon at about 5:45. Don't know where they were headed, but they were definitely running emergency traffic...

David - 06/01/07 - 21:37

Let me edit my last comment after reading the thread again. I guess they were headed to Rolesville.

David - 06/01/07 - 21:41

Given that there is no standard definition for what constitutes a "big fire" outside the City of Raleigh, the plan for EMS Truck 1 response is that it will be special called by the EMS folks on the scene, when the need for rehab exceeds what can be done by a couple of ambulances and the drinking water/gatorade supplies carried on the fire apparatus.

If we had a standard alarm system, we'd roll this unit on all second alarm fires. But we don't, so we'll rely on folks on the ground to recognize the need early and special call the unit.

We need to get our firefighters acquainted with the "Kore Kooler" rehab chairs that are carried on the unit. Although they are very comfortable,

they are not just for sitting in. They are specially designed to lower the core body temperature of a firefighter who has become overheated.

The Kore Kooler Rehab Chair is a modified folding chair with arm reservoirs that contain plastic bags filled with ambient temperature water. After each rehab, the bags are removed with the water they contain and a new bag is inserted to be filled with clean water. Foot immersion is far more difficult logistically on the fireground; and while it could also be done, the studies show that forearm immersion alone delivers almost the same cooling power. There is no need to cool the water in the reservoirs; ambient temperature water from a house spigot, engine pump or hydrant works perfectly. Check out <http://www.wfrfire.com/website/front/ind..> for a picture and more info. EMS Truck 1 carries four of these unit. For just relaxing, there are folding benches.

While we're on the rehab subject – guys, remember that dropping the turnout pants is essential to getting the body temperature down. We're entering the hot season, and we want everybody to go home alive! Maybe, since the National Fire & EMS Safety Stand-down is coming up this month, we should focus a bit on responder health and safety, and give everyone an in-service about how to "get rehab-ed" in the best possible way.

Stay safe!!

Skip

EMS100 ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/02/07 - 09:17

Skip, EMS Truck 1 is a fine addition to your fleet and I'm glad to see it. Rehab has finally made it to the hands of the folks that should've been doing it all along, THE MEDICS!!! You guys do a fine job and I hope this new rig is used more often by the city. I haven't seen it yet, but it seems the compliment of equipment on it will prove to be an asset to us, as well as the folks we serve. With the hot weather months upon us, hopefully it will be hitting the streets on a daily basis.

Silver - 06/02/07 - 11:14

Skip, as Silver said the truck looks great and seems to function extremely well, thank you for getting a piece of equipment that was truly needed, not like some pieces of equipment the fire side of the business has bought.

Roger - 06/03/07 - 01:15

The kind remarks are appreciated.

If truth be told we probably need several units like this, and they probably need to be staffed. It takes a long time to get to some "formerly rural" areas that are now significant population centers with a variety of all-hazards risks. Meantime, like everybody in the emergency services, we will do the best we can with what we've got and try to build the case for more funding for resources that we really need. Keeping our firefighters, LEOs and medics safe and functional on the scene is maybe the most important service we can provide. When one of us becomes a casualty (temporary or permanent), it doesn't do anything for the citizens we are supposed to serve.

By the way, do any departments or organizations have any activities planned in conjunction with the THIRD INTERNATIONAL FIRE AND EMS SAFETY STAND-DOWN, June 17-23? If you don't, go to <http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an..> and see if there's something for you. At Wake County EMS, our quarterly supervisor in-service will include a review of rehab and safety issues. The same will be the focus of the Chief's Luncheon for all hands at monthly continuing education sessions.

Remember – EVERYONE GOES HOME ALIVE AND HEALTHY!

Skip

EMS100 ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/03/07 - 10:03

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Heard on Scanner

05/29/07 33 W - + 19 - 23

Weird tone on Headquarters, approximately 10:10 p.m. Wait, that's Station 28. That's why it sounds new. Thus the life of a fire geek, sitting around and listening for unfamiliar radio tones...

I'm surprised you didn't hear it the other night when 28 responded as RIT to 25's w.f.

pal - 05/30/07 - 09:50

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'?

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

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.

Interesting Firehouse Forums Thread

05/29/07 24 W - + 21 - 24

[Raleigh versus Charlotte versus Durham versus Greenville](#), on the subject of hiring and with perspectives on working at those departments.

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

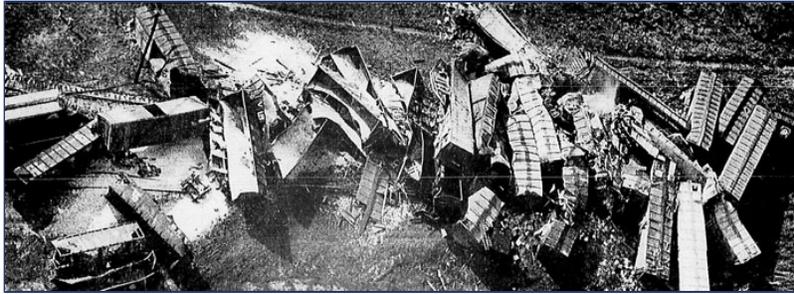
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Goldsboro Explosion / Montcure Derailment / Serendipity

05/30/07 137 W, 1 I - + 20 - 22

Earlier this month, a former USAF member contacted the Goldsboro Fire Department for information on a tanker explosion that occurred on November 11, 1959. He was one of the Seymour-Johnson personnel who responded to the fatal car-truck collision, and was seeking historical information about the incident. GFD referred this person to Mike, who looked up the *News & Observer* and *Raleigh Times* accounts at the library. Three days after the tanker crash, Mike discovered, was when 65 freight cars jumped the tracks in Chatham County. Now, he'd heard of this incident while researching his books. The Apex Fire Department responded, the old timers remember, and poured water for a number of days to prevent yellow phosphorous from igniting. No date was remembered, nor were any old articles found. But now he knows. November 14, 1959. 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.

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](#))

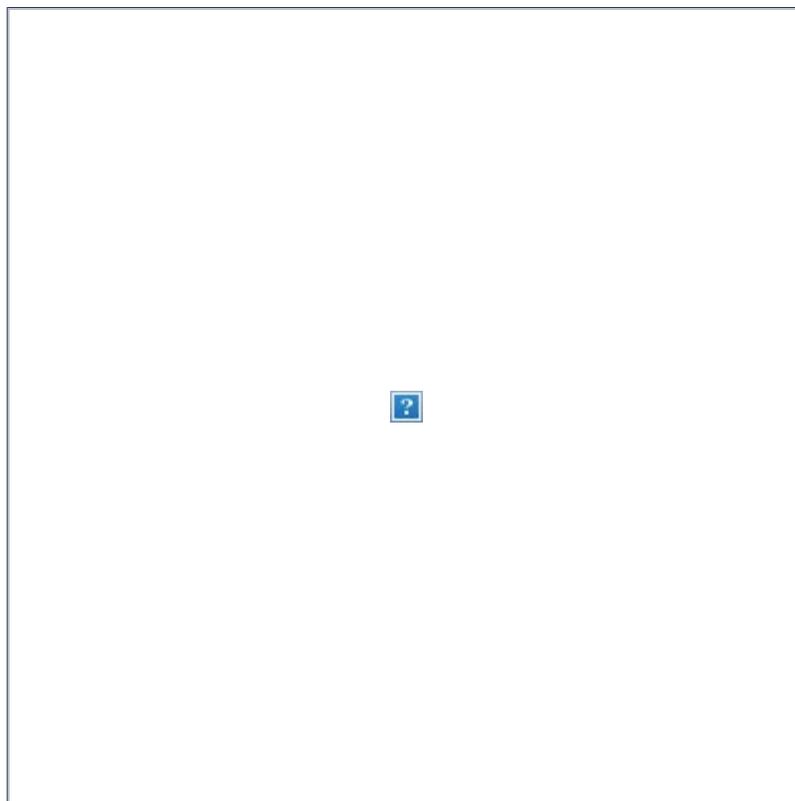
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Cutting Grass and Other Extra Duties

06/02/07 99 W, 1 I - + 16 - 15

Could be worse, you could be [cutting grass in public parks](#) as is happening in East Cleveland, Ohio. They say there are two sides to every story, but that's a tough one to believe as reasonable. The news story also has reader comments that are expectedly passionate. What really extra duties have happened around here? Cary firefighters operated a town sign shop during the 1970s and 1980s. RDU firefighters also served as ramp personnel during the 1970s and probably earlier. And Durham firefighters were also police officers during the infamous public safety period.



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'?

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

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.

Thirteen Seconds

06/02/07 578 W - + 12 - 13

Okay, 12.666667 seconds to be exact. That's the number of pictures taken at yesterday's fire (360) divided by the number of seconds spent processing and posting them (4560 or 76 minutes). Thus, every snap of the shutter meant 13 more seconds of time to be spent on the back end. Why the early morning math? To get a feel for exactly how long it takes to shoot a scene, from soup to nuts. In this example, the timed span started with the camera's memory card inserted into the reader, and ended when the photos were finished uploading to the web site. It does not include per-picture editing. It was late, and Mike might do that later. Nor does it include estimates for archiving the files (doesn't take long) or copying the pictures (burning a CD takes ten or so minutes).

The specific tasks consisted of:

Reviewing pictures as stored on memory card and deleting unwanted ones using IrfanView. This is done BEFORE transferring the pictures from the memory card, as the image viewing software works faster with the images still stored on the memory card. Of the 360 pictures taken on scene, 183 were keepers. (16 minutes)

Transferring pictures from memory card to local file folder. This requires moving files from multiple folders, due to the highly annoying way that the Canon Digital Rebel XT stores images on the memory card. Instead of one big, fat folder, it uses multiple folders storing 100 images each. (6 minutes)

Renaming file names using Flash Renamer. This software has a handy Undo button for those occasional oops that result from hasty typing or clicking. (30 seconds)

Creating smaller-sized versions of pictures using Photoshop Elements. This task takes 30 seconds to start, and then just churns in the background. It slows the computer some, however. In addition to reducing to 700 pixels wide, the images are also auto-contrasted and sharpened. Neither auto-leveling or auto-coloring was done for this particular fire. (11 minutes)

Reviewing smaller-sized versions of pictures and rotating portrait-oriented images as necessary, again using IrfanView. The rotation is actually re-saving the file, but without rewriting the JPEG information. This is called loss-less rotation and does not result in any degradation of image quality. 'Cause, every time you save the same JPEG again, the quality of the image drops. (5 minutes, but done while the prior task was running)

Creating the picture gallery for the web site. This task involves a variety of subtasks, starting with a template that is modified using a text editor. The header and the footer are modified with the date, responders, address, and description of the incident. The entire set of smaller-sized images are then copied into the picture gallery. They are reviewed and deleted as necessary. Of the 183 images retained from the incident, 94 were added to the picture gallery. Then the picture gallery is built using JAlbum. (14 minutes)

Uploading the picture gallery to the web site. This is a straight file transfer using FTP. It also slows the computer just a bit. (18 minutes)

Yeah, yeah, the itemized times do not add up to 76 minutes. There are smaller, quicker tasks that also belong on that list, such as building and uploading the index page of the photo site. That takes a couple minutes. Also, no picture editing was performed. Maybe later, with some cropping on shots such as [this one](#). Day incidents are less problematic than night ones, and compel fewer edits. Ditto for times that Mike is less focused, and less precise with his picture-taking.

Time, and more time.

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'?

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

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.

Holly Springs New Ambulance

06/02/07 20 W, 1 I - + 17 - 15

...as seen at [this week's trench rescue](#). It's named EMS 1471.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

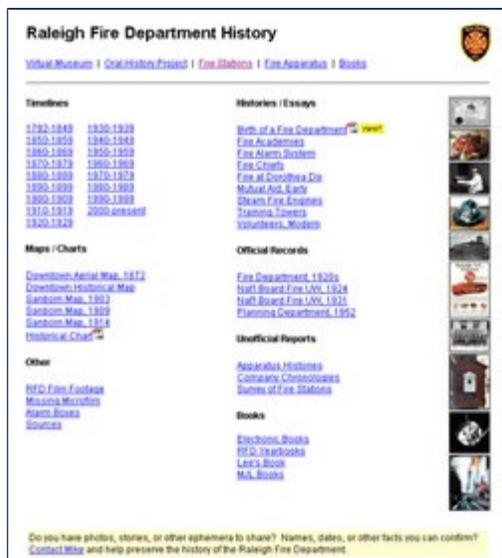
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Raleigh Fire Department History Site Updated

06/02/07 24 W, 1 I - + 17 - 7

Mike has updated his [RFD history site](#), notably reordering some links and positioning them higher on the page.



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](#))

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

Hair-Raising Quote / Busy Saturday

06/03/07 96 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Carload of teenagers crashed into a tank truck full of gas Saturday morning, says [this morning's News & Observer](#). There's a pucker factor for you. No injuries. About 5 a.m. Hopkins assisted Rolesville if memory serves, with fires at both the passenger vehicle (big) and the gas tanker (small). Other happenings that we noticed around the area: [live burn in Zebulon](#) (Lee there), working fire on Boyer Street (ditto), derailment in Smithfield, fatal wreck on I-95 at Four Oaks, and a metal fabrication plant fire in Wilson.



Pucker Factor... Thats putting it mildly, pulling up to a 9000 gal fuel tanker, on fire, with the driver leaving... Makes you wonder.

kprice205 - 06/03/07 - 07:52

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'?

ECC Survey

06/03/07 22 W - + 18 - 11

Called 911 lately? The ECC is conducted a customer survey, linked from the [front door of the city's web site](#). Interesting.

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'?

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

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.

CAD Change Coming Monday (Retracted)

06/03/07 26 W - + 16 - 8

This posting contained inaccurate information and has been removed. Today's CAD changes are even simpler than described. Corrected information coming later.

Old Movies (Test)

06/03/07 30 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Testing the delivery of vintage Raleigh Fire Department film footage. Here's the [sample movie file](#), WMV format, 40 seconds, 2.2 megabytes. [More info](#).



Runs great in QuickTime on the Mac with Flip4Mac's free addon <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows..> Also runs great in Real Player v 10.1.0 (490). No sound, if I remember correctly after reading the page. Am I right?

[tarheelcanary] (Email) - 06/03/07 - 23:11

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Free e-Book #4

06/03/07 80 W, 1 I - + 15 - 15

Mike has created a fourth free electronic book for download. [Raleigh Fire Department Newspaper Articles, Volume 4](#) presents a fourth collection of historical newspaper clippings. These are from 1900 to 1909. More fires, more infrastructure upgrades, and still more fireman's tournaments. The e-book is PDF format, 120 pages long, and 23 megs large. There will be a Volume 5 at some point. [More information about these e-books](#). Also, copies of the prior e-books have been printed and cataloged by the [Wake County Library System](#).

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'?

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

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.

Public Hearings on County Budget Today

06/04/07 80 W - + 16 - 6

Today's News & Observer notes that the county Board of Commissioners are holding two public hearings on the proposed budget. The first is at 2 p.m. at the Wake County Courthouse Board Room, Room 700. The second is at 7 p.m. in the Commons Building, Wake County Office Park, 4011 Carya Drive. Now is the time to stand up and be counted regarding staffing, spending, and anything else you like or don't like about the proposed budget.

Did anyone stand up and speak against spending millions to replace functional fire stations while NO new personnel were added to the County? I wasn't there – but I have spoken.

Concerned Taxpayer - 06/05/07 - 07:11

ok, we agree on something, Yes people spoke about the station, they spoke about staffing. it was evident that the majority of the room did not want the station and wanted staffing, However the fire commission is not just made up of firefighters. You have 2 elected officials, 4 community members, and then the rest are fire related. I believe the vote went 5 to 4. Yes very upsetting. I am not saying that a new station is not needed, but we need staffing in the county before we need replacing a station....That's my opinion.

lp - 06/05/07 - 08:01

i am referring to the night of the fire commission meeting...not sure about last night, but I hope someone did speak...

lp - 06/05/07 - 08:02

How does one contact their elected (county) officials, to offer input outside of such hearings? Turns out there are several sanctioned ways as detailed here: <http://www.wakegov.com/commissioners/con...>

Legeros - 06/06/07 - 04:54

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Merged Fire Departments Might Save Millions

06/04/07 17 W - + 18 - 11

[Proposal to merge six Miami-Dade County departments.](#) Could it happen here?

Ya never know.....time will tell.

Beach - 06/05/07 - 12:12

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'?

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

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.

Charlotte Ambulance Crash

06/06/07 17 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

This MEDIC unit rolled several times today. No serious injuries. Here's the [news story](#).



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'?

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

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 Movies Added

06/07/07 82 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

Nine video clips have been added to Mike's [Raleigh Fire Department history site](#). The silent, color film footage is circa 1950. The clips are WMV format and vary in size and length. The clips were created using a two-step process. First, the clips were read from DVD and exported as MPEG files using [DVD 123 Converter](#). Next, the MPEG files were pulled into [Windows Movie Maker](#). Title screens were added and the files were exported as WMV. [See the video clips](#).



Ten additional video clips have been added to the above site. The footage more of the same, circa 1950.

Legeros - 08/04/07 - 12:05

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.

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.

Staffing

06/07/07 352 W - + 11 - 17

[This news article](#) has a quote on the subject of Raleigh police staffing, noting the opinion that "another couple hundred officers are needed" in the system. For those that follow the fire department, the quote compels a similar question. Does RFD also need a couple hundred additional firefighters?*

Perhaps. It was recommended several years ago that the city have 10 ladder companies. Let's imagine 11, thus adding four additional five-person companies: 5 people x 4 ladders x 3 shifts = 60 positions.

Let's also increase all engine companies to five bodies. Presently, around two engines per battalion are staffed as such. That leaves, say, 20 four-person companies. Boosting to five means 1 person x 20 engines x 3 shifts = 60 positions, 120 total.

What else might be needed? We're probably not far from a fifth Battalion, so that's three more people. 123 total. Aides for the Bat Chiefs were requested but rejected this budget year, so that's another 5 people x 3 shifts = 15 positions, 138 total.

Full rescue companies someday? Add three more spots for each of the three rescues, or 3 people x 3 rescues x 3 shifts = 27 positions, 165 total.

On the back end, another mechanic for the shop was also requested and rejected this budget year. Now 166 total. The city has but a single fire and life safety educator. That's easily a two-person task. Now 167 total. What else? Three full-time fire investigators are in the budget this year, so we won't count those. What else? Add a full-time public information officer. 168 total. Add a full-time recruiter. 169 total. What else?

Okay, not quite a couple hundred, but still an impressive number. Are they really needs, or closer to wants? Don't know, we're just spectators. And there are probably plenty of other wants that the fire department has. Staffing just makes for an easy mental exercise. Oh, to have a magic money wand.****

**Yes, the first paragraph is a gross generalization of an apples to oranges comparison. But it's how the question originated.

****Or, rather, a magic revenue wand. Push a pile of money across the table, spend it on staffing, and guess what? You'll need another pile of money the next year. And the next year. And the next year...

The issue of staffing is a nationwide epidemic, as we all know. Some cities have systems in place to deal with understaffing (i.e. overtime). I think if they enacted an overtime program for staffing, you'd see a lot of people leave their part time gigs to pick up an extra shift for time and a half. I know it works well out west and up north, same with Charlotte and I think Greensboro has a program as well. Heck, even Wake EMS is doing it now.

Yes, many companies have 5 people assigned to them (on paper), but usually, especially during the summer you see 3 people on everything. I know if Chief McGrath had it his way, you'd see 5-man ladders and 4-man engines (a positive about having a union contract). We just graduated an academy and we're still short, it seems never ending. With the growth going on, new stations opening and retirees, if we continue to just hire for retirees and new stations/companies then we're never going to make a dent.

We need to overhire, so we can atleast be close to our goal. I spoke with a Captain from Greensboro a few years ago at a class, he told me the way they got their staffing was the 2-in/ 2-out standard. The Chief used it as a scare tactic to city council, and it worked!!! He told the council, we're going to let them burn until we can comply to the standard and then make an attack, or if their is an obvious life safety situation. He wasn't lying to them, that's the way the standard is set up, he's just going by the law.

I wish their was an easy solution. Now the Chief's at RFD are getting laptops, which is great. However, now they have to drive, monitor and/or talk on 2 different radio channels, read a mapbook, answer a nextel and use a computer. We're running a 3-man ladder company, it takes 4 to

opertate (the right way) it if you're operating in defensive mode (2 in the bucket, 1 on the pump panel and 1 at the pedestal) at a job. There's no easy solution, but we're out of sight and out of mind. It's going to cost money, it just makes me sick though when I see millions approved for something crazy like "neighborhood beautification" or anyother waste of taxpayers money, especially in a high drug area.

Hey "concerned taxpayer", that's where you should turn some of your attention to, the priorities as a whole and how your money is being wasted on other crap.

In meeting with Chief McGrath (through the Ral. Prof. Firefighters Assoc.) he's assured me that staffing will remain a priority so long as he's around. He's been a man of his word thus far, so I have no reason to doubt him now. He's got a "master plan" I'm sure, it'll just take some time to get it in place.

Our nature, though, is to make it work with 3. On our ladder company if we ride 3, 2 men are inside and 1 is out. We'll do what we gotta' do. If you're riding an engine with 3, maybe consider having the driver assist in the initial stretch? It'll take some sweat and training, but we're going to do what we gotta' do.

Silver - 06/08/07 - 12:15

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'?

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

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.

New Stations?

06/07/07 116 W - + 19 - 16

What's the latest on new fire stations around the county? Here's what we've heard of late:

- Raleigh 29 will be located farther out Buffalo Road, past the Neuse River. Perhaps on developer-donated land?
- Cary 8 will be located in southwest Cary. Has the land been purchased?
- Apex has been talking about a fourth station for some time. Status unknown.
- Fuquay-Varina had been talking about a fourth station. Status unknown.
- Garner has been eying land for a fourth station on the east side of town.
- Wake Forest wants three, count 'em, three new stations. Locations not known.
- Zebulon just purchased land for a second station. Location not known.

Are there others? And what details can anyone add?

The word is Cary St. 8 will be in the O'Kelly Chapel area due to overwhelming growth. The SW Cary station (West Lake) has been changed.
car3550 ([Email](#)) - 06/07/07 - 22:43

Apex #4 is progressing. Chief Haraway met with builder this week and has drawings of building and floor plan. It will be a 3 drive thru bay, and will house an EMS unit. It will be located on NC 55 in front of Dixie Pipeline. I have also been told we now have land for #5, not sure of exact location. I know our city limits seems to grow west out Hwy 64

Apex Batt Chief - 06/07/07 - 22:49

Info I received from someone high up with the City of Raleigh who is responsible for constructing city buildings (new police station, new mounted police station, firehouses) is that #29 will be in the northwest portion of Raleigh.

Silver - 06/07/07 - 22:51

How about a firehouse on the river?????

Silver - 06/07/07 - 22:51

Hello All,

If you want to know something about Wake Forest, please call me or email me so that the correct information is provided.

Tentatively upon approval of the Wake Forest Planning Board, Station #3 will be located at 1412 Forestville Road and will serve the following areas: Heritage South, Thornrose, Andrews @ Stonegate, Stonegate, Dansforth, Rogers Road, Heritage Lakes to Heritage Club and a portion of Franklin Street. This firehouse is needed for the areas that the Town of Wake Forest has annexed and does not reflect assuming any of the Rolesville Fire District outside of what we respond to now. Our relationship with the RRRFD is a positive one and we will do what is necessary to ensure that relationship continues.

Station #4 will be located on Wake Union Church Road between the Sleep Inn and Kearney Road. This firehouse will provide service to all of our current ISO area west of Capital Boulevard including the Thompson Mill Road area, Capital North to the county line, Richland Hills, Durham Road, Crenshaw and the area off of Old 98.

Station #5 will be located on Wait Avenue in the vicinity of Averette Road. This firehouse will provide service to Bishops Grant, Austin Creek, Heritage North, Bowling Green and a new neighborhood that is planned for the area between Jones Dairy and Wait Avenue off of Averette Road. The rural area covered by this firehouse will include Oakgrove Church Road to Gilchrist Farm. Again, this firehouse is planned for areas that have been annexed by the Town of Wake Forest and does not reflect assuming any areas currently served by the RRRFD. We will do whatever it takes to work out an agreement with Rolesville even if it comes down to them placing a unit at that firehouse to better serve that portion of their district.

Station #6 is tentatively planned for the North Main Street area near the Franklin County line. This house will serve the large neighborhoods that are planned for this area of our district plus the west side of the Heritage North project.

chiefswift ([Email](#)) - 06/07/07 - 22:54

Car3550 since when is SW Cary the westlake area? That would be more SE Cary than anything. CFD #8 is planned for the area of O'Kelly Chapel and Alston Ave (NW area of Cary near the Wake/Durham county line). Money is in the budget for the purchase of the land (FY08). Last was heard they are still looking for the land.

Apex #4 site is coming along, passed the other day and they are doing grading and site work, seems to be a great location for a firehouse for Apex.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/08/07 - 00:03

The city's proposed CIP budget lists the next new fire station as "This is a request to construct a fire station in the rapidly growing northeastern portion of the city to serve such areas as recently annexed River Towne. The station would house two companies (an engine and a ladder) and would be staffed by 30 personnel, 10 per shift." Searching Google on "RiverTowne" reveals "MacGregor plans to build RiverTowne, a collection of nearly 1,100 homes off Buffaloe and Old Crews roads on 360 acres. The current zoning allows 521 homes. The council recently annexed the land, which sits nearly four miles from the city's main limits. As part of the annexation, MacGregor has agreed to extend water and sewer lines to serve the project. Herbert said the company also intends to set aside land that could be used for a fire station, school and park."

Here's an earlier blog thread on future RFD facilities: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

Legeros - 06/08/07 - 04:55

Chief Swift, thanks for taking the time to post your information. My apologies for not reaching out and requesting the information directly. I also see mention of Station 3 in this morning's newspaper: <http://www.newsobserver.com/nrn/story/59..> And this Wake Weekly feature on the subject: <http://www.wakeweekly.com/index.php?cate..>

Legeros - 06/08/07 - 05:03

On a related note, searching Google also finds this information about Fuquay Station 3 and the green building techniques used: <http://www.ncgreenbuilding.org/site/ncg/...> Kind of interesting.

Legeros - 06/08/07 - 05:26

Knightdale is planning for a station 2 near I-540 and Hodge Blvd.

Roger - 06/08/07 - 06:41

CFP 7021 sorry about the wrong directions!

car3550 - 06/08/07 - 09:37

hey no biggy... just wanted to clarify for those unfamiliar with the areas we're talking about!

definitely a booming period for Wake County fire service growth... which makes it even funnier that there is talk of shutting stations down... but that's been beat to death already!

CFP 7021 - 06/08/07 - 10:31

Correction on the location for Knightdale Public Safety station

The sites being looked at are near the US 64/264 bypass and Hodge Rd.

This is still in the planning stages.

Beach - 06/08/07 - 10:58

The grading work being done on 55 now is for a gas station and bojangles. The fire station is where the 2 bay white building is sitting now, it will be torn down and replaced

Apex Batt Chief - 06/08/07 - 11:09

thanks, I thought it was to be the site... but good to know, when is work supposed to start?

CFP 7021 - 06/08/07 - 11:32

Are the rumors true that Fuquay Station 3 is out of service due to structural problems and mold? I have heard that for awhile now. Anybody else hear about it? I know that they still dispatch calls for that area, just think they respond from another.

Ear to the ground - 06/08/07 - 13:08

Chief Swift,

Who do I write to to support Station #4? I live over there, and it's a long ride for y'all to my house. Count on my vote!

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/08/07 - 14:31

Hey Skip,

Making direct contact with the Town Commissioners is your best bet. Many residents from that side of our response area have done just that. I believe that you can go to the Towns website and get the contact information. A local business group has provided us with the piece of property to place the station on. We will now have to wait for the funding approval in the 08-09 budget year to build it. Hopefully we will have another floating engine in place during the construction process. The floating engine will be in that area during the daylight hours and will return to Station 1 for the overnight hours. Come by and see me if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Chief

chief swift ([Email](#)) - 06/08/07 - 14:49

I was at Fuquay sta 3 last week. Seemed ok to me. The fire the other day was just down from sta-3. I don't know anything about the problems there though.

lee - 06/09/07 - 00:40

Silver is pretty right on about his prediction on the location of #29. Yes, there are plans for a station further out Buffaloe Rd. but that's for future development. The development at Brier Creek is already there. Has anyone seen the row houses on ACC Blvd.? Good Gosh. Anyway, the plans are to have #29 located in the ACC Blvd. vicinity.

pal - 06/09/07 - 09:55

Took a ride on ACC Boulevard last night. Those row houses are quite cool. They're under three miles from Station 24, though.

Legeros - 06/09/07 - 09:58

Rolesville is thinking about a second station, says this article from Friday: [http://www.newsobserver.com/nrn/lagrone/..](http://www.newsobserver.com/nrn/lagrone/)

Legeros - 06/09/07 - 12:50

I was under the understanding that 29 won't be coming to ACC area, and that there isn't any money in the budget for stations this year anyways.

Roger - 06/10/07 - 02:04

The horse's mouth on future Raleigh fire stations— well, one of horse's mouths— is the 2008 proposed CIP budget. A "northeast Raleigh fire station" is listed as the next newest. RiverTowne, the subdivision way out Buffaloe. Facility (and equipment) is funded for 2007-08 and 2008-09. Station 30 is funded for 2010-11 and 2011-12. Station 3's replacement is funded for 2009-10 and 2010-11. The CEL Public Safety Center is funded for 2009-10 through (or past) 2011-12. Here's the document, start on page 88: <http://www.raleighnc.gov/portal/server.p..>

Legeros - 06/10/07 - 04:26

Zebulon has bought land on Green Pace Road near the US.64 bridge for a future Station 2, I have confirmed. It's a couple years out.

Legeros - 06/11/07 - 22:05

And here's Chief Gupton on the subject of new stations: <http://www.nbc17.com/midatlantic/ncn/new..>

Legeros - 06/11/07 - 22:47

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'?

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

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.

Rules of the Road?

06/08/07 696 W - + 14 - 16

Well, gang, we've been blogging for 18 months now. Some 920+ postings and 3,100+ comments so far. We've shouted and goaded and whispered and questioned. There've been corrections, retractions, deletions, and apologies. The topics have varied, and so have the comments. Occasionally things took a turn for the worse, but we've been learning.

Looking back to these months-- both for our benefit and those new to the medium-- what we would say about the things we have learned? What would those "rules of the road" look like?

First, let's review what's enforced on this blog.

What will lead to editing or deleting of comments? Anything crude, lewd, or rude, of course. Personnel issues are also off-limits. Same with personal attacks, or attacks on specific agencies. Sh&t-stirring by anonymous posters is also objectionable. Sh&t-stirring by signed posters is more likely but not necessarily universally tolerated. On the presentation front, comments may also be edited to correct spelling and fix spacing. And if you're curious why a particular comment was edited or removed, just [mail Mike](#). These rules also apply the blogger himself.

Here's a stab at some general guidelines:

Learn to listen. Start your online experience by listening to what's being said. Be a reader for a little while before posting comments to blogs or discussion boards. Ditto before becoming your own blogger.

Add value with what you say. Help yourself or others learn better, work better, or communicate better.

Attract and maintain readers (if a content creator). Write at regular intervals. Be yourself and consistently yourself.

Respect your audience. Avoid saying or linking to things that are obscene, defamatory, profane, libelous, threatening, harassing, abusive, hateful, or embarrassing to another person or organization. Yeah, yeah, we all have tough skins, but why add grief where it isn't needed?

Communicate well. Help your readers understand what you are saying. Proofread what you are writing. Does it make sense? Are your points easy to follow? Did you spell-check the thing?

Be sensitive. Steer clear of sensitive topics, such as religion or politics or other things that might be considered inflammatory or objectionable to others. On this blog, that has typically meant personnel issues.

Respect privacy, both of other users and third parties. Respect the privacy of victims and victim details, though that's a no-brainer.

Clearly identify facts from opinions. If you are speculating, indicate same in your writing. If you have heard of something second hand, indicate same in your writing.

Understand the medium. What you write may be read by anyone, any time, anywhere. This includes friends, family, coworkers, employers, and future employers. Remember, too, that they have their own perception of both WHAT you wrote and WHY you wrote it.

Abide by pertinent policies. If your department or employer has a computer usage or online channel policy, abide by the policy. Don't get in trouble, duh.

Understand forum rules. If you post to moderated discussion boards, or other people's blogs, be aware that your postings may be modified or deleted at the discretion of those forum operators. On this blog, comments are typically deleted if they (a.) anonymous and (b.) talking trash. Comments may also be edited for clarity and to correct spelling.

Use appropriate technology. Private messages are best communicated using e-mail, versus forums. Users may not appreciate the use of the forum for one-to-one messages. Others may react to inside jokes or such in ways not expected.

Avoid Public Relations Liabilities. Consider refraining from identifying your employer or your department.

Avoid Legal Liabilities. As necessary, identify that you are speaking for yourself and not on behalf of another entity. Disclaimers are good.

Manage attracted attention. If you are contacted or confronted about something that you posted, think before responding. Review what you posted. Understand what they are asking. And, if necessary, consult with others on the appropriate response. You also have the right to remain silent, or use those equally effective words "I have nothing [else] to say at this time." This can apply to all attention, from peers to bosses to media members.

Are those good guidelines? There are others on the 'net, such as [blogging guidelines from IBM](#). Just Google.

Fuquay's Fire

06/08/07 33 W, 1 I - + 18 - 14

Here's yesterday's fire on Kennebec Road. Fuquay-Varina, Fairview, Holly Springs, Angier, and Northwest Harnett, plus Wake, Garner, and Holly Springs EMS. Lee has [posted pictures](#).



Which department sports the red turnout gear?

Luke - 06/09/07 - 21:48

That would be Holly Springs....

Silver - 06/09/07 - 23:07

Correct me if I'm wrong, but it appears from the photos that there is a fairly large pond on the Bravo side of the structure. Was this used as a water source, or was there a tanker shuttle from another source?

Rides A Truck - 06/09/07 - 23:58

The chief wears the red turnout gear, everybody else has regular tan globe.

hollyrock ([Email](#)) - 06/14/07 - 10:18

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Stats

06/08/07 202 W - + 18 - 11

Here are a few stats after eighteen months of blogging. .

Total number of topics posted:

920+

Total number of comments:

3,100+

Most number of comments:

65 - WCFC Meeting News - 9/22/06

60 - This Afternoon's Fire - 6/1/07

54 - Mutual Aid to Clayton - 11/5/06

48 - Closest Station Response? - 8/9/06

46 - Idle Ambulances / Allocating Resources - 3/14/07

41 - Vehicle Safety? - 1/4/07

40 - Station 28 - 12/10/06

36 - Help Wanted - 4/17/07

35 - Falls Apparatus - 3/24/07

Most number of topics on a single day:

11 - 4/1/07

9 - 9/16/06

8 - 5/18/07

7 - 1/17/06

7 - 9/2/06

Most number of comments on a single day:

Unknown (at the moment)

Most frequently appearing subject lines:

24 - Heard on Scanner

13 - Station 28

5 - This Afternoon's Fire

4 - Cary Station 7

4 - Station 7

4 - This Evening's Fire

4 - This Morning's Fire

Most frequently appearing words in subject lines:

76 - Station

40 - New

38 - RFD

37 - Raleigh

31 - Wake

30 - Scanner

28 - Old

26 - Heard

25 - Raleigh's

Selected anonymous user names:

apex_batt_chief
bomberoloco
car3550
concerned_ii
concerned_taxpayer
deh4908
dhfd
ear_to_the_ground
engine1b
ff
guest
guest_1000
guest_from_the_west
guest_from_your_city_to_the_west
guest13
guest3222
guest555
hsfd
lteng3
raleigh_911
rides_a_truck
rides_a_truck_lb
ridesaladder
so_true
wc
wcff
why_with_county_money
yesbut

Mike, you have entirely too much time on your hands.

But it's appreciated, all that you do around the County and on the Web.

Guest3222 - 06/08/07 - 21:50

Thank you. I do what I can.

Legeros - 06/08/07 - 22:05

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Rescue Company Histories

06/09/07 240 W - + 22 - 15

Who can help with specific or general dates, for the histories of Raleigh's rescue companies? Here's what Mike has, with blanks for what's missing:

Summary:

- R1 > R3 > R12 > R7 > R21 > R19
- R9 > R14 > R6 > R14
- R7

Rescue 1 - 1953

- Placed in service as Rescue 1 on _____, 1953, at Station 1 at 220 West Dawson Street.
- Moved to Station 3 on _____, 197_.

Rescue 2 - 1953

- Placed in service by October 7, 1954, at Station 1 at 220 West Dawson Street.
- Second unit of two-piece Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad.
- Later housed without staffing at Stations 8, 10, 12.
- Removed from service on November __, 1974.

Rescue 3 - 197_

- Placed in service as Rescue 3 on _____, 197_, at Station 3 at 13 South East Street.
- Moved to Station 12 on _____, 1978.

Rescue 6 - 1982

- Placed in service as Rescue 6 on _____, 1982, at Station 6 at 2601 Fairview Road.
- Moved to Station 14 on _____, 19_.

Rescue 7 - 19__

- Placed in service on _____, 19__, at Station 7 at 1300 Glascock Street.
- Moved to Station 21 in 199_.
- Returned to service at Station 7 in July 2001.

Rescue 8

- See Rescue 2.

Rescue 9 - 1974

- Placed in service on October 28, 1974, at Station 9 at 4465 Six Forks Road.
- Moved to Station 14 on _____, 1978.

Rescue 10

- See Rescue 2.

Rescue 12

- Placed in service on _____, 1978, at Station 12 at 3409 Poole Road.
- Moved to Station 7 on _____, 19__.
- See also Rescue 2.

Rescue 14 - 1978

- Placed in service on _____, 1978, at Station 14 at 4200 Lake Boone Trail.
- Moved to Station 6 on _____, 1982.
- Returned to service at Station 14 on _____, 19__.

Rescue 19 - 1999

- Placed in service as Rescue 19 at _____, 1999, at Station 19 at 4209 Spring Forest Road.

Rescue 21 - 199_

- Placed in service as Rescue 21 on _____, 199_, at Station 21 at 9350 Durant Road.
- Moved to Station 19 on _____, 1999.

For sake of change, why not just number the units in the order they were placed in service? Like, Rescue 1,2,3. Rescue 1 being Rescue 1 wherever it is stationed and the like. Same with the ladders, it would help from having to re-number equipment all the time, plus you can build years of tradition (Rescue 1 being in service since 1953).

Guest - 06/09/07 - 13:25

Is that what departments like FDNY and Chicago do? Is that why they have Engine 1 and Ladder 24 in the same house, Engine 4 and Ladder 15, etc. etc.? That is a serious question, but I'll go ahead and duck and cover..

Luke - 06/09/07 - 21:55

Can't speak on Chicago, but FDNY goes back a ways. In the old days, Manhattan had an Engine 1 as did Brooklyn. Same with the other 3 boroughs. Then they all merged, so a different numbering system was set up. So to answer your question, I believe "No" for FDNY. Manhattan, for instance, is lower numbers (1-80 or so, some missing numbers in between), then your other boroughs will be different ranges of numbers.

I do agree though, if you were to try to establish some sort of company pride, it's sort of hard to do if equipment is changing numbers all the time. It would be great to say, "we're celebrating 50 or 100 years of service", but it's sort of hard to because of relocations (and with that come number changes) so it's hard to draw up a timeline.

Silver - 06/09/07 - 23:22

This copied from http://nyfd.com/brooklyn_bfd/bfd_history..

Brooklyn at one time had it's own Fire Department.

The Brooklyn Fire Department (B.F.D.) was organized on September 15, 1869 with 13 Engines and 6 Ladders,which were Engines 1 (Engine 201 today) through 13 and Ladders 1 (Ladder 101today) through 6.

There were two major reorganizational dates that involved the Brooklyn and Queens engine and ladder companies.

January 28, 1898 merged with the FDNY

January 1, 1913 The second major reorganization

Brooklyn and the Long Island City Fire Depts. merged with the FDNY on January 28, 1898. To avoid confusion with the companies in Manhattan and the Bronx, the companies in Brooklyn and Queens were renumbered on October 1, 1899. One hundred numbers were added to the engines and fifty number were added to the ladder companies. The second major reorganization came on January 1, 1913. Again one hundred numbers were added to the engines and fifty numbers were added to the ladder companies. Ladder 8 became Ladder 58 which became Ladder 108. Engine Company 16 of the Brooklyn Fire Department became Engine 116 and later became Engine 216.

Stretch - 06/10/07 - 19:40

Greensboro is in the process of renumbering (or has renumbered) some of their stations in advance of a merger with other Guilford County departments.

- Sta 3 is now Sta 43
- Sta 6 is now Sta 41
- Sta 9 is now Sta 49
- Sta 12 is now Sta 40
- Sta 15 is now Sta 48
- Sta 16 is now Sta 52

Ditto on the Guilford side:

- Sta 4 is now Sta 54
- Sta 5 is now Sta 55
- Sta 7 is now Sta 47
- Sta 8 is now Sta 58
- Sta 10 is now Sta 100
- Sta 11 is now Sta 39

Someone else can advise additional details. Imagine a county-wide department here, and something similar could happen.

Legeros - 06/10/07 - 22:33

For a clarification, in Guilford, it's not the departments that are merging but the Communications Centers.

Also, High Point and Guil-Rand fire departments chose NOT to participate in the re-numbering. High Point will continue to be dispatched by themselves; Guil-Rand is dispatched by Randolph County.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/11/07 - 08:48

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'?

Newshounds

06/10/07 61 W - + 17 - 16

[Today's News & Observer](#) profiles a pair of freelance news photographers, Carter Rabil and Julian Harrison. They're familiar fixtures. How is what they do different from what Lee and Mike do? Two things immediately come to mind. We neither sell what we shoot, nor provide what we shoot to news outlets. And only one of us sleeps with the scanner on.

Should people make money selling incident photos, you ask? That is, make money as a consequence of a tragedy? Good question. There is a lot of money that is made after, say, a car wreck. Doctors, lawyers, body shops, medical suppliers, insurance providers, the people that repair the highway markings, etc. But those are different, right? Motivation behind the money-making, number of steps removed from the initial tragedy, type and scope of services provided, etc. So should people make money after a tragedy, period? At a higher level, money is just one of things that can be gained as a consequence of a tragedy. There are also immaterial gains. Responders, for example, gain great emotional reward in the successful performance of their roles and duties. Is that wrong? Obviously, without any gain at any level, there would be no motivation. And without any motivation, there would be no responders (or other service providers). I welcome discussion, debate, and different perspectives.

Legeros - 06/11/07 - 08:08

Should people take incident photos, you ask? Doesn't that violate the privacy of victims? Legally, in the United States, as I understand it, the highest courts have always ruled that there is no expectation of privacy "in public." With regard to photos, that means that there are (or rarely are) legal objections to taking pictures of anything that happens to anyone within public view. Now, selling such photos is another matter entirely. If people are pictured, those people have to consent to the sale UNLESS it meets particular criteria, such as a newsworthy event. That's the legal perspective. Ethically, should such pictures be taken? I welcome discussion on that front.

Legeros - 06/11/07 - 08:13

I don't see anything wrong with selling the pictures to the media. Everyone always wants to know about the tragedies that happen. If everything was rosy and happy (on the news) I doubt anyone would continue to watch it. Just look at what they consider "Breaking News.." The more action (mainly police action) or death/destruction involved, the more I believe the media will take the story and run with it.

[soap box time]Take for example, a high school kid here in Charlotte that killed two people on I-485 in February 2006. He was a senior at MPHS, got drunk at a party, and got on to I-485 going eastbound in the westbound lanes. This was during a strange time period when there were numerous wrongway accidents on the Interstates around the city. HOWEVER, because this guy was a Myers Park student and he drove drunk and killed a couple, I'd be willing to bet I've heard the news reference back to this story at least 15-20 times. Without failure, every time there is a significant wreck on I-485, a drunk driving accident on any Interstate, or some other wreck involving someone from Myers Park HS, you can count on the news saying, "Now some of you might remember the Myers Park senior who killed two people on I-485 when he traveled the wrong way...." This story is filled with tragedy, but dang... let it rest and let the families try to recover without fearing being reminded about what their loved on did every time they turn on the TV. [sorry, off my soap box now..]

No one else seems to care that they are "profiting" off of a tragedy, ambulance bills, traffic tickets related to the accident, ER bills, etc.

Luke - 06/11/07 - 11:39

What about the legalities of photographing a crime scene? Wreck are technically a crime scene under investigation once the police get there. I was working a pretty serious wreck the other day involving a landscaping truck hauling a bobcat. The owner of the company wanted to take pictures of the wreck for whatever purpose. I had to tell him he needed to clear it with NCSHP first, but in the meantime myself and other firefighters were snapping away. We of course used the excuse the photos were for follow-up training, but we all know that ain't true.

CFP743 ([Email](#)) - 06/11/07 - 11:58

Crime scenes, that's a trickier area. With no supporting evidence at this time— 80+ matches on "photograph" in the General Statutes— my speculation is that there are no laws against picture-taking. Access into areas to take those pictures is another matter. As are any times that the photographs are considered evidence, and requested or seized accordingly. Again, flying on speculation, here.

Legeros - 06/11/07 - 18:38

Isn't there something about... "if it is in view of the general public, then it is fair game.." meaning, if Mr. Joe Blow Citizen were to be walking past an active crime scene and was able to see blood, bullet casings, evidence markers, a body, etc. etc. in plain view, then anyone can take a picture of it? Same would hold true for patients in auto accidents, medical calls, etc. What is stopping a passer-by from snapping a few pictures with their camera phone?

Luke - 06/11/07 - 23:54

I'm just going on what I've been told. That is, law enforcement officers can seize camears and film of pictures taken at crime scenes like 10-50s.

CFP743 ([Email](#)) - 06/12/07 - 22:24

This is a pretty easy read and seems to be in more lay-man's terms and understandable: <http://www.kantor.com/blog/Legal-Rights-..> maybe Mike or Lee can add to it.

Luke - 06/12/07 - 23:03

Those interested in the legal rights of public photographers can Google "photography and the law" or "photography is not a crime" and find a ton of perspectives and anecdotes on the subject. Common threads include (a.) heightened sensitivity to public photography since 9/11, (b.) universal disdain for security guards, who appear to have no legal authority to respond to public photography, and (c.) some confusion on the part of some law enforcement officials with regard to the law and public photography.

How does this relate to incident photography and "ambulance chasing?" Might be a bit apples and oranges. My speculation remains that snapping pictures at a crime scene is likely not a crime. The created photographs might become evidence, though. But what does that mean? Any lawyers or law officers reading? Not counting "hey, can we have a copy of those as evidence" requests— which are presumably legal— what is required for a law officer to "seize" something as evidence? Does it have to be obtained either in the course of an arrest, or using a court order?

Legeros - 06/13/07 - 20:23

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

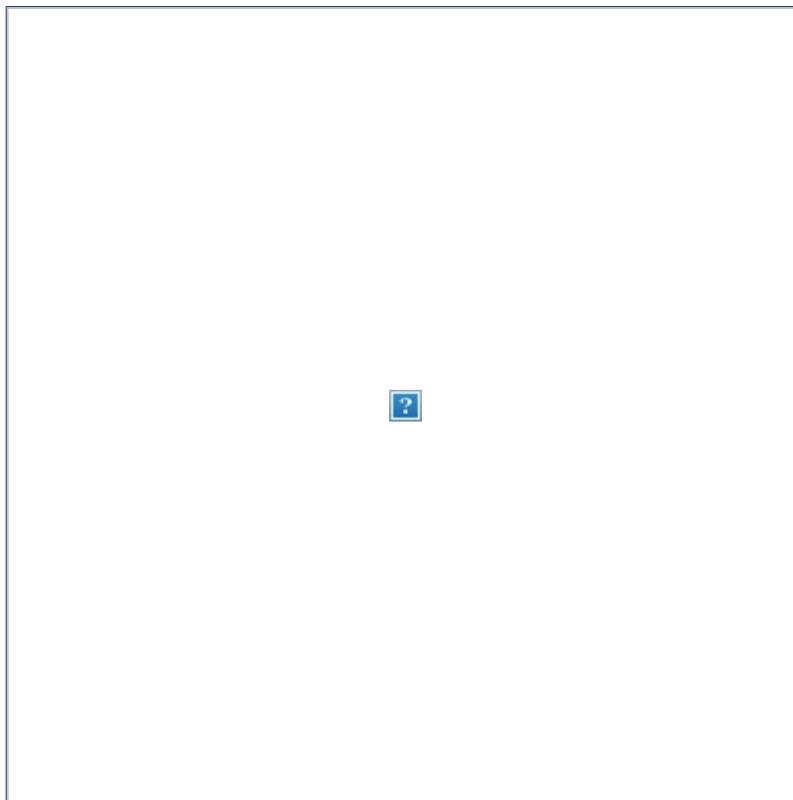
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Snap

06/10/07 23 W, 1 I - + 18 - 10

Here's the action shot of a lifetime, a [plane crashing onto a Florida beach](#). Local resident took the picture. Occupants walked away.



At least it wasn't towing one of those annoying "Wings" banners.

"BEACH TOWELS ONLY \$4.99!!!"

Luke - 06/10/07 - 22:25

The picture probably depicts an attempted landing, with the plane flipping forward in the sand, versus a straight nose dive. Had the latter occurred, the fuselage would be at least minimally crumpled.

Legeros - 06/10/07 - 22:28

Just imagine...

Just sitting on the beach, chillin, drinking a beer, next thing you see is an airplane coming at you!!

Beach - 06/11/07 - 11:06

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

E-mail: (optional)

No

Web Site: (optional)

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'?

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

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.

Links List

06/10/07 66 W - + 19 - 12

The right-side list o' links has been updated. Contents: [Forum, Watch Desk, Local](#); [Forums, FireNews](#); [Forums, Firehouse](#); [Forum, ATEV](#); [NC Fire Dept Histories](#); [NC Fire Dept Links \(FN\)](#); [NC Fire Dept Station Lists \(CFP\)](#); [News, FireNews](#); [News, Firehouse](#); [Photos, Incident, Lee & Mike](#); [Photo Site, Lee's](#); [Photo Site, Mike's #2](#); [Raleigh Fire Dept](#); [Raleigh Fire Info, Mike's](#); [Wake County Fire Info, Mike's](#); [Wake County Fire Links](#).

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

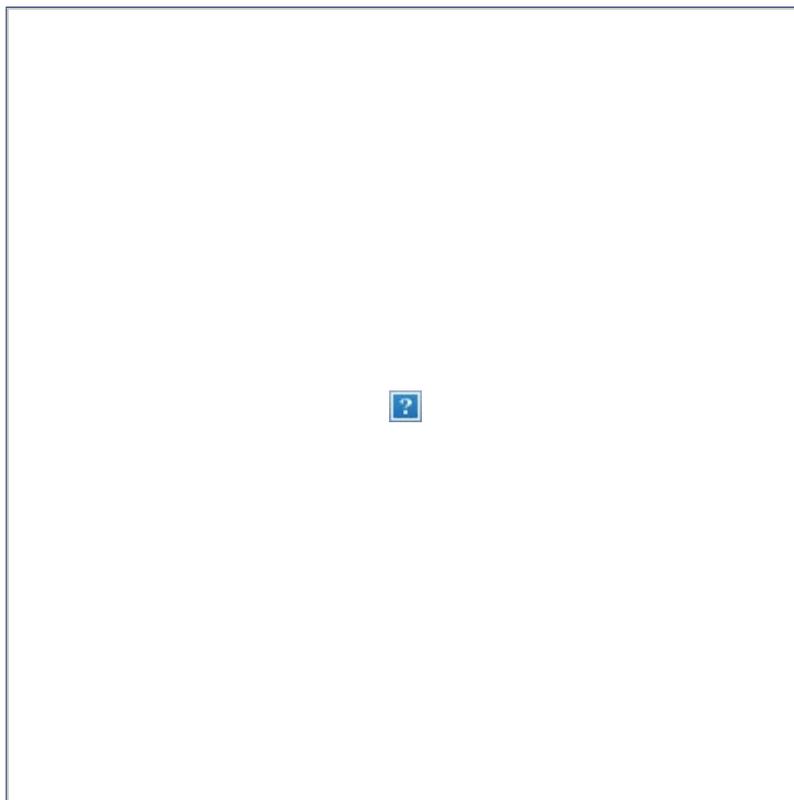
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Car vs. Charlotte Engine

06/11/07 69 W, 1 I - + 11 - 17

Charlotte fire photographer Mike Porowski snapped this pic of Engine 22, struck last night at an MVA on I-85 by a passenger vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed. The driver of the car later died. Two FFs were transported for observation. The picture is from [FireNews.net](#). Who else votes for EMS-style reflective chevrons on the back of every piece of fire apparatus, period?



here's the the FF's not being more injured than they were. If this doesn't hit home for providing a safe area for our crews to work in I don't know what does. Just remember, we didn't cause the problem, park to block, turn your wheels towards the guardrail or the shoulder/median and away from the incident. Call for more trucks to help create a safe working area, take one more lane than the incident occupies, put amber lighting on the rear of equipment, and BE safe, thank goodness no FF's were critically injured.

and I give a huge two hands up for the inverse chevrons on the rear of ALL apparatus, EMS units, and Police cars. The Wake EMS units never fail to grab my attention when I see them day or night.

we have to stop worrying about "looks" and start worrying about FF safety and doing everything possible to increase it.

<http://www.respondersafety.com>

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/11/07 - 19:31

Amen 7021, enough with "it looks good bo". WE aren't here to just look good. We need to concentrate on responder safety. To those that think the new RFD policy involving units responding as safety is "overkill", it's time for you to open your eyes. Maybe NFPA can step up and add it to their requirements for new apparatus? I'm all for it.

Silver - 06/11/07 - 21:49

I hate to be a buzz kill, but I don't think the chevrons would have made a difference in this situation.. simply judging by the rate of speed which the drive nailed the back of the truck, I promise the LEDs should have gotten his attention.

With that said, I do, however, agree with having chevrons on the back of apparatus.

Luke - 06/11/07 - 23:48

Yeah you can put chevrons and all the lights you want on the back of emergency apparatus, but that still doesn't account for stupid. People are so into what they are doing right then that drivers don't see what is going on around them. How many times do you come up behind a veh that simply refuses to pull over because they don't see us or hear us behind them. I am not saying chevrons won't help but if it wasn't for stupid we wouldn't have jobs.

Mike - 06/12/07 - 00:20

Anybody else notice the amount of ground ladders on this eng. I see atleast a 35',24', 2 roof ladders and they probably have an attic ladder. Tell me they aren't prepared to throw some ladders when they roll up to a house.

Mike - 06/12/07 - 00:22

As for the ground ladders all of the new Charlotte Smeal engines are coming with dual ladder racks, the usual compliment of ladders and a 35 footer. Adds some flexibility on scene and if you can't get the ladder company close enough you've got another option for more ladders. Another reason is that there are certain situations where the engine gets there before the ladder and the usual 24 just isn't quite big enough with some of the newer construction the area is seeing as in 3 story rowhouse type of townhomes. Main drawback is that you lost some compartment space and squeezing everything in can be a hassle, especially the high rise packs. This would be the second CFD Smeal engine to have a mishap, back in 2003 or 2004 CFD E-23 ran off the road responding to a call in the county and spent a year being rebuilt. In the end the message is be safe on scene and watch your backs because the people out there sure aren't.

Char-neck guest - 06/12/07 - 01:37

Spec'd with one 40', one 28', two 16', and one attic ladder.

Luke - 06/12/07 - 01:37

The thing about chevrons as supplements to lighting at night, as I understand it, is that they provide a visual shape in addition to a cue. Sort of "large box-shaped object ahead" versus "large mass of lights ahead." Would it help the distracted driver traveling at a high rate of speed? Eh... Somebody in the know that probably cite studies how lighting can "blend together," which, in turn, could happen with chevrons, I suppose, if every emergency and service vehicle on the highway had them as well.

Legeros - 06/14/07 - 07:48

The study I keep trying to find again talked about using only amber lights once at a scene and it being safer. I remember the take-home point being when people see flashing red and blue they think emergency and are more likely to veer into the scene out of curiosity (remember the driver's ED lesson about you drive where you look) but with amber people associate "Caution/ Road Construction" and are less likely to be as distracted. I want to say it was one of those Phoenix Fire things, and they put amber lights visible from all directions of their ambulances/apparatus. Either way, you have to always stay alert and park properly because there is no guaranty that any John-Q-Driver passing by will not be distracted no matter what safety precautions you take. And I am sure any Chief would rather replace their most expensive piece of apparatus 5 times because it was placed properly at a scene then to have one of their people be seriously hurt.

Dave - 06/14/07 - 16:01

It was a study done by the California Highway Patrol in the 80's I believe. (in regards to the amber vs red rear facing lights)

AB - 06/14/07 - 16:09

It is difficult to see in the picture, but both of the rotating lights (near the ladder racks) and the top two square lights are amber.

Luke - 06/14/07 - 20:02

Or how about these as vehicle lights? <http://thrillingwonder.blogspot.com/2006..> Those are from Google searches, after a private reader comment about vehicle lighting in the east.

Legeros - 06/14/07 - 21:53

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'?

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

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.

Ten Telecommunicators Coming

06/11/07 36 W - + 15 - 10

Raleigh's budget, adopted today, includes ten additional telecommunicator positions, notes [this news story](#). Police received 20 new positions, says the [city press release](#). Fire had four proposed positions. The adopted budget documents are pending.

Interesting point in the budget, the City Manager wants to add an "Emergency Management Coordinator" within his office. I wonder what this would bring to the table?

Silver - 06/11/07 - 23:34

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'?

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

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.

City Ordinance, 1852

06/11/07 60 W, 1 I - + 19 - 16

The origins of the Raleigh Fire Department are reflected in this newspaper clipping from 1852, posting notice of a new city ordinance that authorized the organization of three fire companies, two engines and a hook and ladder. This was the hand-operated era, still a couple decades from either steam engines or fire horses. Only 155 years ago. 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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

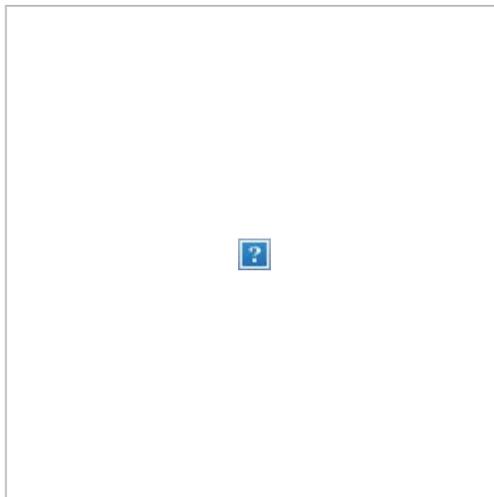
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

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

Zebulon Fire Truck For Sale

06/11/07 25 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

[Get your very own mini-pumper!](#) Impress your neighbors! Add diamond plate to the body and watch the value triple! LOL.



[My comments are a joke at the expense of the brush rigs recently delivered in the county, and that made a stir with their \$80,000 purchase price. Apologies for any offense.]

Legeros - 06/16/07 - 05:18

As of Friday, 6/15/2007, this unit has been SOLD.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/16/07 - 10:07

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'?

Early Towns

06/12/07 129 W - + 13 - 17

Wake County had a number of towns around the turn of the last century that no longer exist. Had their histories turned out differently, we might have seen such entities as a Forestville Fire Department or a Wakefield Fire Department. Here's the list of the towns that populated the county around the 1900s:

Raleigh - Incorporated 1792.
 Rolesville - Incorporated 1837.
 Cary - Incorporated 1871.
 Apex - Incorporated 1873.
 Morrisville - Incorporated 1875.
 Holly Springs - Incorporated 1877.
 Forestville - Incorporated 1879.
 Wake Forest College (original name) - Incorporated 1880.
 Garner's Station (original name) - Incorporated 1883.
 Wakefield - Incorporated 1899.
 Wendell - Incorporated 1899.
 Bonsal - Incorporated 1907.
 New Hill - Incorporated 1907.
 Royal Mills - Incorporated 1907.
 Zebulon - Incorporated 1907.
 Fuquay Springs - Incorporated 1909.
 Eagle Rock - Incorporated 1911.

Source: *Wake, Capital County of North Carolina* by Elizabeth Reid Murray.

There is a history project, I would like to spend some time studying. Do you know where that book is available ?

Jon C. - 06/12/07 - 22:08

The county library system has several copies. Olivia Raney Local History Library, off Poole Road, happens to have a few copies for sale. They are new old stock, obtained when the branch received Ms. Murray's collection of historical materials last year. Highly recommended book. Covers Wake County through the Centennial. The second volume, completed by another author, is due later this year. It will cover Reconstruction through the 1920s.

Legeros - 06/12/07 - 22:11

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

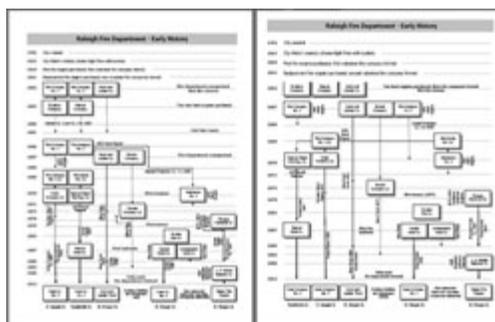
No

/ [Textile](#)

Charting Madness

06/12/07 80 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Do a little research, find another fact. Find another fact, update the chart. Update the chart, think of another question. Think of another question, do a little research. Rinse and repeat, over and over and over and over and over. Version 2 or maybe Version 3 or maybe Version 4 of Mike's RFD history chart has been completed. Here's [the prior version](#). Here's [the newest version](#). It's good for at least one day, maybe less.



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'?

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

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.

Chevrons

06/14/07 26 W, 1 I - + 21 - 9

From a reader, here's a neat picture of four nearly identical pieces of apparatus. One has chevrons and really stands out. Click to slightly enlarge:



Does anybody know if there is study information on the chevrons? We are looking at them for our trucks, but would like more info to take to the chief.

Donaldson - 06/20/07 - 14:05

a great place to start is <http://www.respondersafety.com>

they have a great deal of info, including a potential change proposed by the NFPA 1901 Fire Apparatus Committee. The standard calls for at least 50% of the rear of all fire apparatus have yellow and red marking by 2009.

CFP 7021 - 06/20/07 - 14:36

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.

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.

Pierce Quantum Golf Cart?

06/14/07 22 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

If they made one, that is. Seen on Gorman Street this morning.



Replace the amber strobe light with a LED light bar and I'll buy one.

Couch

Couch ([Email](#)) - 06/20/07 - 07:11

Needs a Roto-Ray on the front...

DJ - 06/20/07 - 18:29

and chevrons and traffic advisor on the back

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/20/07 - 21:48

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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Raleigh's New Rescues

06/14/07 44 W, 1 I - + 18 - 11

[FireNews](#) editor Jeff Harkey strolled by Services and snapped this picture, one of two 2007 Pierce Enforcer non-walk in rescues delivered this morning. They'll replace Rescue 14 and Rescue 19, and thus end the era of ambulance-body rescues. It's been 53 years. Click to enlarge:



I can't wait for the numerous comments to follow of how it's not big enough, it's not a true heavy rescue, it's a waste of money, etc. I know they're coming.

Henry P. - 06/14/07 - 19:23

Actually, I think it is big enough, it's a great use of money, and to make it a true heavy rescue RFD should request a full crew of four or (preferably) five to staff it... And just curious, what are RFD's rescues assigned to do at a working fire, per SOP?

Eric - 06/14/07 - 21:02

Coming from just one member of RFD, I'm happy as hell to see them. I think they'll serve the city just fine, so long as they're well equipped and hopefully, one day, well staffed. I'll add that it's a good era to have come to a close....

Silver - 06/14/07 - 21:03

I think the only thing I see that I would've done differently is put a few more quartz lights on the sides, versus just the scene lights. Also, a nice feature would have been a quartz light or two on the front.

Guest - 06/14/07 - 21:29

Great looking truck. Does anyone know what equipment it will carry? Is there breathing air or a cascade system? I can't wait to see the truck stocked and ready to go. It looks to be a great resource.

Donaldson - 06/14/07 - 22:08

Its great to see such a great resource added to RFD. Congrats

Adam Brown - 06/14/07 - 22:57

You think will see a captain positions coming soon on the Rescue units? Wonder if this will be for all city rescue units? Very nice rig can't wait to see it tricked out with tools and in service with five man crew ok four. One thing take the cooler off the rescue and leave that to rehab EMS.

bolducslabs ([Email](#)) - 06/14/07 - 23:14

Excellent looking rig(s). Congrats to those in Raleigh! This seems like it will be a very practical truck. Hmm.. possibly a good candidate for a county-wide spec'd rescue truck. If the county has plans to do that.. I have no clue.

Luke - 06/14/07 - 23:24

Here's a slideshow of both rescues:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/firenews/se..>

Quick rundown:

Pierce Enforcer chassis. Will be assigned to Rescues 14 and 19. Interior "medical" cabinet in the crew portion of the cab. Portable Warn 9000# winch, able to mount off the front, rear and both sides (just forward of the rear wheels). No cascade system (this duty is handled by Air 8). Two hydraulic reels off the back, compartments for air-lift bags. Driver's side rear compartment with air and electrical on reels. Night-Scan light tower. No roof compartments (or access ladder).

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/15/07 - 08:46

I don't think there are plans right now for Captains on them. It would be nice, though, to maybe see some of the 5-man engine companies (on paper) shaken up a little and try to put a third person on them. Or, if the Battalion Chief's have extra staffing in their battalions (very rare), throw a 3rd person on them occasionally.

Silver - 06/15/07 - 09:29

The county has already spec'd a rescue. I believe it is a Spartan chasis and a Hackney body. The specs look pretty good.

Mike - 06/15/07 - 18:21

just heard today that rumor has it that hackney will be getting the bid for the county service/rescue truck. also heard it will be the first kind of its kind ever built by Hackney, for whatever that's worth.

I also agree with more quartz or HID lighting on the body, even with a light tower it's helpful.

stay safe everybody

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/15/07 - 19:58

Some more information. Services hopes to have them in service ASAP, say within a couple weeks or sooner... The rigs are about 1 or 2 feet longer than engine, and if they were any longer they wouldn't fit in the stations... It has greater capacity for hydraulic tools than the present rescues, which can only run "one hose" at a time... The unit number will be placed in the side windows, and a small number on the back on the reflective strip... No plans at present for additional manpower... Electronic and heated side mirrors...

Legeros - 06/15/07 - 23:47

Any idea what they are going to do with the two older units that these are replacing? Keep them as reserves? Auction them off?

Native Charlottean - 06/16/07 - 07:14

I've been told that one will replace the older reserve rescue, and the other will likely become a mobile maintenance/shop unit.

Legeros - 06/16/07 - 11:56

More pics of the rescues, from Lee: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a..>

Legeros - 06/17/07 - 07:45

It is nice to see that the city is allowing fire department's equipment to be upgraded. We need to look to the future and not the now. I think ever fire engine, ladder and rescue should have a cooler. Its not about rehab but hydrating the body.

fallin down - 06/17/07 - 21:32

Replacement rotation sounds OK, but why not make the old one the shop vehicle (which I am sure that they need)and have 2 reserves, just for yucks. Always nice to have back-ups.

Jon C - 06/18/07 - 15:02

Ron, sharp pic of you guys with your matching "7" fronts....hopefully it will eventually catch on.

Silver - 06/18/07 - 22:45

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'?

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

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.

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Golf Tournament

06/14/07 51 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

'Twas a good day for a [golf tournament](#). Temperature just right. Occasional sun. Little light rain. And a bunch of firefighters and friends having eighteen holes of fun, and for a great cause. Pics forthcoming. See everyone next year.



Preliminary pics posted: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 06/15/07 - 23:48

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'?

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

Writing History

06/16/07 40 W - + 19 - 10

[Engaging article this morning](#) about a book about the governors of the state, and what happened when the editors asked the sitting governor to review. Some times it's better to wait until the big man has left office.

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'?

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

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.

New Airport Getting Closer

06/16/07 37 W - + 14 - 14

[Also in the morning news](#), the latest on the newest airport planned for the area. The skies will be alive before long, with general aviation to the east and air ambulances at WakeMed.

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'?

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

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 Antique Apparatus Histories

06/17/07 34 W, 2 I - + 15 - 15

For your reading enjoyment, PDF-format [histories of Raleigh's antiques](#)  originally created as signs for the Station 28 opening. They're linked from Mike's [RFD history site](#).



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'?

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

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.

Heard on Scanner

06/17/07 9 W - + 22 - 8

"Harris Teeter S-u-p-e-r-m-a-r-k-e-t-s." Locution can spell!

And that doesn't tie up radio traffic?

Mark N. - 10/16/07 - 15:21

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.

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.

RAPS Kart Race Today

06/18/07 256 W - + 16 - 12

News Release. Wake County Sheriff Donnie Harrison will lead a pack of racing public safety workers through some twisting turns and long straights Monday evening at 6:00 pm. But this is no pre-planned police chase. Sheriff Harrison will be driving a pace car to start the field at the Raleigh Area Public Safety Karting Race at RushHour Karting in Garner, NC.

The 90 minute endurance kart race will feature teams from state, county and local law enforcement, EMS and fire services. The race is designed to build interagency relationships among public safety professionals.

“We are increasingly working together across multiple agencies and multiple disciplines,” says Jeffrey Hammerstein, Creator of the public safety racing league, RAPS.

“From the chemical fire in Apex to drills at the airport to the trench recovery in Holly Springs, or any other major incident, the many public safety agencies in the area are constantly working closely together. By coming together for something that’s a lot of fun, and isn’t life or death, we are able to get to know each other better under circumstances much less tense than the scene of a major working call. That will equal better communication and efficiency when those multi-agency emergency calls do come.”

Opening ceremonies at 5:30 include the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums band, the Wake EMS Honor Guard, and Deputy Davis to sing the National Anthem. The “RAPS Youth” race, consisting of 4 children of public safety workers, is scheduled for 4:45 pm.

Multiple photo ops and interviews ops are available.

This was a great event and an outstanding display of fellowship amongst the public safety services in Wake County. Thanks to Jeff Hammerstein for organizing it, and to everyone who participated. Congratulations to the Wake County EMS team for their fine showing.

Chief Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/20/07 - 11:55

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

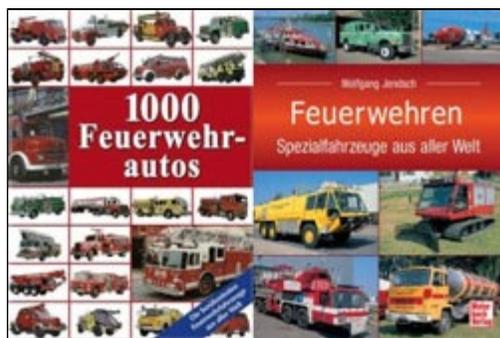
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Feuerwehr

06/18/07 103 W, 1 I - + 19 - 10

Two additions to the bookshelf, [1000 Feuerwehrautos](#) and [Feuerwehren - Spezialfahrzeuge aus aller Welt](#). Thick, heavy, hardcover, photo-intensive volumes that were ordered from [Amazon Germany](#). Very easy to order. Delivered in a couple weeks. The first is a compendium of apparatus from around the world. Mostly modern, and mostly in color. Two Raleigh rigs are included (!), one of the 1989 Pierce Lance pumpers and the 1991 Simon/E-One haz-mat truck. The second book covers specialized apparatus. Full color, with everything from industrial rigs to robots to boats to planes. Even in a different language, there's nothing quite like a big book of fire engine photos.



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](#))

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.

Charleston Firefighters Killed

06/19/07 54 W, 1 I - + 13 - 14

Nine firefighters died in a furniture store fire yesterday. [SConFire has the story](#). There is also extensive information on [Firehouse.com](#). The [forums](#) contain a link to a [pre-fire picture](#). WCBD-TV has [raw video footage](#). Pics below from [Live Maps Search](#), [WCBD-TV](#), and [Post Courier](#).



My thoughts and prayers go to the families and the department. Everyone stay safe. This is a tragic way to start Safety Stand Down Week

Apex Batt Chief - 06/19/07 - 08:03

I agree with the Chief from Apex... this is a tragic way to start the Safety Stand-Down. Let us hold Charleston and the families in our prayers and minds, and let us honor our fallen brothers by doing our jobs the best that we can.

Guest3222 - 06/19/07 - 10:00

My thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of the Charleston firefighters who died in yesterdays fire. The town of Charleston should be proud of these heroes who risked their lives to save others in a devastating fire. As usual a group of brothers and sisters put someone else above themselves and will be remembered for their sacrifice. John 15:13 (Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends). Yesterday was another tragic day for the fire service, now is a time for mourning and remembrance.

KC

Gen3fire - 06/19/07 - 11:32

I'm sure I echo others with heart-felt thoughts and prayers to the families, and co-workers of the UNIDENTIFIED Firefighters who were killed in the line of duty.

JASON BOGGS ([Email](#)) - 06/19/07 - 12:58

The news conference to announce the names of the firefighters has just taken place... the chief of department stated that "I lost nine of my friends, and our department lost over 100 years of experience." I think that we should all pray for their families tonight when we observe that moment of silence at 1900 tonight.

Guest3222 - 06/19/07 - 14:14

To add to my earlier comment, allow me to add some information I obtained from The Charleston Post & Courier:

The name of the nine brave men who lost their lives:

Captain William "Billy" Hutchinson, 48, 30 years of service
Captain Mike Benke, 49, 29 years of service
Captain Louis Mulkey, 34, 11.5 years of service
Engineer Mark Kelsey, 40, 12.5 years of service
Engineer Bradford "Brad" Baity, 37, 9 years of service
Asst. Engineer Michael French, 27, 1.5 years of service
Firefighter James "Earl" Drayton, 56, 32 years of service
Firefighter Brandon Thompson, 27, 4 years of service
Firefighter Melven Champaign, 46, 2 years of service

Please distribute this list as needed, so that we may all know and pray for these men's families, as well as for their department.

Guest3222 - 06/19/07 - 15:20

Thought and prayers with our Brothers in there time of loss.

BrotherFF - 06/19/07 - 16:53

From a historical perspective, yesterday's tragedy was the greatest loss of firefighters in the Carolinas. Don't know about the southeast. From a quick scan of NC and SC records, the prior deadliest duty incidents occurred on May 25, 1979 (Shelby, NC, four killed), on September 7, 1982 (Washington, NC, four killed), and on January 1, 1926 (Lexington, NC, three killed). North Carolina has recorded 195+ firefighter fatalities. South Carolina has recorded 90+ firefighter fatalities. Those are very rough numbers.

Legeros - 06/19/07 - 21:23

Good Call Mike...

Everyone be safe, know your job, and keep the Charleston Family and all our fallen brothers in their prayers

JASON BOGGS ([Email](#)) - 06/20/07 - 00:13

This morning's Post-Courier has more strong coverage: <http://www.charleston.net/>

There's some additional video footage, and this article, <http://www.charleston.net/news/2007/jun/...>, that features a graphic and a day-after aerial photo.

Legeros - 06/20/07 - 05:42

Our thoughts and prayers go to families and friends of our fallen brothers.

DHFD - 06/20/07 - 15:10

The Post and Courier continues its extensive coverage: <http://www.charleston.net/> Scroll farther down the page for more stories under Local Headlines. The News & Observer today features a Chicago Tribune story that is not available on the N&O site. Here's that one: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/natio..>

Legeros - 06/21/07 - 05:23

Hey guys. Now I will admit that I am not a firefighter, but many people in my family are and I have been around them for all my life. I happened to be in Charleston on Tuesday and got back today. Before I came back, I drove past the scene and it is much worse in person. Seeing some of the beams melted and sagging showed how bad it was. Nine crosses run along the sidewalk along with many flowers and cards from the public. Just before I left town, there was a funeral for one of the firefighters. Such a sad sight to see...

Trevor - 06/21/07 - 22:52

This tragedy once again reminds us of the vulnerability of the structural firefighter. Situational awareness is listed as one of number one causes of close calls and LODD. Let's all be aware of our surroundings and all go home safely!!

old school - 06/21/07 - 23:57

I wanted to let everybody know about a memorial for Chaleston 9 Fallen Heroes. If you would pass the word out I would appreciate it. I don't charge families to create a memorials when they die ib the line of duty. Also, I have a memorial for Jenna Nielson if anyone would like to leave a condolence for her family at <http://www.aneverlastingtribute.com/Jenn...>

Thanks

Cheryl ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/11/07 - 11:52

The Memorial for Charleston Firefighter's is at <http://www.aherotribute.org>

Cheryl ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/11/07 - 11:53

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'?

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

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.

Tragedy

06/19/07 135 W - + 13 - 9

What is the appropriate response to tragedy? Don't know. Maybe can't know. People, personalities, and emotions are just too different. Sure, we probably-- hopefully-- know what is considered GROSSLY inappropriate. For the more regular range of responses, though, there are probably opinions on which is proper versus improper. Such as...

Private mourning, or
 Respectful silence, or
 Public tribute, or
 Vocal outrage, or
 Active inquest, or
 Immediate analysis, or...

Which is better, which is best? Don't know, and don't want the role of determining same. Playing Ms. Manners is a tricky business that's better left to others.

Tragedy is tough, and everyone reacts in their own way. Give each other a break, if a difference presents itself. It's ultimately all derived from the same terrible things we're feeling, about the same terrible things that happened.

Excellent points.. thanks for making us think, and hopefully we can accept each other's response to tragedy more easily.

Luke - 06/19/07 - 12:41

Mike, you are exactly right! We all deal with tragedy in our own ways. Traditionally however, in the fire service I think we often deal with tragedy by putting it behind us; not putting a name or face with the said tragedy and going about our daily routine. After all, if we put a name and face to every code or every suicide victim or every victim shot on the streets we would never make it in this business.

However, when the tragedy is our own we can not just put it behind us! No, we cant let it keep us from doing our jobs but we can not forget either! I heard about this tragedy this morning when I left work at Raleigh and was on the way to work at Falls. My girlfriend called me and told me what she had heard on the news. I was speechless. When I got to work I got online and watched news footage. I watched the clip of our brothers and sisters carrying out 9 of their own and thats what hit me. I'm sure when those 9 men went to work on Monday morning they were thinking the same things I was and you all do. What are we going to eat today, how can I mess with the new boy today, I cant wait to go to the lake over 4 day. We never think or want to think that tragedy is going to hit US!

As I went about my day today we did our normal fire station activities, we talked about it a little and we watched the news coverage a few times. Whether we admit it or not we've tried to put it behind us. I think now maybe we shouldn't! Maybe we should take the time to mourn. Maybe we should reflect on the children that are going to bed tonight without their daddy! Maybe we should try to imagine the pain of driving back to the firehouse with less than what you left it with! I hope that none of us EVER have to know what that is like but I hope we also realize that yes it can happen here in little old Wake County!

In the months ahead I'm sure that lessons will be learned from this tragedy but I urge you all to take the time now to truly reflect on what it means to lay you're life down and mourn for these men, their families and the brothers and sisters who are living this nightmare. Swallow you're manliness and talk about it with your co workers. Officers, talk about it with your personnel. THESE ARE OUR BROTHERS!

Please stay safe!

[nrhodes] - 06/19/07 - 23:24

Very well said Nick.

HUBBELL - 06/20/07 - 12:10

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'?

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

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.

Helping Your Firefighters

06/21/07 279 W - + 23 - 7

And like that terrible time 69 months ago, the nation's attention has again turned to the fire service. Editorials are appearing. Features are being written. Video clips are being recorded. Meet the firemen and firewomen. Learn about their equipment, their lives, and what it feels like inside a burning building. They've been here all along, of course. Firefighters are silent heroes, and their presence is easily under-appreciated. There's the neighborhood fire station, always there, always ready. That's the sound of a siren, you hear it every day. Pause, notice, and resume your activities. The kids are more aware. They're drawn to these soldiers like moths to... flames. There's also that week in October. It's a comfortable routine, except at times like this. This punch to the gut is painful. You wince, you weep, and you think. The guys and gals on the line have their hands full. Dealing, coping, learning, adapting. The community can support them, and the service welcomes their support. How will you, citizen reader, support your fire service? Ask them what they want. Chances are they'll talk about such things as staffing, stations, and equipment. (They will also talk about sprinklers, building codes, and life safety. But that's another story.) This is budget time, or at least the tail end of same. Consider expressing your support for the fire service to your elected officials. Then do it again in January. Then do it again in June. You get the idea. Firefighters do what they do, because it's what they do. They don't ask for much. The resources to do their jobs. The safest preexisting conditions possible. And that's about it. Help them help you.

It's unfortunate that things have to be like this; it takes a major tragedy such as this to get attention. In a few weeks, we'll be out of sight, out of mind.....again. We'll still be understaffed, we'll (in this state) still have 30 year retirement and the general public will still complain if a proposal to raise taxes is on the table for manpower/overtime.

I read an article in "Money" magazine debating "are you prepared for retirement?". Right now, it's projected that you need at least 75-80% of your salary after retirement to live. Some critics say close to 100%. Our pension? 54%.....

Silver - 06/21/07 - 09:00

Do we all do this job with retirement figures on our mind. I speak for myself in saying that is the last thing on my mind in this time of mourning for our brothers in Charleston. Instead of worrying how we are going to retire lets worry about how we can make it safely to retirement. Will we learn from these LODD or be bitter about retirement figures.

old school - 06/21/07 - 23:40

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](#))

Morrisville Station 3

06/21/07 27 W - + 16 - 16

MFD has moved into Cary Station 7. It's been at least a week now. 'Tis a sad sight, in a way, to behold a vacant station.

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'?

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

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.

Memorial Service

06/22/07 194 W - + 17 - 10

The Post and Courier site (charleston.net) notes that live streaming video of today's memorial service will be available. There will likely be others, on print and TV news sites. Feel free to post them as they are known or found. The planned program for the service, [as posted on the above site](#), includes:

Processional – Charleston Symphony Orchestra
 Presentation of the Colors – Charleston Fire Department Honor Guard
 FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums
 The National Anthem – The Voices of IFD, Indianapolis, Indiana
 Invocation – Chaplain Rob Dewey, Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy
 Remarks – The Honorable Joseph P. Riley Jr. - Mayor, City of Charleston
 Remarks - The Honorable Marshall C. Sanford - Governor, State of South Carolina
 Music – “Angels Among Us”
 Firefighter James Smith, Wilson, North Carolina Fire Rescue
 Remarks – Chief Russell B. Thomas Jr, Charleston Fire Department
 Music – “How Great Thou Art” performed by Seacoast Church Choir
 Scripture Reading – The Reverend Gabriel J. Smith
 Homily – Monsignor Joseph Roth
 Ringing of the Memorial Bell – Engineer Lance Williams, Charleston Fire Department
 Music – “Taps”
 Music – “Amazing Grace”
 FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums
 Benediction – The Reverend Jimmy S. Gallant III
 Recessional – FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums

This website: <http://www.wcbd.com/midatlantic/cbd/home..> states “Complete video coming soon... ..We will have complete video online by 3pm.”

Luke - 06/22/07 - 13:32

The video is now online. It includes the procession, 2 hours; and the service, 2 hours 53 minutes.

Luke - 06/22/07 - 17:16

Very, very nice service. Very touching. Very tender.

Legeros - 06/22/07 - 18:20

FFD got together and watched the service live. It was a very nice service which I am sure the families found comfort in.

Graney - 06/22/07 - 20:35

One word; unbelievable. I,like a few others, made the trip down and was glad I did. It has a deeper impact when you're actually there.....

Silver - 06/22/07 - 23:03

I've never been so touched by anything in my life. My son is a firefighter in Atlanta and to see the honor and appreciation the men are given means more than anyone would ever know. I pray for the families, friends, and true brothers of the profession – they are their own family. I pray each day and night for God to protect my son and his family at the station, they are our heroes.

I would like to find out the name of the song played by the orchestra during the recessional, after the Pipes and Drums . . . absolutely beautiful.

Vicki ([Email](#)) - 06/25/07 - 09:20

A very moving ceremony. Our prayers go out to all the families and all our friends in the service. The processional music was by the French

composer Gabriel Faure – Pavane Op. 50

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 06/25/07 - 12:14

Flags have been flying at half-mast in the metro Minneapolis area, where I'm presently visiting. Flags at fire stations, that is.

Legeros - 06/25/07 - 17:57

Any departments in NC flying their flags at half-mast? I, personally, have not heard of any beside (I believe) the one at the NCFFF memorial.

Luke - 06/25/07 - 22:49

Our flag is at half-mast.

DHFD - 06/25/07 - 23:10

So are the ones at our stations

Mike - 06/25/07 - 23:54

The flags at Western Wake were at half mast. If I remember correctly I believe that the President and Governor of the state are the only two people that can order the flags to be lowered. I don't believe either did in the case. I may be wrong, If I am not I believe something needs to be said about it. Does anybody know if either the president or the governor said to lower the flag?

Kermit ([Email](#)) - 06/26/07 - 08:22

And if neither have ordered flags down then all flags in NC need to be raised up to full mast.

CFP743 - 06/26/07 - 11:01

Flags were ordered down by either GW or Mike Easley, I can't recall right now which.

Mike - 06/26/07 - 14:14

Some may have seen this document, but The National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation has a "Chaplain's Guide for Firefighter's Funerals" that is linked from <http://www.firehero.org/index1.aspx?BD=8..>

It is very dignified information for the handling of a firefighter's funeral and related events. Here's an excerpt from the guide regarding the flags:

4.26

Flags at Half-staff – Upon notification that a fire department member has died, the Fire Chief will direct that all station flags be lowered to half-staff. They will remain at half-staff until 1700 hours the day of the final committal. When the American flag is at half-staff, no other flags will fly on the same pole. For line-of-duty deaths, the Fire Chief will request that the local officials ask other facilities to fly their flags at half-staff.

In contrast, here's information on flag etiquette: <http://www.usflag.org/flagetiquette.html>

I know it's not proper by traditional rules, but Stony Hill has kept our flags at half-mast until 1700 hrs today in honor of the fallen.

A.Rich - 06/26/07 - 23:14

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

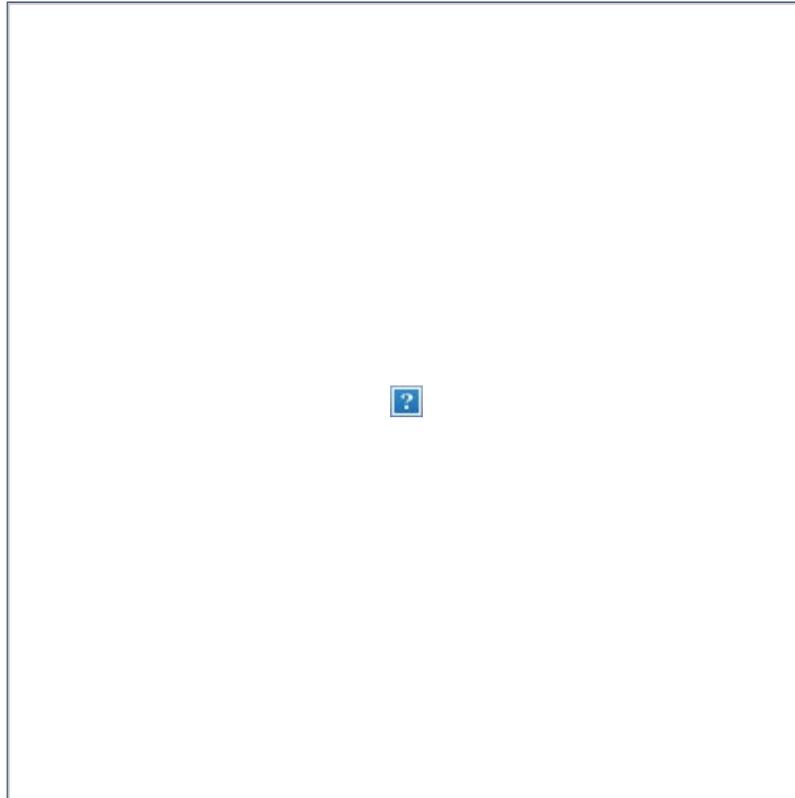
/ [Textile](#)

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

Memorial Parade Photos

06/22/07 39 W, 1 I - + 15 - 16

Found these [memorial service parade photos](#) by Alejandro Torres. We will post others as they become available, such as [this one on the Post and Courier site](#). Ditto the roster of the participants, if made available.



I went to the parade and memorial representing Western Wake. I took pictures with my D50. A lot of them are of fire trucks due to the long wait from 5am (line up time) to 8am (start time). I also have pictures from inside the truck of the people on the side of the road. The drive was very sad; the entire town must have been on the side of the road from start to finish, even on the highway. If you want them for the blog, let me know what address to send them to.

Kermit ([Email](#)) - 06/23/07 - 11:29

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

WRAL Forum Comments

06/22/07 45 W - + 17 - 17

If you haven't already found them, the forums on the [WRAL site](#) are quite lively at times. There's no single page for the Forums, at least that we've found. Rather, comments are logged on a per-story basis. Poke around and be amused.

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'?

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

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.

Big Red

06/26/07 106 W, 1 I - + 17 - 18

This is a 1958 Walter crash truck that the Minneapolis Fire Department [placed in service in 1976 as Foam-Hose 1](#). The ex-Army rig was rebuilt with a 1500 GPM pump pulled from another old rig, and outfitted with a pair of Stang monitors in the rear. It served for a few years, and presently resides at an aviation museum north of the Twin Cities. One of Raleigh-Durham Airport's earliest vehicles was a [1959 Walter crash truck](#). It served for a couple decades, and was moved to the Durham Museum of Life & Science. Its present disposition is unknown. Detail pics of Big Red forthcoming.



The Walters were actually pretty cool trucks. The 1959 out at RDU left right before I started, so we had the 1973 CB-3000 and the CBDG (I think that was it. The CB-3000 was CFR-4. It carried 3000 gallons of water and 500 gallons of foam concentrate (AFFF) in twin bladders. It was powered by twin Detroit diesels and had twin 750 gpm pumps. The cab was huge and drafty. Ours was unique because there were NO MUFFLERS!. It would run about 52-53 mph tops.

The other one was a 1500 gallon truck with 180 gallons of foam (AFFF) concentrate. It had one Detroit diesel as a driving engine, and I think it was a Ford industrial diesel as the pumping engine (for a 1000 gpm pump). This truck was much faster (about 65 mph) but was very top heavy. It was designed as a combination ARFF and structural truck. Brett Fowler and I eventually rigged a 1 1/2" crosslay on it for structural use.

Those were the days.....

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/26/07 - 10:02

More pictures of Big Red: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set..>

Legeros - 07/01/07 - 09:52

Name: (real name)

Remember personal info?

Rear Views

06/26/07 58 W, 1 I - + 20 - 15

Chevrons are the thing in Minneapolis. Their [2003 Pierce Enforcer mobile command post](#) makes the boldest statement. Ran into the thing twice, once walking and once driving. Photo explorations are also forthcoming of the aforementioned Big Red, Bill & Bonnie Daniels Firefighters Hall & Museum, and about twenty historic and former MFD stations.



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'?

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

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.

Inspectors: Oxygen Canisters Fanned EQ Fire

06/27/07 49 W - + 17 - 11

That's the WRAL headline on the [additional EQ fire findings announced today](#). There are also reader comments to puruse. Here's a [similar N&O article](#). Unspent oxygen canisters, they say. Those were the things that brought down [ValuJet Flight 592](#). Talk about [pure terror](#).

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'?

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

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.

Unique Graphics

06/28/07 22 W, 1 I - + 14 - 11

Seen outside Des Moines, Iowa, a Spartan/Welch pumper-tanker in the service of the [Johnston Fire Department](#). Click to enlarge:



Here's a quick tour of historic and former Des Moines firehouses, found this morning and uploaded straight to Flickr:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set...> They were located using Google, searching "Des Moines" "former fire house" "former fire station" and such. Street addresses were mapped also using Google, then marked on a paper street map. Found four former stations this way. Found the rest after stopped at a couple active houses and asking.

Legeros - 06/28/07 - 13:16

Still vacationing, still in Illinois. Here are some historic and former firehouses of Minneapolis, shot last week:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set...>

Legeros - 07/01/07 - 00:19

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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Disaster Tourists

06/30/07 19 W - + 16 - 7

[Good article from the *San Francisco Chronicle*](#) on the subject of spectators and the Lake Tahoe fire.

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'?

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

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.

Thursday's Haz-Mat Incident

06/30/07 137 W - + 12 - 12

Some notes on Thursday's haz-mat incident, compiled from media and incident reports. Tyco Healthcare / Mallinckrodt, 8801 Capital Boulevard. Approximately 15,000 gallons of sulfuric acid released at about 7:30 a.m. Spill contained primarily to concrete containment area. Cause of release under investigation, with equipment failure suspected. Due to potential for rain, which could cause vapor cloud if introduced into spill, approximate half-mile evacuation was implemented. Closures included Durant Elementary and Middle Schools and Neuse Baptist School. Residents of nearby apartment complex were advised to stay indoors. Clean-up effort lasted about 11 hours. Units on scene included Raleigh Engine 28, Engine 22, Engine 16, Engine 8, Truck 22, Air 8, Car 5, Haz-Mat 2, Haz-Mat 15, Decon 1, New Hope Engine 1, Tanker 10, Tanker 11, Wake EMS Truck 1, Wake EMS 33. Others can add to or complete the list. We've also been sent some pictures and will post if possible.

Rolesville Tanker 153, EMS 205, and New Hope Car One

Jb - 06/30/07 - 20:35

During the course of the incident, EMS units on-scene included EMS205, EMS101, EMS33, EMS15, EMS10, EMS16, EMS12, EMS2, and TRUCK-1.

Olson - 07/01/07 - 00:24

I believe Raleigh also called in some off duty HazMat guys.

Mike - 07/01/07 - 18:39

LADDER 20 was also on the job. RFD recalled 8 off duty haz mat tech's to assist with cleanup duties.

Silver - 07/01/07 - 22:19

Posted contributed photos: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 07/01/07 - 22:27

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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Central Stations

06/30/07 103 W, 1 I - + 16 - 22

This beautiful building served several decades as the Central Fire Station in Bloomington, Illinois. Built in 1902, it's presently a restaurant. What buildings of similar size and somewhat-similar age are still standing in the Carolinas? Asheville's is still active, a three-bay public safety center (1924). Henderson's is also active, now named Station 2 (1908). New Bern's is empty and awaiting use by the fire museum (1928). Greensboro's was re-purposed as part of a hotel (1926). Durham's, smaller in size, is presently an office building (1890). Gone are the big, old houses from Burlington, Charlotte (1925), Fayetteville (1908, 1949), Raleigh (1896), Rocky Mount (1907), and Wilmington (1907, 1956), among others.



Don't know about the old Wilson #1 since I have not been down there in many years. How about Siler City's station? Pretty big building (it has been expanded) and it is pretty old. The downtown Henderson station comes to m ind as well.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/30/07 - 17:38

Wilson's Central Station (1926) is still standing and serves as a shelter. Siler City's is a later-era building, circa 1961, I believe. Salisbury's Central Station (1896) is also still standing. It's a retail establishment. More info. on still-standing and still-active structures that are 50 years or older: <http://www.legeros.com/history/nc/statio..>

Legeros - 07/01/07 - 00:07

Goldsboro's old station is still standing, I think. Last time I was there is was being used as a car dealership.

DJ - 07/03/07 - 08:37

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

[Interesting article from the Charleston Post and Courier](#) on interior versus exterior firefighting, and the city's tradition toward the former. The newspaper's continued coverage of CFD and their tragedy includes [numerous articles and photo galleries](#). Also, the cited *Fire Chief* magazine article by Brian Crawford is available at firechief.com. A cached version can also be found using Google. [Search "duty to die syndrome" as keywords](#) and click the Cached version of the top search results. [More information about cached pages](#).

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'?

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

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.

Dalmatians

07/01/07 50 W - + 11 - 17

Seen at an Evanston bookstore, [The Firefighter's Best Friend: Lives and Legends of Chicago Firehouse Dogs](#). Neat. Haven't researched much about animals around Raleigh engine houses. There was a [monkey at Station 1](#) in the 1910s that made the news. Need to ask around about recent decades and document accordingly.

Not a Raleigh station but for the county, DHFD Station 1 has a Dalmation named Angus.

DHFD4ENG - 07/02/07 - 12:26

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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

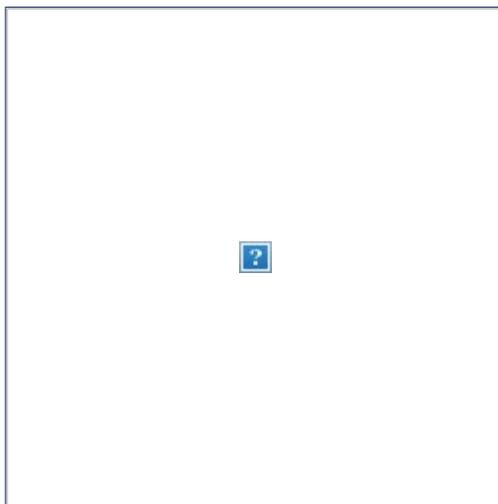
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Yowza

07/02/07 56 W, 1 I - + 10 - 23

[This Daily Mail article](#) about the Glasgow Airport attack shows spectators standing and watching that colliding Jeep burn. Here's a little math to help them out. Vehicle + flames + attempted entry into airport terminal + attempted car bombing one day earlier = travel as fast as possible in opposite direction, lest something ignite or explode that hasn't already.



Or if you're me, extract longest lens and shoot from a distance. See everyone after this evening. Our flight leaves O'Hare this afternoon. Here's hoping for zero excitement.

Legeros - 07/02/07 - 08:15

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](#))

Rescue 19

07/02/07 23 W - + 22 - 15

...was placed in service with their new Pierce around 6 p.m. today. Rescue 14 should be in service with theirs later this week.

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'?

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

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.

Happy Incendiaries and Explosives Day

07/04/07 44 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

Here's hoping for zero injuries and property loss today. Hmmmmm. Maybe fire departments should start handing out [Pepsi and Mentos](#) on the Fourth. That's a considerably safer chemical reaction for everyone to play with. Here's [Mike's wife demonstrating same](#).



Carolin's Fire Page reports that fireworks have started a fire on Sugarloaf Island in Morehead City Harbor. Brush fire so far. Boats from MHFD, ABFD, and USCG on scene. Multiple crews working on the island. Here's a Google Map: <http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&ge..>

Legeros - 07/04/07 - 22:15

No PPE?

DJ - 07/05/07 - 10:26

Here's how I spent my 4th – hosing off my roof and property so that the neighbor's fireworks wouldn't start a fire! Thought the noise was from a nearby park until I saw that my house was being showered with sparks!

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 07/05/07 - 17:38

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'?

Fire Museums

07/04/07 127 W, 1 I - + 21 - 12

Let's tour. Here's the [Minneapolis Fire Museum](#) that Mike visited last week, as well as the new [North Charleston and ALF Fire Museum](#). FireNews Editor Jeff Harkey photographed [Philly's Fireman's Hall](#) recently. Also in Pennsylvania is the [Harrisburg Fire Museum](#), that Mike has visited. And here are older and lamer pics of the [Baltimore Fire Museum](#) as well as some [newer shots from Baltimore](#). Next question, how can we start something like this here? We'd need a building. And stuff to fill the building. And people to staff the building. And money to pay for whatever wasn't donated. And, over it all, some sort of organization. Maybe a buff's club. Maybe a historical society. Maybe a municipal sponsor. Don't know. Need to think on that.



Here's Fayetteville's history room: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set..>

Legeros - 07/04/07 - 14:37

There is also an excellent fire museum at the NY State Firemen's Home, located in Hudson, NY. I have some pictures that I can upload to Mike if interested. There are probably 50 pieces of fire apparatus on display, including the first hand pumper ever used in the US, as well as the 'original' Mattydale engine that had the 'original Mattydale' crosslays.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/05/07 - 10:21

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Photo Permissions

07/05/07 271 W - + 16 - 16

From time to time, we're asked if our photos can be used for this project or that purpose. We almost always agree, as we seek to serve those that we photograph. That's why we're here. Passing around personal copies are fine, as are public-facing projects such as presentations or web pages. Commercial use is a little trickier, but often okay. Below are some guidelines to when we want to be asked, or don't need to be asked for permission to use their photos:

NO NEED TO ASK: Distributing photos to friends, family, or other responders. Distributing photos within your responding agency. Using photos within your responding agency for reports, documentation, or other private-facing purposes.

NO NEED TO ASK, BUT*: Personal use of photos for non-commercial purposes, such as school papers or PowerPoint presentations. Responding agency use of photos for public-facing projects, such as event displays or web pages. *BUT, we like to hear how our photos are used. Let us know how they worked out. Snap a picture, even.

PLEASE ASK: Personal use for commercial purposes, such as articles for trade publications. Commercial use for commercial purposes, such, say, a fire safety insert in a newspaper. Or graphics for a fire-rescue web site.

THE ANSWER IS NO, UNLESS*: Commercial use for generic news reporting, such as local newspapers or television stations. We steer clear of those folks. *UNLESS, the lead agency seeks to release photos to the media and ours are the only images available and everybody down the chain is comfortable. We presume such occasions will be rare, if ever. There are lots of cameras on this planet.

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'?

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

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.

How Popular is Your Site?

07/05/07 54 W - + 23 - 12

Here's a [neat new site](#) that rates the top 500,000 sites in the country. Legeros.com is ranked 245,518. Thewatchdesk.com is ranked 173,622. Firenews.net is ranked 115,978. Raleigh-nc.org is rated 41,842. Wakegov.com is rated 21,697. Firehouse.com is rated 10,992. Wral.com is rated 6,388. Flickr.com is rated 85. Google.com is rated 2.

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'?

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

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.

Who Has the "Best" Radio Traffic?

07/06/07 31 W - + 11 - 19

For your Friday night musing, which area or regional fire departments have the "best" radio traffic?

[Read the rest and respond on the Watch Desk.](#)

Bloody Hot

07/07/07 3 W, 1 I - + 23 - 14

Everywhere.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Random Notes

07/07/07 279 W, 1 I - + 25 - 7

Raleigh's new Rescue 14 was still not in service as of Friday. The new Pierce engine and ladder are due around July 23, give or take a few days. The ladder is going to 16... The city has also received some new admin and support vehicles, including new wheels for Car 2. Old Car 2 (Tahoe) is going to Battalion 4. Old Car 5 (Excursion) went to Battalion 2... Speaking of Assistant Chiefs, the change of command took place this week. Best to each in their new roles... We've noticed Apex sending their ladder truck to Morrisville over the last two weeks. Is the latter's ladder out of service..?

Some details on the Charleston memorial service. The procession featured 252 vehicles. It was 7.5 miles long. CFD members were all off-duty for a number of days. The [South Carolina Firefighter Mobilization](#) group filled the stations with personnel (and equipment?) from around the state... Speaking of mobilization groups, saw something similar in Minneapolis. Four pieces of new-looking apparatus at a deactivated MFD station. [Tractor-drawn rescue](#), medium rescue, pumper, and chief's car. Might have been a ladder there, too. Was told the task force was part of a state-wide system of resources...

The [first annual Fallen Firefighters Foundation Golf Tournament](#) the other week raised approximately \$17,000k. Over 140 players participated in the all-day event. Next year's tourney is scheduled for June 12, 2008... Blog's been quiet, but there's been a bit of recent activity on the Watch Desk, [discussing media coverage](#) in the context of the recent rescues by Halifax County firefighters... Finally, from a reader, the rear of an ALF ladder from Valley Cottage, NY. The gap to the right is the LDH chute. Chevrons.



M'ville's ladder's in the shop, thus Apex, Parkwood, or Durham are responding of late with ladders... Raleigh's newest Pierce pumper's also going to 16, or so we're heard...

Legeros - 07/07/07 - 21:24

Any reason why 2 of Cary ladders that can cover Mo'ville on 2 sides aren't (Ladder 1 on the north side and Ladder 5 on the SW side)? 2 of Cary's 3 ladders can cover parts of Mo'ville better than their 1?

guest - 07/08/07 - 13:00

It is a CAD thing. Cary is not in the Raleigh/Wake CAD system. Same reason Swift Creek and Fairview go to Apex and have to pass a Cary Fire Station to get there. Not the best reason, but it is the truth.

Another Guest - 07/08/07 - 16:16

I don't believe that this is totally correct. We have all kinds of units that are not primarily dispatched by RWECC in running orders – Durham County, Bethesda, Parkwood, Granville County, etc. I believe that the respective chiefs could alter the running order if they wanted to....RWECC just has to call for that particular resource to the other dispatch center.

They may have made the decision that the longer travel distance is better than the delay between the comm centers.

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/10/07 - 13:41

As I understand it, those you list are a department recommendation only, not a unit/unit type recommendation. We have the issue at Swift Creek, we can have Cary FD on the run card, but we have no way to specify a unit/unit type (rescue, ladder, truck, etc). Say we wanted Cary Ladder 3 to respond automatically to a certain structure, all we could request for CAD to do is recommend CFD and CAD can not request a unit or unit type. What if CFD L-3 was on a call, then would it send L-1 from across town instead of maybe Garner since we specified CFD and not a county ladder?

Since RWECC can not monitor the unit status of those other units, it does not know if they are in service and available, so CAD is looking for the next quickest Ladder and it only knows about the ones it keeps up with the status of so it skips Cary FD.

That is how I understand it and I have been wrong before, so if someone knows different, please speak up and let me know.

The CAD can for confusing and complicated if we let it. For the most part it does just what we have asked it to do. Dealing with units not on the system (Cary and out of county) add a level of complexity for sure.

Also, I think, unit capabilities and run cards effect dispatches more than anything, but that is another topic. What make an Engine different from a Pumper-Tanker from an Engine-specialty? I know why those units attributes are being used, but there is not a standard for each unit from department to department.

Griggs - 07/10/07 - 15:49

One of the differences is that a pumper tanker has the ability to and has a rear dump where a straight up engine doesn't. If you look at the county engs a lot of them have that rear jet dump, then if you look at Lee's pictures, you will see that Garner's new engines are exactly that engines, they don't have the rear jet dump.

Mike - 07/10/07 - 20:36

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'?

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

Blazin' Wheels Ride, Fayetteville, July 21

07/08/07 56 W - + 14 - 18

The annual fund-raising event for the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation takes place in Fayetteville on July 21. The parade route starts at the Cumberland County Emergency Services Memorial at Fayetteville Technical Community College. The event is being hosted by Cape Fear Harley Davidson. See <http://www.blazinwheelsride.com/> for more information.

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'?

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

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.

Worcester and Memphis

07/08/07 36 W, 1 I - + 19 - 13

Today's *Charleston Post and Courier* has [articles on Worcester and Memphis](#), and how those cities dealt with, and are still dealing with fatal fires from 1999 and 2003. Sidebars include department profiles and lessons learned.



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'?

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

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.

Rescue 14

07/09/07 90 W - + 17 - 14

...was placed in service this afternoon with their new truck. If counting correctly, that's the thirtieth Pierce for Raleigh. The first was delivered in 1988, the Arrow platform. The city has operated 12 rescues since 1953, including the two Pierces but not counting USAR equipment. There have also been five service ladder trucks since 1922, including one rebuild; 16 pieces of aerial apparatus since 1916, including two replacement cabs (1939 and 1979); and 74 engines since 1913, including two chemical and hose cars (1913), one used pumper (1942), and a pair of rebuilds with changed chassis's (1990 and 1992). Source: [RFD apparatus registry](#).

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'?

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

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-Rise Training

07/12/07 50 W, 1 I - + 12 - 21

That's high-rise training you're hearing on the BATT channel, starting today. Five engines, two ladders, and one rescue, plus chiefs, at the Tri-Towers at NCSU. Bowen, Metcalf, and Carroll. They're drilling over the next couple weeks on new high-rise procedures. Pics forthcoming.



Could anyone give insight into the new procedures? Are they moving to the Rapid Ascent Team concept implemented by the Chicago FD?

Flip - 07/13/07 - 05:29

What are they using the trash cans for in the pictures, is it a method to help in hauling gear up to the fire floors??

Curious - 07/14/07 - 23:24

The trash cans were just there already, so yes, the FF's used one to help haul the many air bottles to the scene. As for the new procedures, its classified top secret.

lee - 07/15/07 - 01:03

Here is some additional information, from a prior blog posting: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we...> For a reported fire in any building over a certain height, the dispatch assignments will be greater. Two more engines, and a second ladder. Plus additional resources. In-station training was conducted to learn the facts of the new procedures, and these drills are being conducted to test and practice the execution of the new procedures.

Legeros - 07/15/07 - 05:57

Here are some random, non-Raleigh links on high-rise firefighting:

Educational slide show on fighting high-rise fires:

<http://www.lohud.com/assets/swf/BH456411..>

Fighting high-rise and extreme high-rise fires:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/Columnists/La..>

News article on training, with this great quote:

'If you have a fire in a 40-story tower, the people on the other 39 floors are probably not even aware something went on' [...] "It's not like 'The Towering Inferno' or anything like you see in the movies."

<http://www.ocregister.com/ocregister/new..>

FDNY high rise units:

http://nyfd.com/calderoneA/new_rigs/high..

High Rise Emergency Handbook, City of Seattle (PDF):

<http://www.seattle.gov/fire/pubEd/highri..>

There are tons more. Search "hi rise fire", "high-rise firefighting," "skyscraper fires", etc.

Legeros - 07/15/07 - 06:46

Lee is making a joke, by the way. We're happy to share what we know.

Legeros - 07/15/07 - 17:18

For those interested, they are now training on West Campus in Sullivan Hall. It's still a high rise though.

CFP743 - 07/17/07 - 15:33

Sullivan is a lot nicer, more space, those tri-towers were so cramp once you put two kids with all there stuff in there you could hardly move, and when I first got to NCSU, there were only a handful of dorms with AC. At least at Sullivan you had the front area of the each floor kind of like a porch, the tri-towers you just had the bricks... Ahh fun times. Speaking of hi-rise I was there when a girl hung her marching band uniform on the newly installed sprinkler head and flooded two floors below her. As far as tactics, I can tell you from experience one of the biggest issues for NCSU and any dorm situation is going to be getting everyone out... We had 5 alarms in one night (3 hour period) at Lee Hall (Sullivan's twin) after the third time you could tell not too many people were taking it seriously and were not evacuating and despite the fire inspections that occurred you still got really creative when it came to finding and making enough electrical connections.

Duke - 07/17/07 - 17:55

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'?

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

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.

Winston-Salem's First Black Firefighters

07/14/07 91 W, 1 I - + 18 - 22

From a preview photo found on [FireNews](#), here's a [Winston-Salem Journal article](#) about a documentary about Station 4, which was the first fire station in the state to integrate during the Jim Crow era. It housed the city's first fully-paid black firefighters. The documentary airs there in August, and is also available on DVD. There's also a [photo gallery](#). For a statewide perspective on earlier-era black firefighters, [Chuck Milligan's site](#) is a great resource. Also, Station 4 on North Dunleith Avenue is [still standing and is presently a church](#).



It's worth noting that the city of Winston had black volunteer firefighters (and one or more separate fire companies) by 1896 and until at least 1907. My records, exclusively newspaper articles at this time, are sketchy past that point. Winston merged with Salem in 1913. The city was fully-paid within ten years.

Legeros - 07/14/07 - 07:04

Just a note There is talk of the city buying back old number 4 station and possibly a museum ????. Just heard thru some guys at the WSFD.

CFP564 - 07/14/07 - 13:45

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.

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.

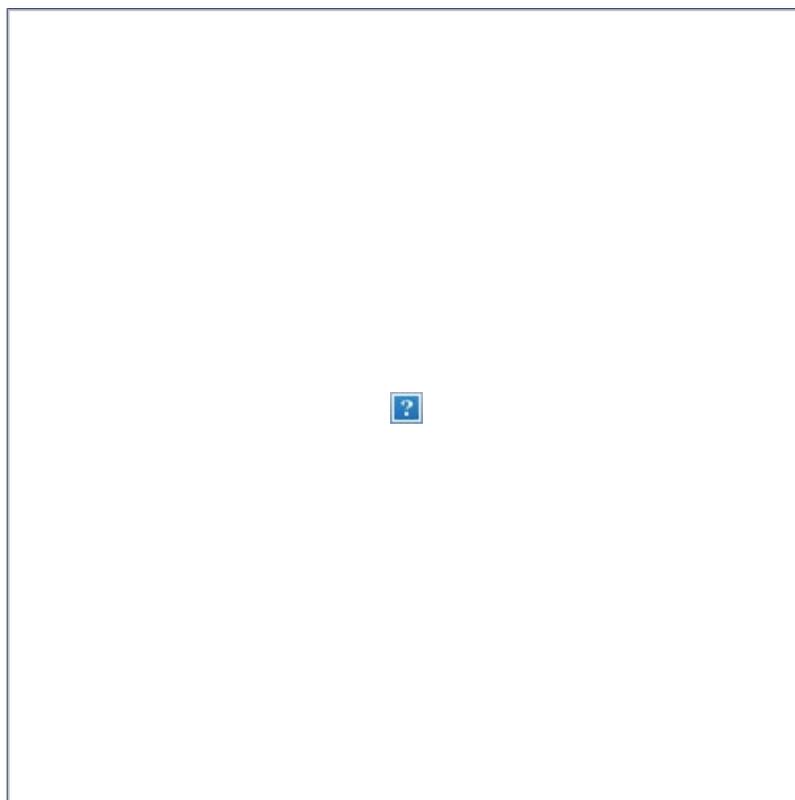
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Small Plane Crashes / Interesting Statistic

07/14/07 81 W, 1 I - + 19 - 11

In the context of this week's [fatal Florida accident](#), how often are people on the ground killed in small-plane crashes? Very rarely, it seems. [This USA Today article](#) cites a review of NTSB records that put the percentage at fewer than half of 1% of the nearly 11,800 people killed in small-plane accidents in the county since 1987. By way of comparison, about 13% of the people who die each year in automobile accidents are not passengers in the vehicles.



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

Baltimore & Beethoven

07/14/07 87 W - + 20 - 13

Fire Expo attendees favoring a musical diversion can hear [Beethoven's Ninth Symphony performed on Friday, July 27](#). Tickets are a reasonable \$35, including service charge and parking permit. The symphony hall is less than a mile from the Convention Center. Plenty of seats are available, including Grand Tier Center, where at least one concert goer will be wearing a tropical shirt. For those new to the Ninth, it's about a 75-minute piece, with vocal and choral accompaniment in the famous fourth movement. They sing in German. Freude!

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'?

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

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.

IAFF EMS Conference Coverage

07/14/07 88 W - + 18 - 12

There are some [interesting speaker/session summaries](#) on the IAFF site, from coverage of the 9th Biennial Dominick F. Barbera EMS Conference in June. The conference explored all aspects of fire-based EMS services. The summaries are pretty short, alas. Mass casualty disaster expert Colonel David Barillo's cites some scary stats on major burn disasters. Most produce 25-50 patients, with fatalities occurring on scene within 12-24 hours. He's identified 73 such disasters in the past, in the US. That would be an interesting list to review.

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'?

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

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.

Redwood's Fire

07/15/07 82 W, 1 I - + 19 - 12

Third time's the charm-- or is it the fourth time?-- for the old motel on Redwood Road at I-85. Twin tanker shuttles supplied a pair of aerial streams. Surround, drown, and staying safe. Durham, Orange, Wake, and Person county fire departments included Redwood, Bethesda, Durham, Lebanon, Bahama, Parkwood, Creedmoor, Ceffo, Hillsborough, Moriah, and Durham Highway. Three lenses used for wide, close, and closer. The last set of shots use a 70-200mm Tamron.



I talked to a guy from Person Co at a fire school a few months back about this place. He couldn't figure out why the second time out there they didn't just let it burn to the ground. It was ruined after the first fire. As he said "we'll just go back a few more times to prove we can put it out..." Guess he was right.

Olson - 07/15/07 - 20:40

Well it did provide for some good USAR training a few months back. If there was something good that had to come of it not going to the ground

CFP 7021 - 07/16/07 - 07:58

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

Sock Puppets

07/16/07 54 W - + 19 - 12

On the subject of blogging and online discourse, this morning's [New York Times article](#) describes the consequences of something called "sock-puppeting." Or, as precisely defined in the article, "the act of creating a fake online identity to praise, defend or create the illusion of support for one's self, allies or company."

You don't really think that people really do that online, do you? I thought everyone was just a 'guest'.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/16/07 - 08:58

There is no illusion. The white helmet that signs my check would cut it in someone's else's name if it were not for something called sock-puppeting. While I let the critical sword swing both ways from time to time, I can't say that my opinions are those of everyone so I'll stay a Guest as long as you let me.

Guest - 07/16/07 - 16:23

Your opinions are just that... opinions. Everyone is entitled to their own and everyone has them. As long as they don't affect your job performance or go against given orders, who can fault you? I truly feel sorry for anyone who works for a boss who rules with the "iron fist" and does not allow their employees to voice their own thoughts/opinions... you never know, that person's opinion might actually be a good idea or valid concern. I will always stand behind my comments and opinions, with my name.

Luke - 07/16/07 - 21:48

As long as supervisors have a take on how much money you receive come eval. time, your opinion(s) can eventually end up "hurting" you, atleast around this area. Take it from someone who knows, I think it's complete B.S., but that's the way it is in these here parts.

I can't count how many times I've heard or heard others have said to them; "Cuz I do your evaluation", by a supervisor who didn't get their way. This is where collective bargaining would be a great thing. What a way to show your power, by threatening someone by taking money out of their pocket, rather cowardly don't you think?

Guest? - 07/17/07 - 21:43

Guest-

Funny you bring up collective bargaining, there is currently a FEDERAL bill going through the process that will bring collective bargaining to all 50 states. Boy, we can only hope that it passes, so then some of the crap that happens in this area and state will stop. Then everyone will be able to share their thoughts/opinions on things without fear of "hurting" themselves. CFP 7021 may be able to weigh in on it, I think he may have more info on the bill I am talking about.

Wayne - 07/18/07 - 10:25

House Bill 980 passed in the house today by an overwhelming 314-97 vote. This is the collective bargaining bill that would really help us out. We can only hope that it does this well in the Senate, then on to the President for approval.

Silver - 07/18/07 - 20:31

I think the bill should be able to pass through the senate with little if any problems, seeing as it is democratic controlled. Just note that the bill is only for public safety workers. It is impressive that the bill in the house was co-sponsored by 280 representatives, very impressive. If you want to show your support I recommend that you contact your senator and voice your support for the bill. for more you can check out <http://www.iaff.org/07News/071707CB.htm>

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/18/07 - 20:47

So, what happens the day after that bill passes, presuming it passes? How does collectively bargaining "take effect?" Presumably it requires a collective, but is that just any old group of folks? Do they have to be members of a named organization of some type? Etcetera. Forgive the ignorance, just curious...

Legeros - 07/18/07 - 21:30

Collective bargaining, while it won't take effect the "next day", will start allowing the IAFF locals and other associations/"unions" FOR PUBLIC SAFETY WORKERS to negotiate contracts with local and state gov'ts. Things like min. staffing, pay, raises, hiring/firing practices, overtime, and other things along those lines. The passing of this bill today is a major step in helping us with the many battles that fire depts an firefighters around here are waging against town/cities/counties.

Wayne - 07/18/07 - 21:40

Just remember what collective bargaining is all about. It is give and take. If we, the fire departments, don't hold up to our end of the bargain, the city will come down hard, i.e. station/company closures, reduction in other benefits, etc. Take for example the FDNY a few years back. Their contract said if sick leave went above a certain percentage, the city can close companies, and they did. Then they "cried" to the public that the city is cutting back on service. They were the ones who didn't uphold their end. Also, name a metro sized city that laid off firefighters that didn't have Collective Bargaining. I personally have mixed emotions about Collective Bargaining. I can see the benefits of it, but there are also major negatives about. And one last thing, if any firefighter or group of firefighters strike, they should never be able to hold the title of firefighter again, they just let the citizens down, and there is no excuse for that.

Guest - 07/18/07 - 21:56

I have to weigh in on the mixed feelings, but overall I support the concept. I have numerous friends in other states who work as paramedics or firefighter/paramedics. Without exception they are better off than we are around here from where I sit. They, like paramedics and firefighter/paramedics everywhere know that there situation can be better.

Will it help us here? I think so, but not right away. But I think it will take one local, somewhere here in the state, to push for it locally, if it becomes law. I don't think the local governments are going to rush out and give a contract to us right away. There will be some 'testing of the waters' on both sides. And it will take some getting used to on both sides as well. From the government side to 'have to' recognize a local, and the locals not trying to 'push the envelope' too soon.

It should be interesting to watch.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/18/07 - 22:14

When it comes to striking, that should still remain against the law. First and foremost, we are here for the citizens. And, I don't think you see many dept's these days go on strike, they simply work while in arbitration.

It would definitely be in our favor though in the long run. To me, the locals might want to take a trip to a dept that has bargaining, sit down and discuss the process with dept's that could provide some insight into the process.

Silver - 07/18/07 - 22:32

Sitting down with other departments that have been engaged in the process for a while would be a good idea. It would be a totally new concept for NC and VA personnel.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/19/07 - 08:55

Sounds like a road trip to Philly!!! In all seriousness, having the "locals" take road trips to different places like Philly, Chicago or Miami (etc.) would be beneficial.

Maybe have each local in this area take a trip somewhere, then come back and have a meeting to discuss their findings? We shall see....

Silver - 07/19/07 - 12:24

I am in favor of it, especially the min staffing. The way it works in most departments is that you don't have to join the local, but when you get hired you do have to sign a piece of paper saying that you will allow the union to represent you in contract negotiations. This would also work for all the other depts in the county besides Raleigh, and Cary because now you just have to be a full time career FF to be in the local, you no longer have to be working for a municipality.

As it stands now, and I know it won't happen, but the city councils could sign a contract with the FF's in NC. Delaware is a right to work state, but Wilmington DL recognizes the union and has a contract with the city's FF's.

On a side note either FDR or Teddy signed into law years and years ago that it is illegal for public safety officers (police and fire) to strike. That is why you hear about the blue flu sometimes.

Mike - 07/19/07 - 13:07

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'?

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

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.

Charleston and Booster Lines

07/16/07 45 W - + 17 - 12

Sunday's *Post and Courier* featured an [interesting article on booster lines and interior attacks](#). Seems fair-minded. The reader comments are also interesting, though heated in spots. Hope they're doing as well as possible down there, with such scrutiny from all sides.

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'?

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

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.

Big Tankers

07/16/07 104 W, 1 I - + 26 - 13

Some big tankers were seen at [yesterday's fire in Durham County](#). Ceffo, Moriah, and Parkwood were rolling rigs that looked like the 3,000 gallon variety. What are or were the largest tankers in Wake County? Cary took the cake in 1954 with a tractor-drawn tanker that hauled 4,500 gallons. Stony Hill started with a 1950 Autocar ex-military fuel tanker that carried 3,000 gallons. Fairgrounds had a 1959 International Harvester that toted 2,700 gallons. And three 2,500 gallon tankers were operated by Cary (1956 ex-military), Fairgrounds/Western Wake (1985 Kenworth/Grumman), and Swift Creek (1980s? Chevy). What others are or were heavy haulers, e.g. over 2,000 gallons?



Not really a tanker, but the airport's largest crash truck carries 3,000 gallons of water. CFR 4 is a 2000 Oshkosh T-3000. Old CT-4 also carried 3,000 gallons of water. That was a 1973 Walter CB-3000, and which was rebuilt in 1990 by CRES.

Legeros - 07/16/07 - 21:47

durham highway tanker 8 (mack) was somewhere in the 2K + range...

i think most tankers in wake county now are of the 2K and below variety

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/17/07 - 09:30

Back when 'quick dump' was the new thing, a lot of departments were experimenting with different sized tankers. I remember also that Wayne County, at one time, loosely adopted a 1200-1500 gallon standard. That may have changed in the insuing years.

I remember the SHFD Autocar (it sure was slow) and the Fairgrounds IHC. I think Wendell had a big one on a 5 ton military chassis. DHFD got the big Mack right after I went to Yrac. But most everyone else maintained 1200 to 1500 gallon units for a long time.

DJ - 07/17/07 - 10:13

I come from southern New Jersey, and although not many departments in my old county use tankers due to most areas having hydrants, the ones that do...

Centerton Fire Company, Salem County, NJ – Tanker 23-5

1995 Mack tractor

2005 Precision trailer

Split load tank, 5700 gallons reponding and 8000 gallons nurse

1500 GPM pump

That's only one, and there are FOUR other departments in the same county (out of 19 total running 22 stations) that use tractor-drawn tankers. 2 other departments have 3,000-plus tankers (one is on a custom cab)... even though their entire areas are hydrant-supplied...

Guest3222 - 07/17/07 - 12:14

I have never seen that many tractor-trailer type tankers around NC. Cary had one way back that was involved in a fatal MVC (CFD firefighter died). I've seen a couple down around the coast. I am sure there are a few around, however. I have seen a lot of the 2,000-3,000 gallon tankers over the years. I remember one, somewhere down around the coast, on a Ford C-8000. You had a lot of water when it got there, you just had to wait a while for it.

DJ - 07/17/07 - 14:06

Durham Highway's Tanker 8, a 1981 Mack/Darley, carried 1,800 gallons, or so says their web site, <http://www.dhfd.org/curapp.htm>. Did it also have a large foam tank, too?

Wake County's latest round of new tankers carry either 1,800 or 2,000 gallons, depending upon extended or regular cab.

Legeros - 07/17/07 - 18:16

Hargett's Crossroads in Jones County has a 8,000 Gallon Tractor Trailer Tanker on an older International. Its n

car3550 - 07/17/07 - 20:29

Rolesville has one, 2800 gal... Tanker 158

kprice104 - 07/18/07 - 17:25

I think Bear Pond in Vance county has a Tractor-drawn tanker; or used to. I remember seeing one at a large church fire north of Wake forest on US1 a number of years ago, attempting to supply Zebulon's Aerial. I think they discontinued using the aerial at that fire due to lack of water supply; citing the massive tanker took too lonbg to fill and return. Any body verify or confirm?

I know any tanker over 3,000 gal. really slows down a tanker shuttle involving tankers of less capacity. We ran into this when I worked in Fuquay, at the Haymasters Barn fire. We Kept a large tanker from Parkwood with a drop tank that an engine was drafting from on one side of the incident; and additional "super tankers" on site to provide a back-up water supply to the other drop tanks incase we ran out, or the fire flared up and required an increased flow.

JASON BOGGS ([Email](#)) - 07/21/07 - 17:14

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'?

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

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

Charleston and Other Blogs

07/18/07 74 W - + 21 - 13

Here are some interesting firefighting blogs, found among coverage of the Charleston tragedy: [Firegeezer](#), billed as the "hottest fire blog on the web." [Firefighter Hourly](#), authored by Jay Lowry. [STATter911](#), covering news about the fire service. [Friction Loss on Charleston](#), a new blog and the least politically correct of the lot. Or downright ugly, it could be argued. What other regional or national blogs have caught readers attention of late?

For those who have been reading them, Firefighter Hourly and STATter911 have remained compelling reading. Both are excellent blogs, and with daily content changes. The former also continues to crusade for discovery and learning from the Charleston tragedy.

I'll add links to both, and some others, to the main page of this blog this weekend.

Legeros - 08/03/07 - 07:46

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'?

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

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.

Today's Action Photo

07/18/07 32 W, 1 I - + 20 - 12

Steam geyser in New York City. One dead, [here's the story](#). Yesterday's action photo was [the plane crash in San Paulo, Brazil](#) or [the train wreck near Lviv, Ukraine](#).



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'?

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

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.

This Month's Firehouse Magazine

07/19/07 83 W, 1 I - + 13 - 18

The July issue of *Firehouse* features an article titled **Carolina Burning** by our ECC Director Barry Furey and featuring photos by Lee Wilson. The article, subtitled **Tar Heel Firefighters Face a Busy 24 Hours**, recounts the events of February 22, notably the Big Fire on Oneonta Avenue. Good work, by both. The four pics from Lee are shown below. They and other photos from that day are archived at the [bottom of the photo site](#).



Congratulations to Lee. Nice photos.

[**Todd D**] ([Web Site](#)) - 07/19/07 - 20:11

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](#))

Blog Sticker

07/19/07 21 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

Humor. If we made stickers for blog users, what would they look like? How about...



I Agree

Guest - 07/19/07 - 23:03

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Fire Commission Meeting

07/19/07 351 W - + 21 - 15

The following issues were covered in the first two-and-a-quarter hours of tonight's Wake County Fire Commission meeting:

Regarding Wake Forest's request for a fully county-funded, rural area-serving, 3,000 gallon pumper-tanker, the WCFC voted to (a.) deny the request, (b.) to rescind a prior offer of replacing an older WFFD pumper-tanker with a 2,000 gallon tanker, and (c.) that this matter not be bought before the Board again until next year.

Regarding closing Western Wake Station #2, now planned for July 1 of next year instead of this year, the WCFC unanimously voted yes. Cary will be contracted for coverage, and a new Cary Suburban Fire District will be created from some (but not all) of Station #2's territory.

Regarding a new fire station on the east side of the county, the commission voted to proceed with planning for a fire station in the Raynor Road-Highway 70 area. The station would be operated by the Garner Fire Department.

Regarding CIP funding for both Bay Leaf Station #1 reconstruction and the aforementioned east-of-Garner fire station, the commission addressed questions from the Board of Commissioners. Though funding was approved at the last WCFC meeting, the BOC expressed concerns along the lines of (a.) have all options for Bay Leaf #1 been exhausted, (b.) are there ways to reduce the cost of Bay Leaf #1, (c.) should Bay Leaf #1 be funded before the east-of-Garner station, which would serve a presently unprotected area, and (d.) what is the Fire Commission's priorities for tax dollars in general? Stations? Staffing? Etc.?

This issue was seemingly nearing resolution when Mike had to leave, with momentum building toward the need for "the big picture" to be painted, and perhaps before CIP funding approval would proceed. We'll update with the outcome as it is learned.

Disclaimer: The above are very general accounts, and do not reflect the totality of discussions, debates, and decision-making. Nor do they note the various subcommittees that worked on the above issues, and presented them this evening. This is just a quick recap. Corrections and clarifications are welcome. For the clearest picture of what's happening, however, in-person attendance is the best-est.

How many "shut it down" station closures have happened prior to this time, e.g. not counting station relocations? Western Boulevard Fire Department, which operated from the corner of Western and Powell, disbanded in 1960. They were annexed, and their members soon formed Fairground Fire Department. Cary Station #2 on Cedar Street closed in the 1960s. The building was right around the corner from Station #1, and the additional apparatus space was presumably no longer needed. Wake Forest Fire Department #2 closed its Taylor Street station by 1983, and its members were invited to join the municipal WFFD.

For station closures including relocations, see <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

Legeros - 07/19/07 - 22:49

The remainder of the meeting, I'm told, included continued discussion of the "big picture," though with no action overturning or changing the CIP funding for Bay Leaf #1 and the east-of-Garner station. The issue to proceed with the CIP funding for these projects, as approved by the Fire Commission in the last meeting, presumably continues to rest in the hands of the Board of Commissioners.

Legeros - 07/25/07 - 20:09

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

Remember personal info?

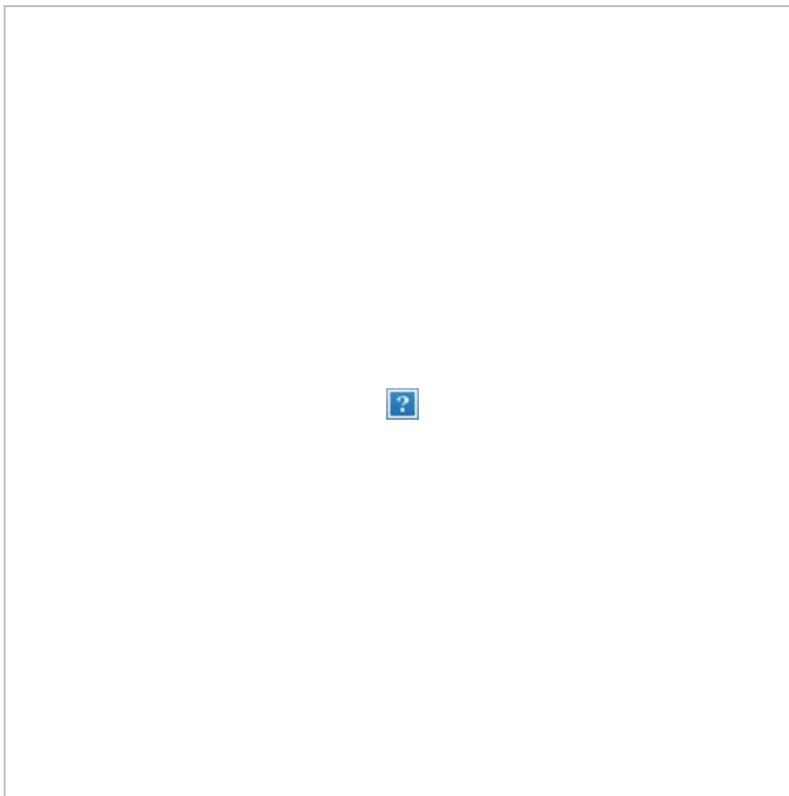
Yes

No

Write Articles, Not Blog Postings

07/21/07 81 W, 1 I - + 22 - 9

Here's an [intriguing article from usability expert Jakob Nielsen on the subject of blog postings](#). It's not light reading, and is probably apples to oranges when applied here. His audience is business people, and those earning income from web sites or web services. Nor is this blog author the #1 expert among 1,000 other people. Ha ha. Still soaking it in, but it does provide a good contextual comparison of blog postings versus other regularly published web content.



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.

New Look

07/21/07 39 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

Not really, it's just been five or six years since the last shearing. Wife is horrified. Will work for ball caps. Coif to return at average rate of 0.5 inches per month.



I remember getting a haircut like that...Fort Jackson. Cost me \$2.00. Took 13 seconds. Had to pay \$4.00 every seven days to 'maintain my military appearance'.

Never again. It has not gotten hot enough.

DJ - 07/21/07 - 09:47

Hooah, relaxin Jackson. I prefer the high and tight myself.

Flip ([Email](#)) - 07/21/07 - 14:28

It would not have so bad, except I had to pay for it. Any way, call me a product of the 60s and 70s, but never again.

A lot of things changed from the day that "Happiness was Fort Hood in my rear view mirror". To this day I hate hats. I hate spam.

But then, some things never change. I still carry stuff in my left hand (so I could salute with my right). I still make up a bed with mathematical precision.

Those were the days.

DJ - 07/21/07 - 15:10

Who pays?? Been using a Panasonic men's beard trimmer over the sink for over 20 years! First time, used it the wrong way and before I knew it, back of my head looked like Mike's. Had to do the rest to match. Not a good look for a female though. Wore caps for a month. Grew back in great condition though.

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 07/21/07 - 15:25

Thank you for your service DJ.

flip ([Email](#)) - 07/21/07 - 16:38

When you are a guest of Uncle Sam at an esteemed location such as Ft Jackson, you have to pay for them, whether you need them or not. We had one guy show up at basic training who had shaved his head. He still had to go to the barber with us, sit in the chair, and pay them. The first four times they did not even break out the clippers.

DJ - 07/22/07 - 00:37

My favorite was the guy in garrison who thought he knew how to give a high and tight and totally messed up everyone's head. Needless to say the DS didn't find it as amusing.

Flip ([Email](#)) - 07/22/07 - 04:14

Our platoon DS' tried to get our platoon the 'H&T', but our company CO didn't go for it, nor did the 1SG.

Oh, the days at Jackson. There are places that I pushed the ground at least a foot deeper. Oh how I longed for the day that I could yell in a crowded dining hall, "HEY! HEY YOU" YEAH, YOU! YOU IN THE GREEN! GET DOWN! BEAT YOUR FACE!" Got my chance at Ft Sam and Ft Meade. Oh the memories.

DJ - 07/22/07 - 09:51

We only "earned" our high and tights on graduation day at Benning. And I was at Ft. Sam too. Its a small Army. Wre you a medic?

Flip ([Email](#)) - 07/22/07 - 13:16

Started as 91A, then later 91B.

DJ - 07/22/07 - 15:52

Hooah...91W here.

Flip ([Email](#)) - 07/22/07 - 18:33

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'?

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

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.

Unusual Dispatch

07/21/07 44 W - + 20 - 20

Heard on scanner just now for a fire, nature unknown, on Ebenezer Church Road at Richland Drive: Western Wake Engine 191, Engine 196, Tanker 198, Tanker 295, Bay Leaf Engine 122, and Raleigh Engine 14. That's a combination that you don't hear every day. Bonfire, it turned out.

Driving distances, you ask? About 1.80 miles from Raleigh Station 14. About 2.50 miles from Western Wake Station 1. About 6.40 miles from Western Wake Station 2. About 11.10 miles from Bay Leaf Station 1. Distances computing using Microsoft Streets & Trips.

Legeros - 07/21/07 - 22:20

Mike 122 is at BL #3, which google earth has being 6.0 miles. WW#2 being 7.2 according to the same program. Which would be why it called for only the truck company from WW#2, and got the 3rd pumper/tanker from Bay Leaf!

But, as we've talked about before with "closest unit" RFD#16 is 4.5 miles away, and houses a ladder/truck company, so we see that indeed the "CAD" doesn't go deeper down the run card, just stopping with engine companies. Oh yeah, RFD #17, 3.1 miles.

interesting to look at all of these recent calls and analyze the whole "closest unit" concept. I have all the fire/ems stations mapped in google earth, and then can pinpoint the location of the call and do "directions to here" and "from here", it really puts things into perspective!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/22/07 - 11:17

Another thing to possibly consider is that CAD might be picking the "closest unit" based on its calculations. If it is anything like the CAD here in Charlotte, [b]most[/b] of the streets have the same speed limits (not taking into account for neighborhoods, speed bumps, curves, etc.) and the routing for units often seems screwed up. Say you have a call between two stations. Station A has a fairly direct route to the call via a 45mph road. Station B has a somewhat more complicated route through some narrow winding roads with a few speed bumps and stop signs. Since the speed limit in CAD is set to the same speed, it picks Station B because according to CAD they are "closer" based on seconds. That is where the dispatchers knowing the area really comes into play. It is up to the person dispatching the call to recognize that in real life Station A will be able to make it on scene quicker than B.

So yes, we do have cases when one station will 'appear' to be 1+ miles further away from a call than another station and it won't get picked for a call; however, we all know that it can make up that distance in time, because of the [actual] roads traveled to get to the call, not the route CAD thinks they'll take!

At least that's what I understand about our Computer AIDED Dispatch and its (sometimes) perplexing routing.

Luke - 07/22/07 - 14:58

edit... that should be **most** sorry, I used the wrong format.

Luke - 07/22/07 - 14:59

Something else to consider is that CAD doesn't look at Bay Leaf Eng 122 the same as Eng 17 or Eng 16. If I were to venture a guess that even though it isn't dispatched as a pumper tanker, I bet that it was entered into CAD as one. Therefore if WWFD said we want 1 eng and 2 pumper tankers or tankers dispatched that CAD would skip the Ral engines. And obviously again it doesn't go any deeper than the 1st level.

What would it take for Chris Perry to change CAD for the entire city and county to go deeper than 1 level?

Mike - 07/22/07 - 16:02

I do not believe there is one person responsible for typing resources county wide or across "jurisdictional" boundaries (if incorrect, please advise). The resource typing is departmental specific as are the run cards for # and types of resources for a particular incident. While the current system is not perfect and will continue to improve, we are strides ahead of where we were in the past. As for CAD, those entering the data and requests do so in accordance with the direction given by those departments.

Resolution of many of the issues brought forth in the discussions regarding closest unit response must begin at the departmental level. Get with your Chief Officers, Company Officer, or whoever is handling resource typing/resource requests for incidents and ask questions about specific incidents in your response area. You may learn a lot. There are reasons some departments need certain # of tankers, engines, pumper tankers, ladders, special service, or etc for a specific location or incident. Just like RFD is looking toward a "high rise alarm" concept (sorry if I got the term wrong), other departments have to look to request the appropriate resources to meet the demands of the district they cover.

I hope we never reach a day when we say "We're done, we can improve no more". That is the day to do something else, because we can always improve what we do.

McGraw ([Email](#)) - 07/22/07 - 21:42

Chirs is not the one that needs to decide, sure he would be involved if the change is going to happen, but the Departments (Cary, Raleigh and County FDs) have to agree on the concept. I think it is simple in concept, but there are a lot of details on the practical side of things.

I think the CAD we have today is not that bad. You have to understand how it works and some things seem wrong or weird on the surface, but once you look into it you can understand why something happened, most of the time. I am not saying CAD is perfect, or even close, but it could be and has been worse. It is going to take time and effort if it is going to change. Talk to your department's administration and get buy in there and have your Chief be an advocate for change.

Change happens slow, like it or not, but slow is the trend.

Griggs - 07/22/07 - 21:51

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'?

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

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.

Friday Morning's Fire

07/22/07 66 W, 1 I - + 22 - 11

Abandoned house in the 5100 block of Faison Ridge Lane. Eastern Wake, New Hope, and Wendell. Lee posted pics this morning. [Wake County real estate records](#) tell some more of the story. Addressed 5120 Old Faison Road. Built 1917. Single-story with 3,114 square-feet. Probably occupied until the bypass was built. Here's a [picture of the building](#). Here's a [Google aerial photo](#).



What was they list of units on scene. Also did they ise tanker shuttle or was there a hydryant

4447 - 07/31/07 - 17:33

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'?

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

Talking About Talking

07/22/07 70 W - + 28 - 8

[Playing in a bigger pond, and asking questions about the Firehouse forums](#) and why so few are discussing the [Charleston Post & Courier coverage](#). Talking about talking. Possible outcomes include (a.) posits are confirmed, (b.) posits are rebuked, (c.) rationale discourse happens, (d.) heated discussion happens, (e.) posting person is discussed, (f.) something else is discussed, (g.) thread is ignored, (h.) thread is removed. Let's see what happens.

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'?

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

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.

Obey Orders

07/22/07 99 W - + 16 - 17

In the years after the Civil War, when the city's firefighters were volunteers and its citizens were often compelled or called to assist at fires, the *Daily Standard* offered this suggestion in the context of a Christmas morning fire in 1868: "All persons not members of the Fire Department [...] should refrain from giving orders while a fire is raging, and obey orders given by men who have been selected for that purpose. By recognizing the officers of the fire companies, and by concert of action, much valuable property might be saved which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed."

Seems that fire buffs of yesteryear may have been a bit more vociferous than today. Can you imagine how that would go over these days?

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 07/25/07 - 00:25

Forget helping out...fire buffs are scolded for even showing up to watch.

CFP743 - 07/25/07 - 09:46

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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

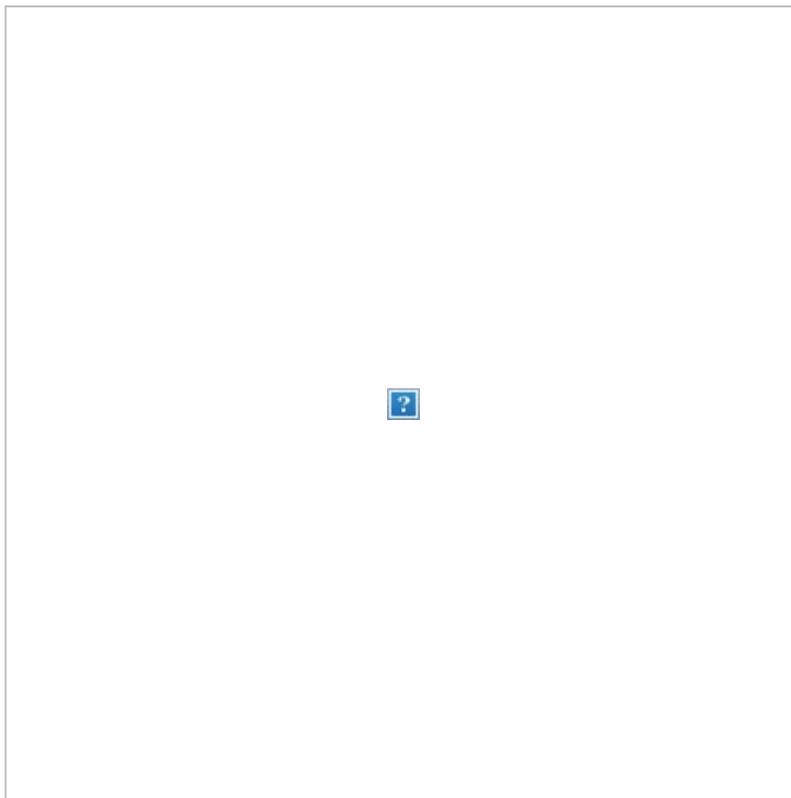
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Chatham County Covert Military Site

07/23/07 62 W, 1 I - + 19 - 20

Found while browsing [cold war infrastructure](#) ahead of this week's road trip, one of [five nuclear-hardened secure communication stations](#) built in the mid-1960s in the mid-Atlantic region. Called Big Hole, and [covered by the Independent in 2000](#). Wonder what the fire and EMS response protocol is into *that* facility? Here's a [Google aerial photo of the place](#).



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.

Raleigh's New Engine and Ladder

07/23/07 30 W, 1 I - + 24 - 10

...were delivered today. Pierce Arrow XT aerial ladder (105') and Pierce Enforcer pumper, going to Ladder 16 and probably Engine 16.



Not trying to stir the pot but I notice that the new engine is in the same letter scheme as the ladder. also the rescues are the same way. is this the scheme raleigh is going to be going with from now on?

Adam Brown - 07/25/07 - 18:37

When will the trucks go into service or have they already

4447 - 07/31/07 - 17:31

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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Weight and Spreading Weight

07/26/07 111 W - + 14 - 19

Many moons ago, an old girlfriend observed of the firefighters attending the Baltimore Expo "they're all fat!" No, not really. Not all of them. But, there certainly were (and typically are) a considerable number of considerably sized individuals at the event. Just as fat boy with the shaved head will be departing for there this morning. (Look for the guy in the XL tropical shirt on the exhibit floor.) Why do firefighters get "big?" That's it's own topic for weighty discussion. But what about "social factors?" This morning's *New York Times* article cites an [interesting study on that subject](#). The Big O as socially contagious. Seems plausible.

Yes, and strange that "Among friends of the same sex, a man had a 100% (95% CI, 26 to 197) increase in the chance of becoming obese if his male friend became obese, whereas the female-to-female spread of obesity was not significant (38% increased chance; 95% CI, -39 to 161)."

[tarheelcanary] ([Email](#)) - 07/26/07 - 15:49

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](#))

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.

More Shop Sights

07/26/07 42 W, 1 I - + 11 - 24

New Crown Victoria as Car 3, and one of the old rescues as a soon-to-be shop vehicle. Note the amber lights. See [Lee's photos for more](#), including shots of the new ladder and pumper.



I thought all of admin. had fairly new vehicles? The oldest being the Tahoes.....

Silver - 07/29/07 - 23:36

More shots of the new mobile maintenance unit, plus a couple other new support vehicles: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 08/13/07 - 19:15

So what will the f-150 and the ranger be used for? Also what is going on with ladder 16? will it come back in service as a reserve?

Adam Brown - 08/13/07 - 21:01

The F-150 serves Support Services. Not sure about the Ranger. Believe the present Ladder 16 is being repaired for future reserve service.

Legeros - 08/13/07 - 21:15

They might as well make it part of fleet services as well, as much as it's down there.

Guest - 08/13/07 - 23:08

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'?

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

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.

National Fire Academy / National Fallen Firefighters Memorial

07/27/07 256 W, 2 I - + 20 - 18

Wandered to Emmitsburg, MD, yesterday, curious what the [National Fire Academy](#) grounds look like. The [exceptionally quaint town](#) is located about 70 minutes northwest of Baltimore. It's also a stone's throw from Gettysburg, another tiny town. There are mountains nearby, including Raven Rock Mountain, where a [nearby underground complex](#) commonly called "Site R" is one of the "undisclosed locations" that the Vice President occasionally visits.



The campus of the National Fire Academy is called the [National Emergency Training Center](#). It's, say, a Meredith College-sized campus, with [several attractive buildings](#) as well as the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. [Fallout Shelter signs](#) are still affixed to the older buildings. There's also a serious-looking, cable-reinforced, Homeland Security-style fence that surrounds the facility. Visitors are required to register.

The grounds are the former campus of [St. Joseph College](#). That school was chartered in 1905, says the roadside sign, and closed 1973. The National Fire Academy grounds were dedicated in 1979, says a plaque on the school's grounds. Some of these links have more history. In 1981, the [National Fallen Firefighters Monument](#) was constructed.

The centerpiece of the Memorial is a sculpted bronze Maltese cross atop a 7-foot stone cairn. The Memorial plaza is also shaped as a Maltese cross. Plaques list the names of line-of-duty deaths since 1981. Engraved bricks on the walkway list the individuals, departments, and organizations that have sponsored the Memorial. Other bricks contain short messages chosen by the sponsors.

Photos forthcoming. Here's [the campus map](#) . Here's [Google's aerial photo](#).

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Baltimore's Big House

07/27/07 132 W, 1 I - + 14 - 19

Every year it seems another piece of apparatus is added at Station 23, at the corner of Eutaw and Lombard Streets, and two blocks from the Convention Center. The building faces both streets, with five bays facing Eutaw, and six bays facing Lombard. One of the latter also exits the rear of the building. It's an easy station to find, as it straddles the [Emerson Bromo-Seltzer Tower](#).



Inside are...

Upstairs:

- Medic 23
- Second Medic unit (?)
- Battalion 5
- Second car
- Third car
- Collapse Rescue 1 box truck, which tows...
- Air compressor trailer
- Special Operations step van
- Homeland Security haz-mat response step van
- Dive rescue step van
- Passenger van
- Boat

Downstairs:

- Engine 23
- Ladder 2
- Rescue 1
- Haz-mat 1
- Decon 1
- Airflex 1 (mobile air + ?)
- Old Medic 23, which tows...
- Mass casualty (?) trailer
- Two boats

- Six-wheel ATV

So how many firefighters are on duty each shift?

Luke - 07/27/07 - 17:10

There are 24 on duty each shift.

Legeros - 07/28/07 - 22:27

Wow! Talk about a traffic-jam during shift change.

Luke - 07/28/07 - 23:27

Hotel room was right across the street, very cool and definitely a "different" mindset.

Silver - 07/29/07 - 23:33

Oh yeah, shift change is an actual line-up and information is passed during same. That, combined with the dry erase board with out of service equipment listed ensures that all critical information is passed on to EVERYONE.

Silver - 07/30/07 - 01:00

Any ideas when they got the Pierce truck co and switched from the Seagrave truck or where the big tandem axle rescue is that Baltimore usually runs?

Duke - 07/30/07 - 10:53

The new Pierce is a 2007 that was just put into service. Apparently a lot of the guys aren't happy that Emergency Medical Services got put on the side of the ladder. They have a mixed batch of Pierce's and Seagraves for truck companies. I believe that the rear mounts that they order are all Pierce's and the Tillers are all Seagraves and they are still being ordered this way, as they are expecting another couple in soon.

As Duke said from looking at Legeros' pictures they are on the reserve which is a 93 E-One and not their 2002 Spartan.

Mike - 07/30/07 - 14:42

Looks like the Pierces are brand spanking new according to this story.

<http://www.1strespondernews.com/webpages..>

I know Baltimore is a high run department but I would have thought Seagraves from 2003 would still be in service rather than in the reserve pool. Also it looks like they bought 4 TDA's from Pierce.

Duke - 07/30/07 - 23:34

I heard that they had a problem with the floor of their new rescue. Possibly lifting up or being uneven.

Silver - 08/01/07 - 19:47

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

Share Your Decor

07/27/07 39 W - + 16 - 14

For some Friday fun, who has firefighter decor in their home (or station) that they are willing to share? Rec rooms, kid's rooms, day rooms, etc. Send your pics to Mike and he'll compile and post.

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'?

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

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.

The I-40 Incident / Cell Phone Usage

07/27/07 106 W, 1 I - + 18 - 22

Was this afternoon's incident on I-40 the first fiery, multi-vehicle accident in these parts? Or at least in a while? Units/agencies on scene/dispatched included: BFD, CFD E1 R4, CEMS 571 574 580, DFD E13, DHFD, MFD E1 E2, PFD, RDU CFR3, RFD E14 R14 E24, WEMS T1 + others, WWFD. Slideshows available at [WRAL](#), [WTVB](#), and the [News & Observer](#). Also, the [WRAL story](#) notes "authorities urged motorists to avoid the area and to refrain from using cellular phones to keep cellular lines signals available for emergency personnel." What? Never heard that one before. Can someone elaborate?



SF1273, SF1274, SF1282, EMS8, EMS4 (call swapped with EMS2- then cancelled en route), EMS204

DJ - 07/28/07 - 00:06

Regarding your questions about cell phone usage, anytime a large number of people in one area use their cell phones at one time, it becomes nearly impossible to get a call out. A good example of this is Walnut Creek Amphitheater on a concert night. When the concert is over and 20,000 people are leaving and talking on their cell phones it is nearly impossible to make a telephone call from that general area for at least an hour. The same applies during an emergency incident. Emergency responders have become quite complacent in using their "Nextels" and other cellular devices on scenes of emergency incidents. This creates a multi-faceted problem. One of the biggest being that during a disaster or MCI situation, you may not be able to make a cell call due to overload. Another big reason not to use cell phones on emergency scenes is that conversations between personnel on cell phones are not recorded. These problems make it imperative that you KNOW your radio system well and how to access all of the talk groups in your radio. We become complacent using the normal, everyday talkgroups (dispatch and tac channels) but is everyone comfortable switching to talk groups that we do not use everyday? If you will notice, the admin. talk groups are silent most of the time because Fire and EMS administrators communicate largely via direct connect. During a disaster situation, when cellular towers are inundated with calls or down due to a disaster or power failure, our seldom used talk groups will come alive. Take a few moments to brush up on your 800 radio. When the time comes when you are unable to communicate by cell/nextel, you do not want to be at a loss and waste time on the scene of the emergency showing responders where to find talk groups in their radio. It's a shame that the loss of nextel can cripple some emergency responders – but it happens. Know your radio well so that you can smoothly run a scene without the cell phone.

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) - 07/28/07 - 08:44

was the dodge pickup a state owned vehicle? cant see any markings from the pictures.

Adam Brown - 07/31/07 - 12:45

yes. The booster reel and pump were found on the other side of the trailer.

CFP 7021 (Email) - 07/31/07 - 13:15

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'?

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

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.

Starting Your Own Thread

07/28/07 46 W - + 13 - 18

Friendly reminder. Users who seek to start their own threads are recommended to [utilize the Watch Desk](#). Or, [drop a line](#) with your suggested topics. One has already been suggested, a "job line" which would presumably post employment opportunities. We'll mull that.

Friday's Fire

07/30/07 107 W - + 21 - 14

...the first one, that is. 3405 Birk Bluff Court, off Penny Road, west of Holly Springs Road. 7,785 square-feet, 1.5 story with full basement, brick home, says real estate records. As [reported by WRAL](#), water was shuttled, and more than 200,000 gallons of same. Penny Road closed during tanker ops. Two (or three?) water points. Alarm time about 8:00 p.m. Defensive operations, with at least one aerial in operation. Units/agencies on scene: Fairview E1 E8 R1 Tanker 7 Tanker 6, Swift Creek E3 Tanker 6 Tanker 2, Holly Springs, Western Wake E297, Garner Tanker 12, Cary EMS 1471. Interesting and amusing reader comments, on the subject of water and hydrants, at the above link.

add WW Tanker 198, Morrisville Tanker 3, Cary E-6, L-3, E-30 (Truck 6's crew), Batt. 1, Apex Tanker 1, Fuquay Tanker 2 (and I think Tanker 3).

Also Cary E-3 filled in at Swift Creek

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/30/07 - 08:18

3-4 years ago they ran water lines down Holly Springs Rd and the chief of Swift Creek requested a hydrant at Penny and Holly Springs and it was denied. I believe they said it would disrupt the water shed. That would have cut the water shuttle distance in half.

Here is a pic of the house before.

[http://msweb01.co.wake.nc.us/realestate/.](http://msweb01.co.wake.nc.us/realestate/)

[Mike: Updated with correct photo link, based on corrected address in original posted]

What I also find funny is when they build this house, I thought I remember it being mostly all poured concrete. See this link to confirm.

[http://www.wakegov.com/realestatephotos/.](http://www.wakegov.com/realestatephotos/)

[Mike: This part of the comment refers to previously cited, but incorrect address in original posting. Address since correct.]

They must have have tons of fire load inside since the walls could not burn.

cfp7444 ([Email](#)) - 07/30/07 - 11:53

That is not the correct house. The correct address is 3405 Birk Bluff. The initial dispatch was to 3417, but that was the callers address, I think. I was out of town so most of what I know is second hand. [Thanks. The original posting has been updated with the correct address and property information.]

Griggs - 07/30/07 - 12:18

I clicked on the link but can't find where the reader comments are. Any help?

CFP743 - 07/30/07 - 15:42

This are the correct units on the scene Fairview E1,E2,TA7,TA6,SR1,C1,C2, Swift Creek E1,E3,E4,TA2,TA6 Western Wake TA198,E297 Apex TA1 Holly Springs E1,E2 Garner TA12 Fuquay TA2 Cary L3 and Garner E2 covering for Fairview and holly springs and Fairview Station 1 And also Cary E6 at Swift Creek

4447 - 07/30/07 - 16:18

Fairview E1 laid a 5 inch line to swift creek E1 who was supplied by 2 3 inch lines. SCE3 was pumping to SCE1. SCE3 was set up at the dump tanks

4447 - 07/30/07 - 16:27

Cary E6 was on scene helping with fire attack. T6 was on E30 for a water point at Holly Springs & Braelands. E3 was fill-in at Swift Creek.

car3550 - 07/30/07 - 16:31

The other water point was at Oak grove school FFE2 was set up there

4447 - 07/30/07 - 16:36

Morrisville tanker 3 was also on the scene

4447 - 07/30/07 - 16:37

743: scroll all the way to the bottom and click on the link under the GOLO graphic.

4447: not to argue a point, but for clarity it was CFD E-3 at SCFD; CFD E-6, E-30, L-3 and Batt. 1 were at the scene or at water point(s). Morrisville Tanker 3 was also involved, as I talked to members of their crew after the fire. Like I said for clarity's sake, not trying to cause a stir.

So SCFD E-1 pumped the fire, and was supplied by 2-3" lines and 1-5" line? with SCFD E-3 pumping to SCFD E-1 from the dump point? Or did they abandon the 3" lines when Fairview E-1 laid the 5"? Who was pumping to CFD L-3?

Thanks for the viewpoint of somebody who sounds like they were there... I'm sure it was a heck of an operation!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/30/07 - 16:40

FFE1 Was pumping the fire. SCE1 was in the middle relay pumping to FFE1. SCE1 supplied the 5" to FFE1. SCE3 was at the road with dumptamks pumping two 3" lines to SCE1. FFE1 Supplied the ladder truck and the handlines.

4447 - 07/30/07 - 17:01

gotcha... makes sense now

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/30/07 - 17:26

Griggs, thanks for the address correction. I have updated the address and property address in the original posting. CFP7444, I have also modified your photo link, and it points to the correct property.

Legeros - 07/30/07 - 17:37

FFE1 Was first in. They did NOT lay any lines. They pulled up in front of the house. They advised of a working fire. SCE1 was at penny road when that was said and laid 2-3" lines (750' each). We ran out of line to make it to the house. SCE1 crew hand jacked about 150' of 1-5" from FFE1 to SCE1 uphill. SCE3 was at penny road drafting from dump tanks and pumping through the 2-3" lines to SCE1. SCE1 then pumped through the 1-5" to FFE1. FFE1 was pumping to the fire. FFE1 crew was initial attack, SCE1 crew was on the second line in (each on 1 3/4" lines). A later crew (don't know who) used 2.5" hand line as a third line in. No progress was made in the house so we evacuated and went defensive. CFD L3 eventually came in and did aerial attack. The house was collapsing on itself into the basement. Most everyone cleared around 0200 hours. SCFD stayed on scene until 0700 hours. Fairview came in and relieved us until 1100 hours. SCFD then took up on rotating crews until 2300 hours Saturday night keeping check on the still burning fire.

SCFD - 07/30/07 - 19:00

Correction- should read Holly Springs EMS 1471. Also, WCEMS T-1 was there, I believe.

DJ - 07/30/07 - 21:05

Just about the only thing that could have been better for water supply (which would not have made a difference in this case b/c the fire was uncontrollable from the get go (unless we had 2 ladders to fight from the front AND back of the house) would be if FFE1 laid 1-5" from Penny Rd and their second engine laid another 5" from Penny for 2-5" lines being used. Then having 3 Engines (SCE1, FFE1, FF second engine) with the ability to have 6-1.75" lines used plus 3-2.5" and 3 deluge guns to attempt to control this monster. Our biggest hurdle was trying to get to the B/C corner of the house where the fire was at. Even if this was achievable, I doubt that it would have helped. The actual water supply operation was awesome. There was a constant flow of water to the scene from Penny Rd with the tanker shuttle operation. I don't think it could have happened any better than this.

SCFD - 07/30/07 - 23:24

Thanks, all, for the corrected and expanded incident information, as well as operational details of the incident. Closing thread to comments, as anonymous trash-talkers are starting to appear. Utilize the Watch Desk as desired for additional discussion and/or lessons learned, <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/forumd..>

Legeros - 07/31/07 - 05:32

Postscript, WRAL ran this story on Sunday on the subject of areas without hydrants, and in the context of Friday's fire:

<http://wral.com/news/local/story/1651667..>

Legeros - 07/31/07 - 05:46

Show Report

07/30/07 302 W, 2 I - + 20 - 13

Baltimore, city of sirens. And expensive parking. And hideous traffic. Tenth or so year at the Expo for this tourist, and the second *sans* spouse. Always bundled with area sightseeing, it still feels more than ever like a business trip. Fewer attendees this year, perhaps. None of the specialty vendors of interest-- die-cast collectibles-- due to a drop in that industry. The show floor is best sampled in spurts, say 60 or 90 minutes at a pop.



First, the big toys, the flashy, feature-packing pieces from Pierce, Seagrave, E-One, et al. Touch, tug, and climb as desired. You won't break anything. Then, from rigs to booths. Then from flashier vendors, to the quieter ones. Every aspect of the fire service is represented here, from education to fitness to religious fellowship. There's also networking to be done, and looking for those you know, or whose names or departments you recognize. Saw a couple Raleigh guys, and a couple Swift Creek-ers. Most booths have goodies, candy or stickers or key rings or, even, freshly popped popcorn. The attendees are mostly male; the vendors are mixed, and with an obvious eye toward beauty as an exhibition aid.



Sunday is a parade of new and old rigs, on the east side of the Convention Center. It's also the flea market, with "firematic" items for sale. Books, videos, toys, figurines, old helmets, vintage equipment, etc. Also present are a number of vendors from the show, selling shirts, or patches, or collectibles, or small tools. Bought a \$3.00 book, and a reproduction leather bucket. Black, with no adornments. It'll make a useful aid when presenting on the history of the fire department. Maybe even demo a bucket brigade, with everybody in a line. That'll be a hoot.

Been trying to go since they started the EXPO. Seems like other stuff always gets in the way...maybe next year.

DJ - 07/30/07 - 08:20

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'?

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

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.

Tap Bell

07/30/07 90 W, 1 I - + 22 - 13

As photographed at the [Fire Museum of Maryland](#), this is a tap bell. It is a smaller version of the station gongs that were connected to electric telegraph fire alarm systems. After [Raleigh's system was installed in 1887](#), tap bells were installed within a couple years in the homes of the Chief and Assistant Chief, select fire company foremen, and individual members at their own expense. They could also rely on the city bell, which tolled the box numbers and other alarm signals.



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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Shortage of EMS Workers

07/31/07 29 W - + 17 - 19

Today's *News & Observer* features an interesting article on [Triangle EMS agencies and their recruitment and retention challenges](#). There's also a [related graphic on vacancy rates](#).

Interesting article, but not much thought given by the interviewed Mr Richmond. His comment as follows:

"On average, police officers nationwide earn \$18,000 more and firefighters almost \$11,000 more than EMS workers. And police and firefighters require less training to do their jobs, Richmond said."

Does this guy, from Louisville, Ky. know what he is saying? I guess he doesnt consider the FF/EMT/Hazmat Tech/Car Seat Installer/whatever else the chiefs decide we need to be certified in? Has a Fire Chief ever gone in the news and publicly said "EMS sleeps more on their downtime where Firefighters train, pre-plan, do engine company inspections, and install car seats"....no, I dont think so. What about the FF/Medics in Miami-Dade, or the Public Safety Officers who are required to be certified Police Officers, EMTs and Firefighters? I'm sure they appreciate the "we're better than you" attitude. The key is to build and support eachother in public safety instead of make misleading comments about another profession.

We are all under-paid, and at times under-appreciated. Self glorification or public trumping is not the way to go. We're in this together...

J.Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/01/07 - 15:09

We are all underpaid- paramedics, firefighters, and LEOs. And don't forget the telecommunicators at 9-1-1. But as long as we as a society value someone's ability to bounce a basketball, attract attention on "Entertainment Tonight", or any one of a hundred other 'occupations' that really do not matter in the grand scheme of things, we are always going to rate anywhere near the top.

I am sure that there was more to Mr. Richmond's comments than the one quoted. That is typical of media interviews. Part of the media's job is to make us think, or at least react. This article did just that. Some of us 'reacted'.

Unfortunately, the public has very little real idea of what paramedics do. When I met my wife six years ago, she had no idea exactly what we did. She (and her circle of friends) thought it was like "Paramedics" on Discovery Channel. MVCs, GSWs, cardiac arrests, etc. She had no idea that someone would actually call 9-1-1 because their toe was hurting.

The main point of the article was to highlight the inability of various agencies to attract, hire, and retain paramedics. It was not intended to belittle fire and law enforcement. Fire and police do not have the recruitment issues nor the retention issues that EMS has. We have to find a way to keep paramedics. WHO do you want caring for you? Someone with 12 months of experience or 12 years? Unfortunately, there is not much we can do that will not cost a significant amount of money (15-25% pay raises, 24/72 shifts, 12 hour shifts, etc.).

I have my own ideas, but I am curious to see what everyone else thinks.

DJ

"Bustin' mine to save yours. 24/7, 365. For the past 31 years.

DJ - 08/01/07 - 18:18

I agree with DJ. From what I know, the fire department's problem is primarily funding. There is never a shortage of people wanting to join the fire service. Some of the smaller departments do have the problem of retaining fire fighters that are simply climbing their way to the bigger departments, but primarily it is funding. I'm not real familiar with the problems facing EMS agencies, but the rescue squad I am on in Mecklenburg County has a horrible time recruiting new EMTs and keeping them on the squad. Most use the squad to get to PA, nursing, or medical school.

CFP743 - 08/01/07 - 18:27

My daughter just graduated nursing school last year and now works at an unnamed area hospital on New Bern Avenue. As she said to me, as a paramedic I can do so much more than she can for my patients, but she makes more than I do.

Go figure.

DJ - 08/01/07 - 18:40

In light of things, I agree DJ. However, I have yet to have a paramedic accompany me on a Pre-Plan on a highrise with MCI potential or a car seat installation where the higher-educated paramedic could enlighten the parents on the physiological effects of an MVC. And there is an EMS unit in my station.

Jason Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/06/07 - 22:54

EMS is in the process of undertaking a pre-incident planning process for identified facilities, etc. throughout the County. The problem is that when you are running nearly 70,000 calls per year with around 35 ambulances (and transporting about 2/3 of those – meaning over 1 hour per call), dedicating time to such processes will be challenge.

Olson - 08/06/07 - 23:15

Good point on call volume, Jon. Having considerable experience as a firefighter, I understand the importance of pre-planning. At two stations I have been at, both in a fire station, I have tried to make plans to go with them on preplanning visits. However, on every occasion, my unit invariably gets a call, so then we are gone 1 hour or more. That is also the reason that many times I get lunch at 1600, supper at 2100, etc.

With that being said, I have still made a conscientious effort to learn my current district. I have been through several long term care facilities, commercial buildings, a sports arena, and several shopping centers that are in my first due area. I have evaluated each of these based on my needs as a paramedic. But understand this- I have managed to stay at my current station since September 2006, which is very, very rare in EMS. It has taken me that long to learn what I have on my first due area, but there is a considerable area that I have not been able to go through that was added in last year (N Harrison and I-40). Imagine trying to learn a territory when you are only there for 3 months with the associated call volumes (including move-ups)! I know EMS 4's and 9's areas as good as my own living room. I know 1471's simply because I live in Holly Springs. As for the rest- I'm lost. Cary has changed since I ran with Yrac in the 80s. There is a 4-lane highway where the old two-lane US 1 North used to be. There are tons of new buildings and developments in the quaint Raleigh that I grew up in. I truly dread the day I have to go out to some of the other stations simply because I do not know the area, know my way around, or know the inside of many of the buildings.

I guess a hold over from my fire days is that I spend a certain amount of off time learning various things about my district. I try to combine various other things with this practice. A visit to RBC, Rex, a doctor, or the flea market also produces 'pre-plan data' that is filed away in the back of my tired old brain.

It is real easy to try and compare EMS and fire. I know I have tried to do it hundreds of times. But really, aside from the fact that we both respond to emergencies, it really separates there in many ways because of mission profile. And that ties into response volume. EMS, for several reasons, is driven by call volume based upon geographical location with consideration of a maximum response time of 11:59 (did I get that right, Jon?). The fire service is managed on a response distance concept (hence 5 or 6 mile districts in the county, and the placement of stations in the city). There is no ISO for EMS. We can discuss the disparities of that all day long, and I certainly have my opinions.

What has worked for me, in an unspoken way, is that I rely on the fire departments to know the buildings (like best ways to get in and out, obstacles, hazards that might get me hurt, etc). I rely on them to recognize hazards as they develop on scene (and don't think for a second that I am not also watching out- it's one of my 'rules'- copies on request) like at an MVC. In turn, they can rely on me to get my patients taken care of (which also makes them look good in the end) and to get THEM taken care of if something happens to them. Everybody looks out for everybody.

DJ - 08/07/07 - 09:09

So Jason – did you ever invite the paramedics to accompany you while you do your work? Try it....maybe you'll be surprised?

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/07/07 - 09:48

I have, and I usually hear "no, thats allright" or snoring. (In all honesty).

Granted, they DO get up more than us in the night, and have to stay out longer. If we were allowed to sleep, we would too.

J.Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/07/07 - 17:45

Without trying to start anything (not my intention at all), no one has asked me since I left F-V. And I have been at the same station (EMS-4 on

A shift) since September. I went out a few times with F-V and HS, but call volume in Raleigh makes it hard. And as an FTO I have a lot of new people that I would like to get into good habits. Yes, we are gone a lot, but the asking does count. I cannot speak for all of my co-workers (well, I might be able to) but I do try and get out and about. It is difficult when you have partners that would rather sleep (something I rarely do during the day). And it is frustrating to make plans but someone's chest pain, respiratory distress, toe pain, or rash comes up.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/07/07 - 18:53

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'?

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

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.

News Articles and Reader Comments

08/01/07 54 W - + 12 - 13

Observation of the WRAL site. Neither [last night's airport worker death](#), nor [last week's fatal I-40 accident](#), contain a reader comment section. It appears that they hedge their bets in the case of fatalities. Checking other story links confirms. Given reader sensitives, this is probably a smart editorial decision.

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'?

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

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.

Mass Casualty Incident / Major Working Fire

08/01/07 100 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Greyhound bus overturned on I-440 about 12:40 a.m. Exit ramp from inner Beltline to New Bern Avenue. 60 passengers, 47 hurt, 30 transported. 15 to WakeMed, 8 to Rex, and 7 to Duke Health Raleigh. No life-threatening injuries. Ambos from Wake EMS (5), Cary (1), Eastern Wake (2), and Garner (1). Five RFD companies. Information from [news report](#) and [CFP](#). Later, major working fire at corner of Farrior Road and Nottingham Road. Home under construction. Alarm time about 4:00 a.m. Engine 6 first due. Fire through roof on arrival. Deluge used. Companies started clearing about 5:00 a.m. Photos forthcoming.



Reference the bus accident – kudos to all who responded. 30 patients were off the scene in 50 minutes. The teamwork was great. Showing the flexibility and teamwork, in addition to everything else they did, RFD units set up and ran REHAB at the scene, for both responders and the bus riders who were not injured.

Other communities can only wish for this level of capability, cooperation, and professionalism.

Chief Skip Kirkwood
 Wake County EMS

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/01/07 - 12:16

Photos from Lee posted for both incidents, and linked from <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/>. Flickr users will notice some strangeness if viewing the MCI link while logged into their Flickr account. If logged into Flickr, clicking the MCI link on the above page starts in the middle of the pics. If logged out of Flickr, clicking the MCI link on the above page starts at the almost the beginning of the pics.

Legeros - 08/03/07 - 07:41

It's funny how when a house burns down in a hydranted area nothing is said, but when one burns in a non-hydranted area it makes headlines on the 6 o'clock news. If it was burnt up when you got there it doesn't matter if there is hydrant in the front yard or one 2 miles away, it's still burnt up. But that doesn't make for a good headline on the tv.

guest - 08/03/07 - 16:55

An aerial master stream from a ladder company would have done wonders on that fire! I noted in Lee's pictures that ladder was parked down the street.

Rides A Truck - 08/03/07 - 18:24

No aerial because of power lines. Heard it on the radio traffic that morning that the house was surrounded with them. But I do agree about the hydrant thing. Why is it that a volunteer department without hydrants gets bashed for a house burning down on them, but the paid city department barely gets a single news article when their house burns down and they had all the hydrants?

guest 2 - 08/03/07 - 23:20

House under construction, no furniture, no power, 4 am, lot of things wrong with that. Still being investigated i am sure. So maybe you are right, it should have been in the news.

Porter - 08/04/07 - 00:40

I was awake when that fire came out and followed it on the radio and CAD. From dispatch it took about ten minutes until a collapse was called. Thats scary. Im guessing it was because the structural members were exposed. Guessing. Theres a GREAT webcast on Firehouse.com about fighting fire in newer lightweight construction. I recommend it to all. Eye opening. Be safe.

Flip ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/04/07 - 03:58

To follow up and hopefully inform. The following is taken from Dave Dodsons "Reading Smoke" webcast. Full notes of which can be found at the link below or by just asking.

"Brown Smoke:

IS indicative of what is burning. Brown smoke is specific to wood heating. When you heat up wood (not burn it) it will begin to break down chemically. Wood is cellulose, which is basically starch, when you start heating it up you can actually break down those cells into very simple sugars. And as we know you can caramelize all sugars. So when you see brown smoke it tells you mid to late stage heating of unfinished wood that's beginning to caramelize. So when you see brown smoke it means that wood is about to ignite. Only unfinished wood does that. So when you see brown smoke coming from a building it generally means the structural components themselves are becoming heated. **THE #1 WARNING SIGN OF COLLAPSE IN LIGHTWEIGHT BUILDINGS.** By the time you see brown smoke it means mid to late stage heating of wood, by then the gusset plates are coming loose due to softening and the glues holding OSB board is drying or already dry giving it no binding ability."

Flip ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/04/07 - 04:17

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Minneapolis Bridge Collapse

08/01/07 59 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

The [Twin Cities CBS affiliate WCCO](#) has live footage of the Minneapolis bridge collapse. Believed bumper-to-bumper at time of collapse. Live footage with sound available at <http://www.kare11.com>. Span length 1,907 feet. Height above water 64 feet. Daily traffic 140,000 vehicles. Built 1967. Eight traffic lanes. Steel arch deck truss bridge.



Here's a discussion about the incident, on the Extra Alarm web site: [http://www.extraalarm.org/forums/phpBB2/..](http://www.extraalarm.org/forums/phpBB2/)

Legeros - 08/02/07 - 17:42

What a tragedy. That's something that I think would be difficult to train for, combining USAR training with dive rescue and recovery. I know those responders did/still do have their hands full.. my hat's off to them.

Luke - 08/03/07 - 01:01

For those still following this story, a former transportation chief opines on the subject of bridge maintenance, <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/13/opinio...>. Info on the Silver Bridge collapse that killed 46 people in 1967, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silver_Brid...

Legeros - 08/12/07 - 22:18

Posted to the Extra Alarmer discussion board, some interesting links, including footage of responding units. Lots of boat and equipment trailers! Love those hometown accents, too. You betcha.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRxBatJCB..> – Some scanner stuff, but later on in the evening.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9wFjCXA..> – [Raw footage that] shows some responding units arriving

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7crGr7NwN..> – More stuff arriving

Legeros - 08/16/07 - 00:11

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Dramatic Photo From Last Week

08/04/07 43 W, 1 I - + 20 - 8

The latest [WRAL story](#) about last week's accident (and [firefighter line-of-duty death](#)) features this dramatic photo, credited to one William Gillian. Picture is facing east, and was probably (certainly?) taken from the Airport Boulevard Bridge. Click to enlarge.



Forest Service firefighter/equipment operator Nemeth Sanders of Bailey was the 72nd firefighter to die in the line of duty this year. The numbers are rapidly and regrettably closing in on last year's total of 89. Sources: USFA, NFPA.

Legeros - 08/04/07 - 05:39

I find it humilliating, and quite appalling that it took almost a full 72 hours to recognize this as a LODD. I was in wilmington, fishing a tournament, and KNEW from peiminary details, Courtesy WECT, that a brother had fallen returning to his family from furthering his education. We often forget about our woodchuck bretheren, yet they are always there to save our a\$\$\$. RFB-KTF-EGH!! and to IMAP, WCSO, and SHP- THANK YOU for watching our 6!!

Jason Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/06/07 - 22:48

It was recognized at the scene. How long it takes to get on the NFFF email list is another story (and bureaucracy)

Olson - 08/06/07 - 23:17

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department Chaplain

08/04/07 79 W - + 16 - 12

Random historical tidbit. Rev. Lyman K. Dills, pastor of Pullen Memorial Church, was appointed Chaplain of the Raleigh Fire Department on July 7, 1916. According to Chief Charles Farmer, it was the first appointment of its kind in North Carolina. The appointment entitled Rev. Dills to membership in the North Carolina State Firemen's Association, which conducted its convention in town two weeks later. This was reported in a retrospective in an unidentified issue of the *Raleigh Times*.

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](#))

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.

New Trucks For USAR?

08/04/07 21 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Seen today at the Keeter Training Center. Betcha they're for USAR.



2 of the 4 water rescue trucks for NC-TF8, each city will get one.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/04/07 - 16:32

Man!!! We could use one on hazmat!! It would be nice to have one tent (decon) set-up in a QRV set up like that rather than having to drive the big rig for every call, just my opinion though.

Silver - 08/04/07 - 19:18

On the note of one for haz-mat. What pulls the short rrt trailer? I know an f-550 pulls the gooseneck trailer.

Adam Brown - 08/05/07 - 07:59

More information. As CFP 7021 notes, these are swift-water rescue trucks, the first two of four that have been delivered. One for each of the four USAR Task Force 8 cities. No word yet on where Raleigh's will be stationed.

Legeros - 08/05/07 - 12:12

Do we know where the first two are stationed?

CFP743 - 08/05/07 - 18:27

The F550 is positioned at #22 to pull one or the other trailer (depending on the incident). The 21' trailer is for spill and leak control (bulk absorbents, transfer pumps, etc.). The 35' trailer contains mass decon and extended ops equipment for the RRT.

A. Rich - 08/05/07 - 19:42

Maybe I should have re-worded things; it would be nice to have one of those to supplement the 18-wheeler decon unit, placing one full set-up (tent, heater, accessories) on it for easier deployment.

Silver - 08/05/07 - 20:20

I'd Drive It!!

Jason Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/06/07 - 22:39

Wonder if they'll be getting chevrons?

Olson - 08/06/07 - 23:20

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'?

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

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.

Ordinance, 1852

08/04/07 861 W - + 14 - 11

Going way back, this ordinance was printed in the February 18, 1852 edition of the semi-weekly *Raleigh Register*. It authorized three fire companies to be organized annually, and described the duties of the newly created Superintendent of the Fire Department. It was one of several measures undertaken by City Commissioners after a fire destroyed more than 17 structures on Fayetteville, Hargett, and Wilmington Streets on December 15, 1851. That fire was probably the last the city's great conflagrations.

What's so important about this ordinance, you ask? It can help establish when the Raleigh Fire Department was first created. Not the full-paid entity-- which was placed in service at the end of 1912-- but the volunteer department. Still researching that question, when RFD first appeared in name or structure. Might be 1852. Might be 1867. Might be another year. To be continued.

The ordinance:

That the Intendant shall forthwith (and hereafter during the month of January in each and every year) take the necessary measures in pursuance of the Act of the General Assembly for 1826-27, for organizing three fire Companies. Two of the said Companies to consist of forty men each, and the other of twenty. The first two to be known as Fire Companies, No. 1 and 2, and the other as the Hook and Ladder Company.

It shall be the duty of the said companies to meet at such time and place for exercise and inspection as may be directed by the Superintendent of the Fire Department, who shall give notice thereof to the Captains of the respective Companies, [and] whose duty it shall be to cause notice to be given to their respective members; and in case any officer shall fail to give such notice, or to appear at such time and place without a good or sufficient excuse for such failure, he shall be subject to a fine of ten dollars for every such default, and in case of failure by a private member to appear, he shall be subject to a fine of one dollar.

It shall be the duty of the said companies upon the alarm of fire, to proceed at once to the Engine House and thence, with their respective machines, to the fire, where they shall be under the entire control and direction of the Superintendent of the Fire Department, and in case of Fire, if any of the officers of the said companies shall fail to appear, or appearing shall refuse to obey any order of the Superintendent or shall absent himself from his duty for his company shall be discharged by the superintendent, he shall be subject to a fine of Twenty dollars for every such default, or if [the absent person is] a private member [they will be subject] to a fine of five dollars for every such default, and if [the absent person is] an officer [they] may be removed from his office by the Board of Commissioners.

It shall be the duty of the Captain of each Company to keep a roll of the members of his company, which roll shall be called whenever the company may be ordered out for exercise, and also at every fire, after [the time that] the Superintendent shall have discharged the Companies from duty. And it shall be the duty of the Captains to return to the Superintendent a list of the members absent, or who being present refuse to perform their duty, [and] which [as a] report, together with a list of absent officers, the superintendent shall lay before the Board of Commissioners, [and] who shall cause the delinquents to be notified, and unless good and sufficient excuses are rendered, shall confirm the fines herein before named, and direct the same to be collected at their next regular meeting thereafter, and to be paid into the City Treasury.

It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to be present at each meeting of the Companies for exercise, and at every fire; and to take the entire charge and direction of said Companies at such fire; to inspect the Engines, Hooks and Ladders, etc., and report to the Board any neglect, injury or abuse of the same; to recommend such alteration or repair as he may deem necessary to the Board of Commissioners; and especially to see that there is at all times a full supply of water as far as the means of the city will permit. The Superintendent of the Fire Department shall be appointed by the Board of Commissioners and shall receive an annual compensation of one hundred dollars, and may be removed from office at any time for incompetence or neglect of duty.

In case of fire it shall be the duty of the Intendant of Police to attend and take charge of the Police Department. In case of the removal or exposure of property, he shall detail a sufficient number of citizens, not members of the Fire Department, who shall constitute an auxiliary police force, whose duty it shall be, under direction of the Intendant, to guard all exposed property, and detain all suspicious and disorderly persons, and do whatever may be lawfully done to protect the rights of citizens and preserve the public peace.

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

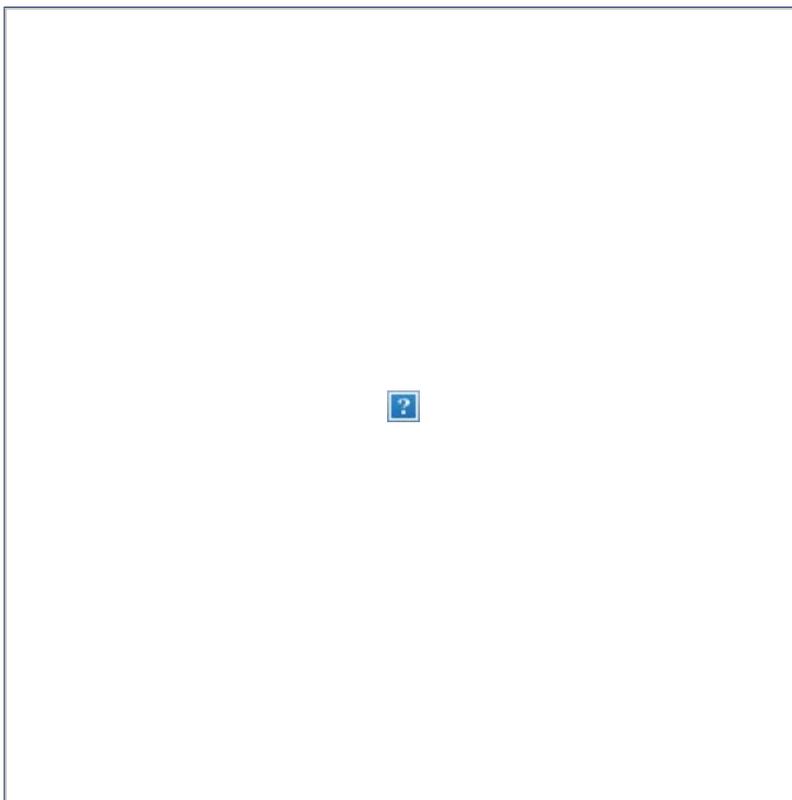
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Aircraft Incident

08/04/07 62 W, 1 I - + 13 - 18

This early afternoon's aircraft incident, reported as possible accident in the vicinity of the Farmer's Market, was a National Guard Apache helicopter gunship that made a precautionary landing in a field beside Barbour Drive. Neither member of the two-person crew was injured. Engine 2, Engine 13, Engine 1, Rescue 14, Battalion 2, two EMS units, and EMS 203 were dispatched. There are a [few photos posted](#).



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.

Deficient Major Bridges

08/05/07 116 W - + 16 - 10

MSNBC has published a [state-by-state inventory of bridges](#) classified as either "deficient" or "obsolete." Structurally deficient bridges are closed or restricted to light vehicles, are not necessarily unsafe. Functionally obsolete bridges have older design features, are are not unsafe for all vehicles. The listed bridges include numeric ratings. Higher ratings are better than lower ratings.

The [North Carolina bridges](#) classified as such include 64 for Wake County. Combined with road names from the DOT [secondary roads database lookup](#), the two single-digit rated Wake bridges are below. Both are classified structurally deficient.

SR1301 (Sunset Lake Road), 1.0 mile south of US401, Terrible Creek, rating 4.

SR1007 (Poole Road), 0.6 miles east of SR2516 (Hodge Road), Clarks Creek, rating 7.

And unfortunatley for the 64 (business) bridge, which has been struck and reconstructed many times(been there!), It will take death to resolve.

Education first, right politicians?!? 

Jason Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/06/07 - 22:33

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'?

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

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.

Chevrons

08/05/07 28 W, 1 I - + 10 - 10

Seen at the helicopter landing yesterday. Seems the State Highway Patrol has started using (or is testing the use of) chevrons.



Looks to be a new paint scheme also

Adam Brown - 08/05/07 - 12:57

There has been a couple of these hanging out on District Drive. Complete with new paint scheme, chevrons, and push bars.

DJ - 08/05/07 - 14:28

The Chevrons are pointing the wrong way. The "V" shape should point up, not down.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/05/07 - 17:04

I saw one on I40 Friday, it had a car pulled over.

Mike - 08/05/07 - 17:19

On one of them they corrected it.

DJ - 08/05/07 - 18:58

Things Not to Say to a State Trooper During a Vehicle Stop #413: Hey numb-nuts, your chevrons are upside down!

Legeros - 08/05/07 - 19:01

The lower (smaller) silver stripe on the sides has the word "Interceptor" in it behind the front wheels. I guess they wanted something special on the Fords, as the new Chargers have "Hemi" in their stripes.

Barrett - 08/06/07 - 10:12

Good one mike, but in all seriousness, its about time someone took initiative to protect our brothers in flashing blue- I know I appreciate them blocking-deferring traffic at a wreck on I-40 while I do my part-time job!! (WWFR#2 PT-a Shift).

Jason Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/06/07 - 22:38

I asked a trooper at the big crash on I-40 and he said that they are switching the direction on the chevrons on the rest of the vehicles – and would "fix" that one car in the coming weeks. I just want to see them use that push bar...

Olson - 08/06/07 - 23:07

i think that the "new Paint" scheme is actually an old one. They are going back to it.

kprice104 - 08/09/07 - 14:35

SHP has had silver roofs for as long as I can remember...going back to the early 60s when they had RED lights instead of blue- Federal WL siren/lights with red lense front and rear.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/09/07 - 14:39

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'?

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

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.

Tarzan Hot

08/05/07 29 W - + 14 - 13

"Man it's hot. It's like Africa hot. Tarzan couldn't take this kind of hot." Eugene Morris Jerome in *Biloxi Blues*, script by Neil Simon, from his play.

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'?

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

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.

Training Center Lower Lot

08/05/07 52 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

Speaking of the Keeter Training Center, the southwest corner of the lower lot was recently cleared and paved with gravel. Several small trailers are parked there. Looks nice, and is a far cry from the days of decomposing Macks and rusted LaFrances.



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'?

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

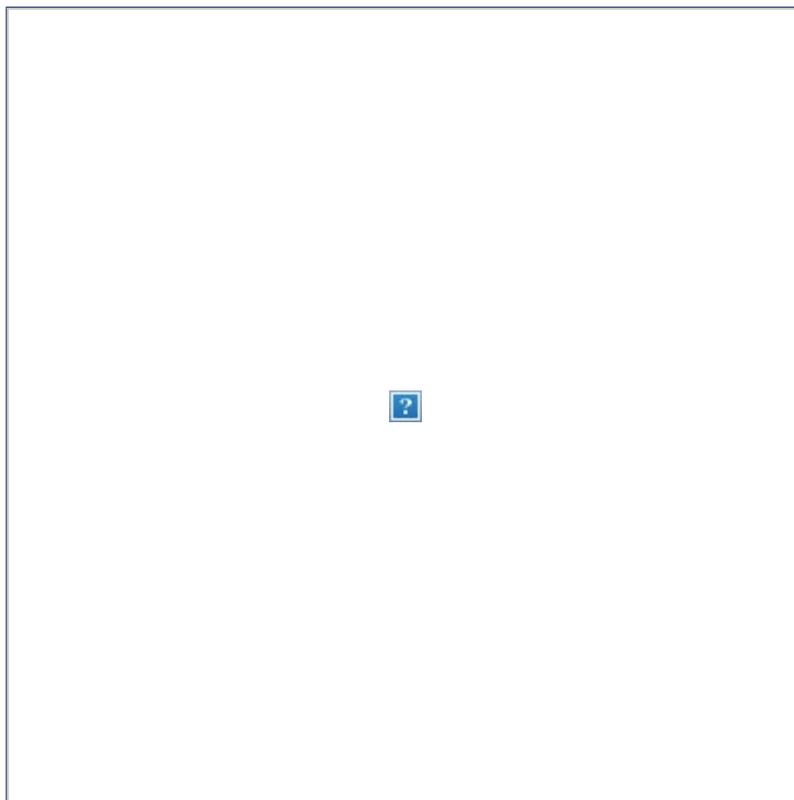
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Spruce Pine

08/06/07 46 W, 1 I - + 11 - 16

At least ten businesses were destroyed in downtown Spruce Pine on Saturday. Multiple fires, arson suspected. Mayor declared state of emergency. Curfew was placed in effect. The [Mitchell News-Journal](#) has stories and pictures. The Asheville [Citizen-Times](#) also has a story. Ten hours of firefighting.



News & Observer notes the fires brought at least 300 firefighters from 27 (!) departments, <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/tuesda...>

Legeros - 08/07/07 - 04:58

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Pigeon Guano, Poor Lighting, Road Rage, and Spider Webs

08/07/07 22 W - + 16 - 12

What are challenges faced by bridge inspectors? This [Minneapolis Star-Tribune article](#) tells more.

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'?

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

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.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Raleigh Wants More« Wake County Needs Num... » Cary EMS Accident Firefighters

Raleigh Wants More Firefighters

08/08/07 167 W, 1 I - + 16 - 13

That's the title of the [NBC17 story from yesterday](#), about the department's presentation to City Council requesting and receiving permission to proceed with applying for a federal grant, to help fund fifteen positions for another ladder company. The [meeting agenda](#) contains more detailed information. See Consent Agenda item #14 on page 9.

The City Council evening session was also recorded and can be [replayed from the RTS site](#). The fire department's presentation should be somewhere within the clips. The meeting also included recognition of the Raleigh Fire Department's participation in MDA fundraising, and proclaiming MDA Firefighter Appreciation Month in Raleigh. That segment starts at 17:13 in the second video clip (02h 06m).

Here's information about the [SAFER \(Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response\) Grant](#). Here's information about the [city's present seven ladder companies and locations](#). Here's information about [firefighters and MDA](#). Here's an [earlier Blog thread on the subject of additional Raleigh ladder companies](#), where they might be stationed, and including some ISO-style coverage maps.

Notice it's a 5-man company, not 4. Outstanding...

Silver - 08/08/07 - 12:02

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'?

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

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.

Cary EMS Accident

08/08/07 59 W - + 14 - 16

WRAL is reporting on the [early morning accident involving Cary EMS 571](#) and a reportedly red-light runner. The driver of the car was reportedly charged with a DWI. Both paramedics (and the other driver) were transported with reportedly non life-threatening injuries. Crossing our fingers for minor injuries. Cary EMS 572, 580, Wake EMS 8, and Cary Fire also on scene.

It's a bad week for wrecks. Apex Engine 1 was struck on Sunday by a pick-up truck that reportedly lost control, http://wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/1... No firefighters injured, though the other driver was transported.

Legeros - 08/08/07 - 07:24

The excursion assigned to Cary Battalion 1 was also totaled last week in a non-response related accident.

guest - 08/08/07 - 07:35

Cary Battalion 1 was a fire response accident. It was responding to a call w/ E6 for a car fire that was upgraded to a house fire due to the car being reported in the garage. Upon E6's arrival the car had been pushed out of the garage.

fire1983 - 08/08/07 - 21:00

A lot of comments on the WRAL site about the Cary EMS wreck.

fire1983 - 08/08/07 - 21:05

if i'm not mistaken it had cleared from the call

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/08/07 - 21:34

the CFD Batt. 1 incident, sorry

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/08/07 - 21:35

fire1983, Cary Battalion 1 had been cancelled on the call, thus, when he crashed it was a non-response related accident.

guest - 08/09/07 - 07:26

I was told different from someone working that day about Cary Bat.1. Anyway, I hear that it is totaled. Thanks for the input.

fire1983 - 08/09/07 - 16:49

yes it is totaled... no word yet what the replacement will be

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/09/07 - 17:29

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

Share Your Decor, Part 1

08/08/07 36 W, 1 I - + 13 - 8

Submitted by his father, here are [pictures of Firefighter Sam's bedroom](#). The bed-mounted air tank is a classic. If only our wives would allow such adornments...



Looks like a Scott 2.2. I remember when those were state of the art. And stayed on the truck in the box because you were a wuss if you used them.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/08/07 - 21:02

I believe that you're right. It was government surplus from McClellan AFB. Shipping was higher than the cost of the air-pak itself.

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 08/10/07 - 21:20

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.

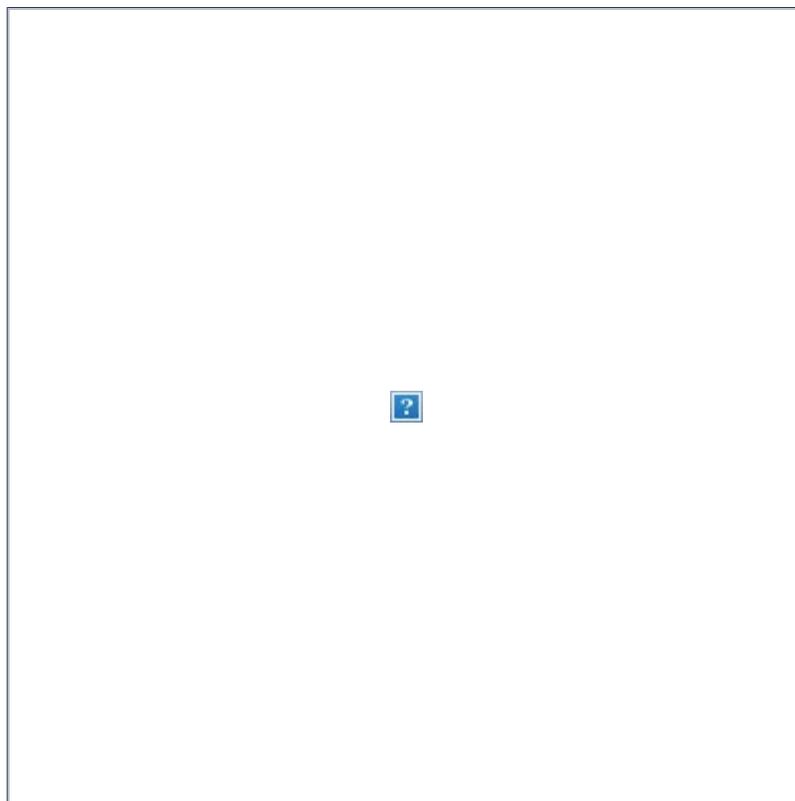
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

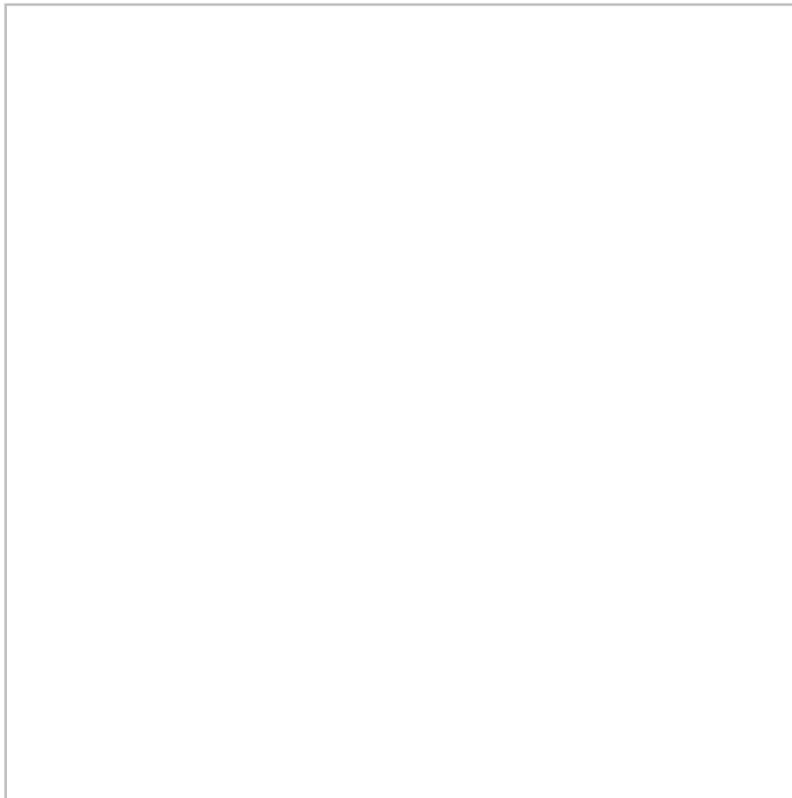
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

Wilmington Fire Boats

08/08/07 129 W, 2 I - + 9 - 16

The [August 6 edition of FireNews](#) features a picture of Wilmington's new fire boat, a Firestorm 50 made by MetalCraft Marine. The coastal city's fireboat fleet dates back to 1910 or abouts. That year, WFD was fully paid with 36 men, 14 horses, four stations, three steamers, three hose wagons, and other apparatus. Shown below is the Atlantic I, in an undated photograph from the [Fales Collection, New Hanover County Public Library](#). Moored at the foot of Chestnut Street, it carried a third-size Silsby steam engine and 300 feet of 2 1/2-inch hose. Powered with a 25 HP gasoline engine, the boat's maximum speed was 10 MPH. It was operated by a three-man crew. By 1915, it carried a 1,400 GPM American LaFrance pump and 600 feet of 2 1/2-inch hose, and was powered with a 125 HP gas engine.





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'?

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

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.

Haz-Mat

08/09/07 70 W, 1 I - + 20 - 15

In addition to Emergency Management towing a trailer of bottled water, other units on scene at 7516 Precision Drive included Durham Highway E3, Bethesda E421, Raleigh E24, E8, L20, R14, B4, B1, C5, C2, Air 8, HM2, SR2, SR22, Decon 1, FC1, Six Forks EMS 1272, 1280, Cary EMS 574, Wake EMS 33, 203, 103, Truck 1, WC201, WC3, WC1, and Barry's Cafe. Five plus hours on scene, with extensive rehab. Pics forthcoming.



Another extended haz-mat operation today, liquid chlorine spill at 120 Fallsworth Drive, at a pool and clubhouse in Cary. At least it's slightly cooler. <http://wral.com/news/local/story/1694005..>

Legeros - 08/11/07 - 16:40

Silver you have probably lost a few water pounds the past couple of days with the hazmat calls and hot temps.

Mike - 08/11/07 - 18:52

Yeah Mike, I need 4 days off to put some back on!!!! I'm getting plenty of experience driving Decon 1 as well, which is good.

Silver - 08/11/07 - 20:49

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

Crane Collapse

08/09/07 31 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

South side of Strickland Road, east of Lead Mine Road. No injuries, no emergency response. Something you don't see every day. Pics forthcoming.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

This Evening's Fire

08/09/07 41 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

Heat beget storms that beget lightning strikes. Engine 16 was first due at a working fire at 4621 Wee Burn Trail, with heavy smoke emitting from the attic area. Where else were fires started?



By the radio traffic, sounded like an awesome job by the companies on scene.

Silver - 08/09/07 - 22:35

Silver you are correct. It was a good call to hold off on starting the fan in the front door when you had fire in the attics (sounded like 2 that were separated) when you couldn't get to all of it right away. I thought that they were going to make a mistake by starting that fan.

Mike - 08/10/07 - 10:56

PPV can be a great friend, but it also can be your worst enemy. Sometimes we have to resist temptation of doing the "normal" ventilation things that are done at a fire (starting the fan) and entertain other options.

Glass is cheap, sometimes taking a few out (coordinating with interior crews of course) will provide enough relief for the time being. Then, crank the old Honda PPV when lines are in place and companies are opening up so the beast doesn't take off on you.

It's just another tool that has its' place....and they were smart enough to realize that it wasn't time to use that particular tool.

Silver - 08/11/07 - 11:57

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Communication and Conversation

08/10/07 683 W - + 15 - 14

Why blog? Because you have something to say. What is worth blogging about? That is matter of personal preference, and maybe the marketplace. Meaning, one indicator of worth is the blog's ability to attract and retain readers. What is the *purpose* of saying something online. Again, this a matter of personal preference, but the choices are many. You like reading your own words. You want reactions from readers. You want to facilitate conversation. You want to affect change. And so on.

The Internet, then web pages, then web-based forums, have tipped the traditional publishing model on its side. No longer is a person required to utilize print-based media to reach the masses. Nearly anyone can express themselves on line, and they need nothing more than computer access. No credentials, no editorial consent, no book contract, nothing. Whether they attract and retain an audience, however, is another matter.

For those involved or interested in the fire service, mass communication methods have traditionally included national/regional/local magazines, journals, newsletters, and personal presentations. (What else?) Within the last decade, the list has expanded to include national/regional/local e-mail lists and web pages. In recent years, online forums have been added to the mix. Blogs and discussion boards make it easier than ever for fire service members and interested parties to communicate and converse online.

But what happens when conversation happens? As any active fire service blog or discussion board demonstrates, a range of behaviors are displayed. Personalities and styles collide. Opinions are presented as facts. Personalization is presumed by some, or not realized by others. Ideas are aligned and grow powerful. Details get added, adjusted, and affirmed. Dissent is formed and provokes responses. Light is shined upon darkened perspectives. Dead horses are beat relentlessly. And so on.

The good thing, one of many, is that fire service blogs and discussion boards are still pretty new. People are still feeling their way. While it's just a technology, it's also a representation of a community. Those personalities, perspectives, themes, and topics that dominate the fire service-- just sit around the firehouse kitchen for a sample-- also dominate (or at least greatly influence) fire service blogs and boards. As the technology and the effects of the technology are increasingly understood, expect more fire service blogs and boards. Quantity, that is. Quality takes longer to happen in quantity. This blog is based from a buff's perspective. Someone else could start a fire training blog. Or a lessons learned discussion board. Or... you get the picture. The best is certainly yet to come.

What are blogs and discussion boards? Some loose definitions:

Web Page – Information about one or more subjects, accessed using either the Internet or a private intranet. Can be free to create and maintain, but there's a learning curve.

Blog – Type of web page featuring information from one person or entity, usually in the form of short articles that are displayed in reverse chronological order. Blogs typically allow the posting of comments from readers. These comments are either moderated or un-moderated. The former means that reader comments may be rejected before appearing on the blog page, or they may be edited before or after appearing, or they may be deleted after appearing. Can be free to create and operate, and pretty easy as well.

Board – Also called discussion board, or online forum. Type of web page featuring text or images posted from readers and displayed in reverse chronological order. Some boards require registration before readers can post. Sometimes, board registration requires a valid e-mail address. Most boards, however, allow readers to conceal their identities when posting. Most boards are also moderated. Loose moderation watches for spam, or grossly inappropriate comments. Tighter moderation makes sure everyone plays nice, and stays on topic. But there are many shades of gray, and each board (and each moderator) is different. Can cost money to create an entire discussion board site. Free and pretty easy to contribute discussions to an existing discussion board site.

Related Links

- [Wikipedia Entry on Blogs](#)
- [Wikipedia Entry on Internet Forums](#)

Quite frankly, I love to keep my eyes out for what "The Guest" has to say; he/she uses excellent examples to convey his/her opinions (see <http://www.thewatchdesk.com> for more).

Silver - 08/10/07 - 09:40

One of our regulars, DJ, offers this compelling perspective on firefighter health, in response to a recent Watch Desk thread, <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/showth..>

Legeros - 08/10/07 - 19:40

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.

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.

Charleston Super Sofa Fire Tapes Released

08/10/07 19 W - + 14 - 12

The *Post and Courier* has [the story and audio links](#). No transcripts, yet.

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'?

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

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.

Vance County Church Fire

08/11/07 78 W, 1 I - + 10 - 14

WRAL has a [handful of photos](#) from the fire that consumed the Union Chapel Church sanctuary in Vance County yesterday afternoon. [Carolinas Fire Page](#) reported Bear Pond, Henderson, Cokesbury, Hicksboro, Kittrell, Townsville, Vance Station 3, Watkins & Epsom, Mitchiner's Crossroads, and Franklinton were on scene. Building reportedly about 8,000 square-feet, though can't confirm as the county real-estate records are incomplete, as often happens with property owned by tax-exempt entities. Such as churches and even municipal fire stations.



I count 7 on one line....now that's staffing.

Silver - 08/11/07 - 12:01

104 degrees and standing with a 2 1/2" line. Makes me tired just watching.

AB - 08/11/07 - 14:24

Looks like hose training at the Fire Academy the way they're advancing that line.

Rides A Truck - 08/11/07 - 17:18

Must have some pressure on that line!!!

4447 - 08/11/07 - 19:41

What is it, a 10" Line!

7444 - 08/11/07 - 19:49

Does anyone know if any aerial operations were used during the attack?

Roger A. - 08/11/07 - 19:50

No aerial operations, All water had to be tanked in, closest hydrant some distance away

rnln ([Email](#)) - 08/11/07 - 23:47

Specking of aerial ops in a none hydranted area, it can be done. Don't know if any of you remember maybe 10 years or so ago a old school that burned in Franklinton on US-1

a few miles south of this church fire (no hydrants). A ladder, can't remember may have been two were supplied with dump tanks and tankers. Can't remember all the details, so I guess it can be done if needed.

T.Saunders - 08/12/07 - 10:00

26 tankers from 20 departments on the Franklinton fire supplied Zebulon Aerial

say what!!! ([Email](#)) - 08/12/07 - 19:34

Henderson Car 1 came to the fire that day and advised "would have sent out ladder but you don't have hydrants". Command advised "if you got a minute hang around" Car 1 later seen going north back towards Henderson. Reports about two weeks later advised aerial set up beside Station 1 with drop tank on the ground.

say what - 08/12/07 - 19:41

Outstanding!!

Silver - 08/12/07 - 20:45

We have used our old aerial several times from a drop tank in the rural district. It can be done fine

Apex Batt Chief - 08/12/07 - 21:57

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](#))

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.

Before

08/11/07 109 W, 1 I - + 12 - 10

Station 16 with reserve rigs. Engine 124, a 1989 Pierce Arrow pumper that first served as Engine 13. It was one of three of the city's first Pierce pumpers. Ladder 112, a 1990 Spartan / LTI aerial ladder, 110-foot and the city's first aerial apparatus equipped with a pump. It exclusively served as Truck 11. The Lead Mine Road station is awaiting training on their replacement rigs, a 2007 Pierce Enforcer pumper and a 2007 Pierce Arrow XT aerial-ladder, 105-foot. Both should be in service soon. The station's regular rigs are a 1997 Pierce Saber pumper and a 1995 Simon-Duplex / LTI aerial platform, 100-foot. The latter has been out of service for some months.



They certainly deserve a couple new ones. Enjoy

AB - 08/11/07 - 10:54

Is The bumper on 112 still bent from the 10-50 can't tell in pic

4447 - 08/11/07 - 19:42

yes

AB - 08/12/07 - 10:58

Mike: Great pictures from the Shop. I wondered where they were hiding the Segrave Ladder or if it had been disposed of by now. Glad they got the "bone yard" away from the Training Center. The mechanics needed better equipment to take care of the enlarging fleet.

Jon C - 08/13/07 - 20:46

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Very Old Newspaper

08/14/07 75 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

Want to read a really old newspaper? Here's the [December 13, 1851](#) edition of the semi-weekly *Raleigh Register*. Four pages, scanned in halves. Big files, be patient. Enjoy.

[Why this particular issue? It's context for a coming essay on a major fire that occurred two days later, and the resulting development of a "modern" fire department. As a reader notes, it's also a warts-and-all picture of the past.]



"Sons and daughters of Ethiopia" wanted. How sobering & sad to see a slaves wanted advertisement posted right next to an ad for a general store.

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 08/14/07 - 20:05

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.

IAFF Media Awards

08/15/07 224 W - + 11 - 15

Earlier this year, the [Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association](#) sponsored the submission of some [FireNews articles](#) to the International Association of Fire Fighters [2007 Media Awards](#). Entered for the category Best Story on Web-Based News Site, the submitted articles included stories about the Raleigh Fire Department, with text by Mike Legeros and photography by Legeros, Lee Wilson, and Jeff Harkey.

The IAFF confirms that the article [New Tabletop Simulator](#), which was published on FireNews on January 16, 2006, won Honorable Mention in the above category. The cited winner is Mike Legeros, who wrote the story text. Though accompanied by excellent photos by Lee Wilson, we're told winners in Best Story on Web-Based News Site were judged on text alone. The IAFF does not presently have an "internet photo" category.

Mike Legeros thus extends his award to Lee Wilson, to share in this accomplishment. The incentive and information for Mike's reporting extends directly to Lee, who provided a steady stream of encouragement and added info. The award-winning article would not have been written without both the interest and participation of Lee Wilson. He helped make it happen.

The announcement of this and the other 2007 Media Awards will appear on the [IAFF web site](#) shortly, we're told, and will also appear in the IAFF magazine. Maybe another year they will add an "internet photography" category.

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'?

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

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.

D'oh!

08/16/07 15 W - + 12 - 13

Accidental deletion of some threads and their comments. Will restore over time, if possible.

Harry Carter Commentary

08/16/07 104 W - + 13 - 10

[Harry Carter](#) delivers a gut punch against ignorance in this compelling commentary titled [Booster Lines, Bullies, and Buffoons](#). The force of his conviction is startling, and his perspective might be mandatory reading. Without naming names, he also targets booster lines for attacking structure fires, which he says "qualifies you as a certifiable, Grade-A, All-American dumb ass." And he targets incident commanders who are prone to roam. "This would be laughable if it wasn't so common and so devastating to good order." Carter pulls no punches, nor delivers low blows. He just speaks strong words with strong sensibility. Let there be light.

Wow...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/16/07 - 20:16

I agree 100%.

Hubbell ([Email](#)) - 08/17/07 - 14:34

It's amazing how long the booster line has held on. Even back in the 80s there were a lot of people that were pushing eliminating them from anything but brush trucks. But I know of one department that bought a used 75' quint, and then had twin boosters added afterwards, losing two storage compartments in the process. And I have heard all of the arguments for keeping them. Things like "you can fight a lot of fire if you catch it early" or "they allow you to get some water on the fire quicker". Yeah right. You used to see a lot of chimneys left standing as a testament to the efficiency of the booster line.

And it's amazing how long we have been using ICS and it still has not fully caught on. I have to agree with Mr. Carter (or is it Dr. Carter? Seems to me that he got a PhD along the way) that you have to use it every time, because if you can't use it on the little stuff, you dang sure can't use it on the big stuff. I would also go as far as to say we need to use it on EVERY call, even the single unit calls. That way we get used to it. And it is important that EMS knows how to use it, too. Frequently, the fire units arrive ahead of us, so we never get to 'call command' all that much. And maybe we could give 'size-ups', too ("one-story skilled nursing facility, investigating in division one"). We should also be practicing the transfers of command, as well. If RFD arrives at a cardiac call first, what do they do? They call command. When the EMS unit arrives, should they not be 'assuming command'. A lot of times we release the fire company before we actually transport the patient. Assuming command would be so much as to make it seem that the firefighters can't do it, but we need to get in the habits, too.

OK, I'll let someone else talk now.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/17/07 - 15:36

all this to go along with the recommendations put forth by the investigative panel today...

I won't say pull the boosters off the truck, as they have their place: grass fires, rubbish fires, etc and can be effective for mop-up and clean up. But for fire attack on anything relevant, ie vehicles or structures put a 1 1/2 or 1 3/4 into operation.

But it's amazing to read what the panel put out today, a lot of things that those of us around here take for granted and consider normal everyday practices are foreign in Charleston.... makes you wonder how many other departments out there could take a good look at their operations.

I think that here in Wake County at least we have made a great start in implementing a lot of things over the past couple of years. And it can only get better.

and DJ, now what would be awesome is if you could give me a building construction type on arrival... I'd come off the truck with a huge grin on that one!

Stay safe out there everybody

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/17/07 - 17:00

OK...I'll have to clear out the cobwebs...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/17/07 - 17:04

As to my knowledge that department still has both booster reels on the truck and I'm sure they haven't used them since the truck was purchased. but like everyone says, they have their place and on a ladder truck isn't its place

guest - 08/17/07 - 18:01

If any of you have time... go to <http://www.firefighterhourly.com/> and read some of the comments on that page about Charleston. Most of the guys on there appear to be from Charleston FD and are hoping for a change. There are many comments about this particular article on that blog, most all of which support a change in tactics and leadership. I found it quite interesting... and shocking, to say the least.

Luke - 08/18/07 - 11:20

[Editorial note. Comments and discussions about Charleston are probably best posted to those sites, versus here. Comments about comments, as above, are probably fine. Probably. It's a thick muck with those issues, and we can only wish the best for those to the south.]

Legeros - 08/18/07 - 12:12

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'?

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

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.

National 9/11 Memorial and Museum Coming to Raleigh

08/16/07 87 W, 1 I - + 14 - 9

Press release. The National September 11 Memorial and Museum-- a traveling exhibition that pays tribute to the victims and heroes of the September 11, 2001, terrorists attacks on America-- will appear in Raleigh on September 15 and 16. The exhibition will be in front of the municipal building in the 200 block of West Hargett Street and Nash Square. Mayor Charles Meeker will preside over the opening ceremony which will begin at 10 a.m. on Sept. 15 in front of City Hall. [Read the complete press release.](#)



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'?

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

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.

Usage Information, Search Information

08/17/07 97 W - + 15 - 11

So, how many people read this thing? Yesterday, 197 unique people visited the blog site (both main page and sub-pages), 432 unique people visited the [photo site](#) (ditto), 499 unique people visited the [Raleigh/Wake fire departments site](#) (ditto), and 659 unique people visited [legeros.com](#) (ditto). Usage information from [Google Analytics](#). How do people find the blog? Using Google, both "firefighting blog" and "raleigh blog" get you there easily. Same for "firefighting blogs" and "raleigh blogs." Not so for "fire blog" or "wake blog." And there are other combinations that work or don't work, of course.

 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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

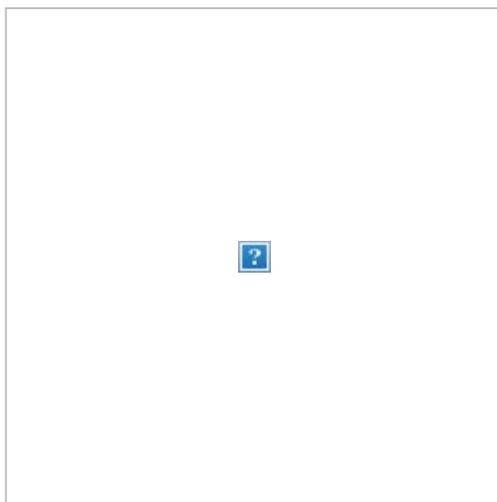
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

San Francisco ALF E-3 Centennial Edition

08/17/07 127 W, 2 I - + 13 - 15

Though our interest in [die-cast emergency vehicles](#) rarely surfaces in this forum, one of the best-looking Code 3 Collectibles releases to appear in a long while was announced today, a 1:64 replica of a 2006 American LaFrance Eagle pumper, lettered or San Francisco Engine Co. 3. Limited to 1,500 pieces, it's [exclusively available from the Fire & Cop Shop](#). Alas, it's also pricey. Material and manufacturing costs have risen in recent years.



About the actual apparatus, Engine 3 was one of ten engines designed to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the 1906 earthquake and fire. The trucks were detailed to resemble their century-old counterparts. Paint was sampled from the original steamer and hand cart on display at the department headquarters, and used to create the color scheme. [More information](#)

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'?

Remember When?

08/17/07 94 W, 2 I - + 15 - 9

A [collection of color slides](#) was recently discovered by the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center. The pictures date to the 1970s and 1980s (and later?), and include extensive images of the comm center, as well as some fire, police, and rescue pictures. Based on their object and subject matter, they appear to have been part of a presentation. Perhaps someone here remembers seeing them in their original form. Big thanks to the ECC for scanning these slides, and sharing these treats.



Around the time that these slides were done, there was a public service announcement that aired on the three TV stations back then (5, 11, and 28) that I believe was advertising the 'new' 829-1911 emergency number (My mother still has a rotary dial phone that has a sticker that glowed in the dark on the handset. It shows that the number for fire calls in Raleigh was 755-6331, while the number for police calls was 755-6311. The sticker came from Mitchell Funeral Home. There is another sticker on the phone for Beacon Ambulance, who's number was 828-0737.). That PSA had a man talking on the call box phone, showed a dispatcher talking on the radio, then cut to a shot of the old RESCUE 1

and one of the Macks coming out of station 1. It then cut to the intersection of Martin and Person, as well as Martin and Bloodworth, where they caught a shot of one of RPDs old Plymouths coming in with blue lights and sirens, then you saw RESCUE 1 come up and the man in the suit running up to them.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/17/07 - 22:01

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](#))

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.

Six Forks

08/17/07 121 W, 1 I - + 10 - 13

Those [old photos from the ECC](#) include this picture of Six Forks' fourth and last fire station. Six Forks Road Fire Department was first housed at Howell Store on the west side of Six Forks Road, where North Hills Mall is today. The second location was on east side Six Forks Road, halfway between Rowan and Lassiter Mill. The third location, 5305 Six Forks Road, is presently EMS Station #3. The siren, however, was located farther north, at the intersection with Sandy Forks. The fourth location, 1431 Lynn Road, was expanded a couple times, and presently serves as Bay Leaf Station #3 and Six Fork EMS Station #1. Great picture, and a rare one. [More information about SFFD.](#)



A lot of memories in that place, still serving too!

AB - 08/18/07 - 17:49

Wow, lots of memories there. 10 good years I gave them.

JE Texas ([Email](#)) - 08/18/07 - 18:40

Short history of rural fire departments in Wake County, from the introduction to *Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting, Volume II*:

Beginning in the 1950s, formal fire protection became available outside of Raleigh and those small-town centers. A rural fire department program enabled any group of citizens to organize a volunteer department. The Office of Civil Defense offered funding, equipment, and a county-wide radio network. Lower insurance rates were an added incentive. And so they formed— inside, outside, and entirely removed from Wake's municipalities. Residents of Garner, Knightdale, Morrisville, and Rolesville formed their town's first fire companies in the 1950's. In the suburbs of Raleigh, the New Hope, Six Forks Road, and Western Boulevard fire departments formed in the late 1950s; the Durham Highway and Fairgrounds fire departments forming in the early 1960s. (Who were these volunteers? Six Forks Road members in 1958 included a grocer, barber, detective, telephone man, lawyer, school teacher, florist, mail carrier, heating contractor, two mechanics, a Civil Defense official, and several State workers.)

In those towns that already had fire departments, "rural service" was started for farmers and others located outside the incorporated limits of Apex, Fuquay Springs, Wake Forest, Wendell, and Zebulon. Though staffed by the same set of firemen, these were separate entities with separate equipment. (The exception was Cary, whose volunteer fire department split in 1961 into separate groups with separate equipment and separate personnel. They became the Cary and Yrac fire departments.) Other communities that formed fire companies were Stony Hill in 1958, Swift Creek in 1960, Bay Leaf in 1961, and Fairview in 1963. The trend continued into later decades, as well, with the formation of the Falls, Holly Springs, and Hopkins fire departments and the opening of "substations" or second stations in places like Carpenter, Panther Branch, and Wake Crossroads.

Once a rural fire department was formed, volunteers and community members built the necessary infrastructure. They held fundraisers and gave money; elected directors and established by-laws. They donated barns and garages for storing trucks; built tin sheds and block buildings as the first firehouses. They even constructed their own fire apparatus, typically converting surplus vehicles into homebuilt pumpers and tankers. The Fairview Fire Department was a typical example. Their first fire engine was built from an ex-weapons carrier. Members added a water tank and pump, mounted two taillights as warning lights, and applied a coat of donated paint in a chicken shack. It was stored in a building whose doors were untied, laid flat, and driven over when they responded to a call.

Legeros - 08/18/07 - 20:18

JE! Good to hear from you man! Things are a changin' in ole County of Wake...
Come see us when your back to visit...hit the bar for some stories. AB

AB - 08/18/07 - 20:52

Hey AB...Man,there's been a lot of change in Wake County.
I've only been away about 10 years and can't believe
the things I read on this site. Departmets merging, changing names
and all the cool new appartaus.....

JE Texas ([Email](#)) - 08/20/07 - 21:00

Or all the not so cool new apparatus.....

maybe - 08/21/07 - 18:57

Here we go again. Closing comments.

Legeros - 08/21/07 - 19:14

Charleston Panel Recommendations

08/17/07 42 W - + 12 - 18

The panel investigating the Charleston Super Sofa fire has released their first round of recommendations. [Firehouse has the story and the full list](#). It's also being covered and discussed other sites, including the [Post and Courier](#) and [Firefighter Hourly](#).

Super Scooper to Retire

08/18/07 70 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

Today's *News & Observer* tells that the [NCDFR is planning to retire its Canadair CL-215 air tanker](#). Costs too much to operate. Based in Hickory, the 38-year-old aircraft was purchased 10 years ago, loads 1,400 gallons of water in about 10 seconds, and, between 1999 and 2004, was used on 135 fires. It's also been leased to other states to fight wildfires. They're looking at a replacement. [More information about NCDFR aviation assets](#).



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'?

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

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.

Plan Advanced to Help EMS

08/18/07 47 W, 1 I - + 16 - 10

Another *News & Observer* story, this one from yesterday, about [community emergency preparedness programs](#), and involving Six Forks EMS and the Raleigh Fire Department. It appeared in the *North Raleigh News* section, which, curiously, isn't part of the daily online edition. Go figure.



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'?

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

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.

American LaFrance 175th Anniversary Celebration and Grand Opening

08/18/07 84 W - + 16 - 11

There's a two-day celebration planned in [Summerville, SC](#), on October 19 and 20, to celebrate both the 175th anniversary of American LaFrance, and the opening of their new factory. Friday and Saturday. Grand opening events include a building wet down, supplier exhibits, and factory tours. Anniversary events include a swap meet, antique apparatus on display, and seminars on steamers, antiques, and gold leaf. Plus tours of the new North Charleston Fire Museum. Four hours from Raleigh. [More information](#).

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'?

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

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.

Conference Schedule

08/18/07 47 W, 3 I - + 18 - 9

[Here's the schedule](#)  for the North Carolina State Firemen's Association and North Carolina Association of Fire Chief's conference in Winston-Salem next week. For those attending for the exhibits and vendors, they're scheduled for 9:00-5:00 on Friday, and 8:00-3:00 on Saturday. See you there.



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'?

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

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.

Raleigh Area Public Safety Racing League (RAPS)

08/19/07 311 W - + 12 - 11

Press release. Raleigh Area Public Safety Racing League (RAPS) has incorporated as a nonprofit organization. Steps are being taken to make RAPS a tax deductible charitable organization.

There are two major functions of RAPS. The first is the development of the adult public safety endurance karting races for public safety agencies, like we did in January and June of this year. The next RAPS race is scheduled for January 2008. We are also planning a RAPS "practice session" this fall with a couple of days of discounted rates and specials for RAPS participants at RushHour. I will send out the final dates for those events this month.

The second function is the development of a youth program centered around kart racing. The goal is to formally introduce children to organized motor sports, and to provide a positive, life-enhancing experience for the youth involved. In developing "RAPS Youth," we are planning an 8 week youth racing league this fall at RushHour. The league will be sanctioned and run by RAPS, but will be open to all youth ages 8-15 years old. Plans for RAPS Youth include "club nights" and other events with instruction from motor sports professionals and mentoring from public safety professionals.

Everyone is invited to participate with the youth program at whatever level they desire. It may be something as simple as being present for a youth league race to something as involved as teaching some technical skills. You do not have to be personally in motor sports or public safety to be involved in RAPS. Everyone is welcome, and no commitment is required.

Our hope is that the many motor sports and public safety professionals associated with RAPS can collectively provide a positive experience for area youth.

In the mean time, get those teams together for the January race!!

Contact: Jeffrey Hammerstein, 919-625-3260

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'?

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

Charleston Super Sofa Fire Narrative

08/19/07 72 W - + 20 - 11

The *Post and Courier* has published a [narrative of the June 18 fire](#) that killed nine Charleston firefighters. It's a blow-by-report that opens with the first 911 call, and closes when officials confirmed the nine missing firefighters. There's also an [accompanying graphic](#). Expect any questions about accuracy or advocacy to appear in the reader comments. Or, stop reading at the end of story, and just absorb the account itself.

2 Firefighters die in NYC in building damaged during 9/11....terrible, there has been a large amount of ff deaths in the last month, everyone be safe and careful.

DHFD - 08/19/07 - 16:47

I believe there have been 4 LODDs since July 27, in North Carolina alone. One wonders if at least 2 of those might have been heat related. Everyone stay safe, stay hydrated, and look out for each other.

Luke - 08/20/07 - 01:03

this is really very sad news that firefighters died and i guess there had been some problem which they could not solve and on trying that they loose their lives,this is really very sad news

rohan
sofa

[rohan] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/02/08 - 02:06

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'?

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

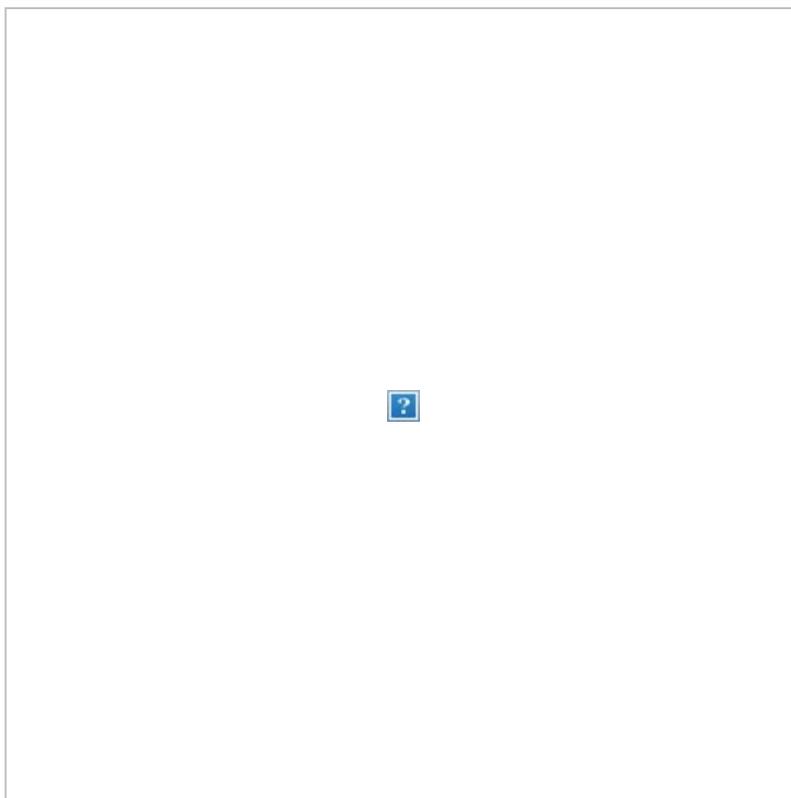
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Dramatic Video Footage

08/20/07 77 W, 1 I - + 18 - 16

Here's something you don't see every day, [video footage of a Boeing 737 exploding at an airport in Okinawa, Japan](#). No fatalities, and only minor injuries. The pilot is seen escaping from the cockpit at the very moment of the explosion. There's also a [slideshow of photos](#). Those are Morita crash trucks, along with what looks like an older Fuso. The stills show some other units, pumper, tanker, etc. Below is an [image from MSNBC](#).



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

Strange Radio Transmissions

08/20/07 36 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

We're hearing some strange radio traffic this week, skipped signals from somewhere far away. One from Myrtle Beach was ID'ed. Caused by weather? Solar activity? Something else? Donning protective headgear as a precaution...



UFO's.

Flip (Email) - 08/20/07 - 18:37

Flip has the answer... or a little thing called Propagation... happens this time of year... others on Radioreference.com have reported radio skip activity... I myself have caught some long distance catches early in the AM using just a rubber duck antenna and a Pro96. :-)

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] (Email) (Web Site) - 08/20/07 - 21:10

Heard Coast Guard Group Fort Macon on Marine 16 this morning around 8am on the scanner in my car. Still in the scanlist from this past weekend. Guess the VHF duct was wide open.

Olson - 08/20/07 - 22:23

Brooklyn FDNY very clear this AM on 154.370 in E Wake Co. "Kay"

Olson - 08/29/07 - 09:30

^Heard them as well...now that's a heck of a Mutual Aid Run! :-)

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] (Email) (Web Site) - 08/29/07 - 10:11

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)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

This Morning's Fire

08/20/07 355 W, 1 I - + 18 - 9

The three-alarm fire at 3833 Bonneville Court was reported at 3:56 a.m. Dispatchers advised that multiple calls were being received, and occupants were reportedly trapped. Police were first on scene, and also reported that people were trapped. Officers were later credited with going door-to-door to awaken residents. Three occupants were transported, at least one of which jumped from a balcony. Two firefighters also sustained minor injuries, and were transported and soon released. Some of the companies responded from the scene of an earlier working fire with Engine 21.



Battalion 1 reported smoke showing from Atlantic Avenue. Engine 11 arrived at 4:01 a.m, reporting a major working fire and resulting in an automatic second-alarm dispatch at that time. Crews had heavy fire showing from a three-story, 11,898 square-foot, apartment building. Flames were showing through the roof, with at least two of the three floors involved. The third alarm was requested after several minutes.

Battalion 1 assumed command, then Car 5. At least two supply lines of several hundred feet were laid along narrow, congested roads and parking lots. Two aerial streams were started, first Ladder 16 and then Ladder 22. Apparatus staged in parking lots, and on both Bonneville Court and New Hope Church Road. Police closed access to Bonneville Court at New Hope Church Road.

The building's four hour-rated firewall reportedly prevented the fire from spreading into the adjoining second structure. Occupants were evacuated from both buildings. The fire was reported under control at 5:55 a.m. Damage was sustained to 14 of the 22 apartments, and with a partial collapse of the structure. Fire damaged 6 apartments. About 70 people were displaced, though some news reports cited a higher number. The fire was suspected as starting on the balcony.

"A" shift units included E6, E7, E9, E11, E12, E13, E15, E19, L1, L11, L16, L22, R7, R14, R19, B1, B2, B4, C2, C4, C5, C198, A8, FC1, M4, EMS3, EMS5, EMS7, EMS8, EMS16, EMS1271, EMS101, EMS200, EMS203, EMS T1.

"C" shift brought relief companies, who remained on scene until Friday evening. Other agencies on scene included RPD, SBI, Emergency Management, Red Cross, and Barry's Cafe.

[Aerial photograph of building.](#)

Thanks for the updated info, Jason.

Legeros - 08/20/07 - 21:12

For what it is worth I was completely impressed with the EMS set up and the way they managed rehab. Amazing how far we have come from gatorade and a new bottle.

Porter - 08/20/07 - 21:39

Was this a 3 alarm or 4 alarm gig (with relief companies also added of course)?

Silver - 08/20/07 - 22:53

Three alarms total. Updated original posting. Photos also posted.

Legeros - 08/21/07 - 04:26

Original posting updated.

Legeros - 08/21/07 - 22:37

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'?

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

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.

Damn

08/21/07 30 W, 1 I - + 18 - 16

Record temps. Rapid spread. Remarkable response. Remarkable responders. And [but blocks from the last one](#). There's already a [discussion over at the Watch Desk](#). Pics coming. Click to enlarge:



First round of photos posted. Also attempted agency and unit listing, and partial incident description.

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 08/22/07 - 20:34

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Proposed Wake County Apparatus* « **Damn** » **Garner Rescue's New R...** *Numbering Scheme*

Proposed Wake County Apparatus Numbering Scheme

08/21/07 36 W - + 14 - 13

FireNews has created and posted a [proposed Wake County apparatus numbering scheme](#). Should start some people talking. Discuss on the [FireNews forums](#). There's also a [Watch Desk thread](#) about same.

Garner Rescue's New Rescue

08/22/07 36 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Updated. This 2007 Spartan / EVI heavy rescue arrived today at Garner EMS. More information to follow. Here are [pictures from Lee](#). Thanks for the prior pic, Dena.



Looks like a spartan gladiator to me... evi body maybe?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/22/07 - 20:32

i like the roto ray!

nice - 08/22/07 - 21:47

Saw a truck the other day with two roto rays, sure will make your head spin. Does everyone think that is a good warning light to have, better than say flashing headlights, strobes, etc?

Spun out - 08/22/07 - 21:56

Herd through the grapevine like the power call the roto ray has been proven in studies to move traffic better and safer.

Power Call Sirens For ALL!!! - 08/22/07 - 22:29

For the most part, the 'PowerCall' siren tone is a 'wailing' sound. If people around here would stop using the 'yelp' and 'phaser' settings on the electronic sirens, people would move better. The wail tones travel further and you can distinguish which way they are coming from, as opposed to the yelp and phaser that, while sounding 'cooler' to some, do not travel as far and you cannot accurately distinguish which way they are coming from.

But yeah, the PowerCall does sound better, as does the B&M Super Chief as opposed to the Federal Q2B.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/23/07 - 06:49

Is that an LED roto-ray?

Gooch - 08/24/07 - 00:33

Yes it is LED,

From what I understand the first LED Roto Ray.

LED - 08/24/07 - 04:40

I thought Garner Fire was doing rescue in Garner?

Boy Wonder - 08/24/07 - 13:47

I believe they are both providing rescue service to the garner area

i think.... - 08/24/07 - 15:07

GEMS and their rescue service was ably explained in this prior blog thread, <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog..>

Legeros - 08/24/07 - 17:09

Not the first LED, maybe for this area yes. I saw one up in VA while on my way to Baltimore last month.

Silver - 08/24/07 - 21:07

So what is the staffing level for this truck?

guest - 08/25/07 - 09:58

Lee has posted some pictures: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a..>

Legeros - 08/25/07 - 15:22

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'?

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

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.

Remaking Raleigh City Hall

08/22/07 33 W - + 19 - 8

Here's an interesting *News & Observer* article on [municipal expansion in downtown Raleigh](#). It references the planned Public Safety Center, and speculates on the value of the land around Station 1.

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

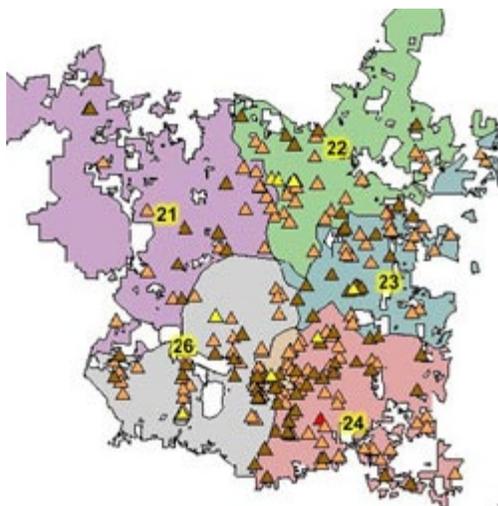
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

IMAPS Adds Raleigh Crime Data

08/23/07 41 W, 1 I - + 21 - 11

Here's the [WRAL story](#), and here's the [map site](#). Cool, and can fire and/or EMS data be added some day? Durham has a [similar site](#), which also includes stats.



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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Firemen's Conventions, 1907

08/23/07 199 W - + 17 - 17

100 years ago, the North Carolina State Firemen's Association 20th annual convention and tournament was held in Wilmington. The four-day event, which started August 6, attracted over 30 fire companies. James D. McNeill, Fayetteville's Fire Chief, was elected President for the 14th consecutive year. Raleigh's L. A. Mahler Steamer Company won first place in the long-distance steamer contest. Raleigh's Capitol Hose Company won third place in the horse hose wagon races. That race had 13 entries including Asheville, Concord, Durham, Goldsboro, Kinston, New Bern, Rocky Mount, Salisbury, and Statesville. Attendance at the interstate events on August 9 was estimated at 10,000.

Also that year, the North Carolina Volunteer Firemen's Association held its 18th convention and tournament in Durham. The three-day event, which started August 13, brought between 700 and 800 colored firemen to the city. James A. Plummer, from Warrenton, was elected President for his 11th year. Raleigh's Victor Company won first place in three events, the 150-yard reel race, the 50-yard grab reel race, and the 100 yard dash. Upon their return to Raleigh, the Victors were greeted by a crowd at Union Depot, the railroad station once located beside and behind the land that Station 1 occupies. You can still see some railroad tracks back there.

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](#))

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.

Raleigh's Old Tiller on eBay

08/25/07 27 W, 1 I - + 12 - 19

Found by a reader, Raleigh's former [1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance tiller](#)-- which also served Wendell-- is [for sale on eBay](#). Place your bets!



looks like it should be sent to Falls, Holly Springs, or Knightdale Fire departments to be put in service with the black paint scheme

Nice - 08/25/07 - 19:32

RFD should buy it back and refurb it.

Silver - 08/25/07 - 19:59

good point, great antique to have at station 28

Good point - 08/25/07 - 20:26

Silver, I say lets buy it and take the ladder off. Put bench seating down both sides of the trailer and we can use it as a taxi for the Glenwood South and warehouse districts. We could get a bunch of us to work it and charge \$5.00 to ride it. You can only imagine! I rode it as a reserve at 15 and drove it to it's first structure fire in Wendell. That truck was awesome to ride on. Back when we first started running "RIT" we were sending the 2nd trucks out as RIT. We went on some good working fires with that old Mack!

Jason Lane - 08/25/07 - 20:49

I like your thought process on that J, but the insurance for that would be outrageous!!! I really wish we'd go back to the 2nd ladder as RIT, for the simple fact of the tool compliment, not to mention the manpower.

It would be cool to have it back though.

I notice on ebay that it's down in Shalotte, were they using it?

Silver - 08/26/07 - 20:37

Wendell sold it to Civietown FD in Supply (Brunswick County) last year when the new Pierce ladder arrived. I've got a source down there inquiring as to why it's for sale already.

Olson - 08/26/07 - 21:26

Civietown bought a a used Baker Aerialscope on a Mack CF Chassis.Word was thay had sold the tiller to a local tree timming service.To much history in that rig for it to go out like that!!

Jeremy Meares - 08/27/07 - 08:14

The seller is asking \$13,000 for the rig. Need to start a collection and then donate it to Raleigh for the collection at Station 28.

Jon C - 08/27/07 - 18:53

He'd probably take \$10,000.....

Silver - 08/27/07 - 21:16

If memory serves me right and I have been wrong before but here is a shot! Sometime around 98 or 99 the old tiller went on city auction for an unknown amount to a man at the coast. Wendell bought it for around \$8,000 and sent it to the American LaFrance plant here in NC. It cost WFD around \$8,000 to refurbish the hydraulics and repair the problems in the ladder from the ladder test. New diamond tread and extras done in house. If I remember correct the big sales pitch WFD 100 gave to the board back then was a "million dollar truck for less than \$20,000". Total cost to WFD was around \$16,000 put into that Mack.

Jason Lane - 08/27/07 - 22:30

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'?

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

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.

Fire Company Nicknames

08/25/07 105 W - + 22 - 13

Observed in Winston-Salem, a sign on the rear of Engine 1 reading "Rough and Ready." The nickname is likely drawn from Salem's volunteer Rough and Ready Fire Company, which operated for decades prior to the merging of Winston and Salem in 1913. What volunteer companies could be adopted as nicknames in Raleigh? The apparatus, equipment, and quarters of the Capital Hose Company were utilized by Hose Company No. 1, beginning at the end of 1912. Hose Company No. 2 replaced the Rescue Company at the same time. Hose Company No. 3. replace the Victor Company, beginning February 1913. The hose companies were named engine companies in the mid-1920s.

Just a thought. Capital Punishment for Engine 1 and Glenwood South for Engine 13

say what!!! - 08/30/07 - 12:16

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](#))

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.

Greece

08/25/07 39 W, 1 I - + 17 - 17

Dramatic photo of the week. From [New York Times article on deadly fires in Greece](#). Post-apocalyptic picture credited to Louisa Gouliamaki/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images. That's a fire truck on its side in the foreground. Click to enlarge:



Speaking of Greeks speaking to Greeks speaking of Greece, here's a familiar face (cousin) reporting from Seattle:

<http://www.kirotv.com/video/13988911/ind..>

Legeros - 08/28/07 - 22:11

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'?

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

Everybody Loves a Parade

08/25/07 59 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

Today's activities in Winston-Salem included a parade of emergency apparatus. The rigs represented fire and emergency agencies in Forsyth County. Plus motorcycles. The procession started at Winston-Salem Fire Station 1 and proceeded past the M.C. Benton Convention Center, and continued for several blocks. Numerous attendees were observed smiling widely.



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'?

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

Gone

08/26/07 101 W, 1 I - + 12 - 15

Recognize this empty lot? That's 127 North Main Street, site of Holly Springs first municipal fire station. After the department was formed on April 1, 1995, they occupied a temporary fire station at the Omaha Meat Company building at corner of Thomasmill Road and Irving Parkway. There may have been one or two other temporary locations as well. The Main Street station, a metal building, was completed in September. The municipal and rural departments merged in August-September 1997. The Main Street station closed in April 2006, when the Holly Springs Road station opened. The former station was subsequently demolished.



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](#))

Forest Hill Fire Department

08/26/07 109 W, 1 I - + 18 - 17

This interesting and seemingly deactivated fire station was spotted on Germantown Road, about a mile south of Highway 52 in Winston-Salem. Forest Hill Volunteer Fire Department, and with what looked like rigs inside each bay. Upon inquiry at the convention, and closer inspection of the building, the station was closed in July of last year. FHFD operates in solely Stokes county, now. The building is apparently privately owned, and houses a half-dozen former FHFD rigs, including what looked like a pair of Mack B pumpers (!) and a World War II era-looking Willy's Jeep brush truck. Very cool. [More former firehouses.](#)



funny, I found myself driving past that very station earlier today wondering if it was still in operation....

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/26/07 - 19:03

Mike –

I learned after my grandfather passed away 10 yrs ago that he was a founding member of this FD. Wish I had know before...

McGraw - 08/26/07 - 20:48

More information about FHFD, found at <http://cms.firehouse.com/dept/WinstonSal..>

The Forest Hill Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1953 under the guidance of the Forest Hill Civic Club, Inc. Our last charter member, John Conrad died in March, 2007. John was a dedicated member for over ten years; he was our Chief Engineer on the B. F. Huntley Furniture Company Fire in Winston-Salem (1957). This was the largest fire in the history of Winston-Salem which burned over two city blocks. John was also our main pump operator on the Rural Hall Hotel Fire (1959). Our new Germantown Substation is almost completed and will be put into service this summer. This project was made possible through a limited operational agreement with the South Stokes Volunteer Fire Department. This Station will serve the southern part of the South Stokes District and will be available for mutual aid, if needed, in southern parts of Stokes County and in northern parts of Forsyth County. All of this was made possible by the hard work of Forsyth County Fire Administrator F. Reed Jarvis and Assistant County Manager Ron Graham. We appreciate the votes and support of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners and the Stokes County Board of Fire Commissioners. Our Winston-Salem Station will be maintained by the Forest Hill Civic Club as an Historical Fire Museum. Our vintage fire apparatus and fire equipment will be on display at this location including two 1953 Mack Pumpers, 1972 Howe Pumper, 1967 Mack Pumper, 1962 Willys Jeep and 1973 Squad Vehicle. All Forest Hill members as of June 30, 2006 will remain at their current rank in perpetuity.

Info on the Civic Club, <http://www.geocities.com/hotsprings/fall..>

Legeros - 08/27/07 - 07:46

Mike i was looking thru your past firehouse site and came across two items. The city of WS fire station at 100 Arbor rd is still in use, It is now

the home of Rescue Company 1 along with a spare engine. Also in the county triangle Fire Department is no more . The building is in the process of being re-done for an EMS base for Forsyth County EMS Just I thought that I would pass this along

C Simmons ([Email](#)) - 08/28/07 - 17:49

In its last years, the department was in an interesting position. As the city continued to annex more and more of the county, the station ended up within the city limits...despite remaining a "county" fire station. Ultimately, Forest Hill's district was compressed down to a small area of about a square mile, located several miles away from the fire station. At times, there were calls right at the station, or within sight (100') on which city units were dispatched, and Forest Hill was ignored.

The building remains in the ownership of the Forest Hills Civic Club. A new station has been built in Stokes County, and the department will operate out of it.

The apparatus that remain behind include some interesting historical gems, all in excellent condition. Twin 1952 Model 405A hard-top Mack 500 GPM engines, quite possibly the only two remaining of their kind, and a Willys open-top jeep are among some of the finer pieces in this collection.

J.T. ([Email](#)) - 12/14/07 - 22:24

Belated postscript. Found this info in the FN archives: <http://www.carolinasfirepage.com/firenew..>

Legeros - 06/01/08 - 11:37

The article listed in Carolina Firespage was not authorized by the department. (It was released prematurely by a member without permission). Nevertheless, it is accurate.

The new station was subsequently constructed in Stokes, and is operational. The older apparatus were left with the original building. With support, the goal would be to convert the former station into a fire museum.

The fact that the all-volunteer company held an ISO 4 rating is impressive. It is especially impressive given that the fire station was actually located several miles from the district. In the final years (during which the most recent ISO study was conducted), if the firehouse had caught on fire, the fire company housed within it would not have been dispatched!!! This is because the fire station was well within the city, while the fire district which the station actually protected was situated several miles away.

Ace ([Email](#)) - 06/21/08 - 23:17

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

The History of Rural Fire Departments in North Carolina

08/26/07 215 W - + 12 - 14

Speaking of rural fire departments, what's their history statewide? Does their development mirror what happened in Wake County, with private fire protection organizations first appearing in the early 1950s? The [North Carolina Secretary of State's Corporations search site](#) provides some insight. Search on "fire department" and, though limited to 500 results, some things become apparent. They also confirm a suspected post-War trend, with populations moving into suburban and rural areas, requesting or securing fire protection, and the availability of Civil Defense funding toward that purpose. And then the process continuing for decades.

The first 500 results, searching only active corporation names containing "fire department," show the following distribution of organization dates.

Organized in 1920s - 1 (Black Mountain)
Organized in 1930s - 1 (Enfield)
Organized in 1950s - 109
Organized in 1960s - 124
Organized in 1970s - 132
Organized in 1980s - 95
Organized in 1990s - 25
Organized in 2000s - 13

These are rough results. There are likely some duplicates. The data also includes departments tied to municipalities, such as Black Mountain and Enfield.

And what was the first rural/suburban fire department in the state, and not associated with a municipality? One candidate is Bessemer, north of Greensboro, formed circa 1940. Update. Another is Rural Hall in Forsyth County, formed 1939.

More research required.

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'?

Mystery Seagrave on 401 South

08/29/07 78 W - + 12 - 17

A reader reports that a Seagrave 70th Anniversary engine, open cab and with a Mars light on the radiator, is sitting along Highway 401 south, between Ten Ten and Simpkins Road. It's on the north-bound side. Reportedly faded, and with a sign on the passenger side window. More information as it is investigated. What other old apparatus are sitting out, around here? There's a custom-cab Seagrave sitting on Carpenter Pond Road, north of Raleigh. Ex-Havelock.

As you travel up and down I-95, between Jacksonville and the NC line, the following can be seen (at least they were there in February)-

- ALF 900 series 85' straight ladder, enclosed cab, red
- Mack CF series pumper, white
- ALF 700 series pumper, enclosed cab, red
- Mack CF series pumper, red

And on NC 210, just off of I-40, going towards US 17, is a 1950 or so GMC pumper, looks like an American Fire Apparatus, white, that is steadily rusting away

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/29/07 - 19:47

There's an ALF mid-mount sitting in a field behind a certain adult establishment off I-95, and south of I-40. Ex-Kinston, I believe. They had two, if memory serves. 700 and 900 series.

Legeros - 08/29/07 - 19:50

And Rocky Mount's ALF tiller was sitting outside a commercial establishment outside Wilmington, a year or two ago. Still there?

Legeros - 08/29/07 - 19:51

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Cultural Comparisons

08/29/07 146 W - + 20 - 9

[Firehouse.com](#) reports this week on a Swedish firefighter and R&D engineer who [presented a critical perspective of the American fire service](#). The article is also being bluntly discussed on this [Firehouse forums thread](#). Whatever one's reaction to the Dr. Svensson's reported comments, the context poses a compelling question. What are the cultural differences between our ways and others? How do we fight or prevent fires differently than others?

Google finds this USFA article from 1997, [Fire Death Rate Trends: An International Perspective](#). The 20-page report (available as both PDF and TXT) includes some very interesting perspectives on cultural approaches and attitudes toward fires, fighting fires, and preventing fires. Response time, national building codes, and fire prevention staffing differences are particularly fascinating.

What other comparative articles are out there? Here's one [comparing PPE in Mexico, Hong Kong, and Essex](#), but, alas, it's not free.

I dug the article...the critical perspective one. Although I don't believe the fire service to be "just a job". If it were just a job not a single one of us would stop on the side of a traffic accident to help. That's besides the point. I thought it pretty amazing that the Swedish Fire Service has only had 1 LODD in the last 7 years as compared to our numbers. They use 3-d firefighting tactics or "Fog Attack". One of those highly questionable ideas I put on the watch desk awhile back. Could their lower LODD rate be a direct result of said tactic? I don't know enough about the Swedish side of things to say one way or another, but still find myself a fan of a properly used fog attack. Seems like something worth researching though. Without a doubt.

Flip ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/30/07 - 03:16

This just happened last night. <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/news/140..>

Boston Fire lost 2 brothers last night.

Duke - 08/30/07 - 06:48

Go to the firehouse thread Flip and read the numbers. They have 10000 FF's in their country where we have over a million. We have 32 times more people in our country than they do. Yet you are more likely to die in a fire in Sweden as a citizen than in the US. There are a lot of cultural differences including their building construction. It is all in that thread.

Mike - 08/30/07 - 09:54

OK.. to compare the US Fire Service to Sweden's, to me, is apples to oranges. Compare these numbers from 2002:

FIRE IN THE U.S. AND SWEDEN, 2002

U.S.

Fire Incidents: 1,687,500

Deaths:* 3,426

Property Damage: \$10.3 billion-\$15.5 billion

Population (resident): 288,369,000

Area (square miles): 3,620,000

Sweden

Fire Incidents: 27,000

Deaths: 137

Property Damage: 3.7 billion krona

Population: 8,950,000

Area (square miles): 174,000

They have 16,000 firefighters as compared to the US reported 1,136,650 firefighters. They cover a population roughly the size of New York City.

Did he bring up some good points or point? Yes. We do need to better attempt to lower the number of cardio related LODDs. Will we ever get rid of all cardio related LODDs? No. Some of them could not be prevented, they are related to family history. Our "aggressive" tactics must be paying off somewhere, since our fire incident to fire death rate (including LODDs for US) is much more favorable.

Again, I'm not totally discrediting everything he had to say... but I am certain that many different factors play into why our "numbers" are different on paper. Cultural differences, building construction, tactics, and emphasis placed on differing ideas (more emphasis on protecting lives).

Luke - 08/30/07 - 10:08

Facts are indisputable...statistics are pliable. I think Mark Twain said that.

You can make the numbers say anything you want. One person can make it out to be that we, as firefighters in the US, are reckless, overly aggressive, mavericks with a hero complex. You can take that same set of numbers and make the Swedes out to be a group of timid, scared to take a risk, wannabes.

Is either image correct? Not hardly. Just goes to show, some things that are important cannot be measured. And in the process, the measurements are wide open to interpretation.

Who said that? I said that.

DJ

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/30/07 - 10:57

DJ... excellent post!

Luke - 08/30/07 - 11:47

Well said!

ewfd200 ([Email](#)) - 08/30/07 - 13:27

question to ask the swedish doctor – do they have to work two or three jobs to make ends meet?

what the swedish doctor also fails to mention is the swedish health care system, which is heavily socialized – we'd all be a lot healthier if we had the cradle to grave security of having all our health care expenses being nearly free

tarheelcanary ([Email](#)) - 08/30/07 - 15:35

Here's a thought exercise. If we could create such a thing from scratch— say, picking and choosing from the many flavors of fire protection and prevention from around the globe— what would the ideal "fire culture" look like?

Obviously, we'd start with lowest possible loss/injury/death rates for civilians and responders as the desired outcome. No question there. National building codes would be good, with the strongest, safest, and most effective requirements possible. Birth-to-death fire education also comes to mind, where every age/class/education level was continuously lobbied on fire prevention and preparedness. What else?

What cultural attitudes would we choose? The Japanese-style shaming of those who cause (or experience?) fires would seem to compel citizens in the direction of prevention. But would that extend to life safety? Would a culture that attaches shame and stigma to fire victims find itself more tolerable of civilian injury or death? Would saving buildings become more important than saving bodies?

Carrying that a little farther or possibly further, would such a culture produce less-aggressive firefighters? (Which means exactly what? Firefighters who function more like... janitors? No heroics, no risk, just mitigating other peoples messes?)

What would our ideal firefighters look like? Physically, we'd want strong and fit, of course. And with the fewest possible lifestyle or genetic risk factors. (Dangerous line of thinking on the genetic front, right?) Psychologically, we'd want someone who could learn, who could learn to lead, and whose temperament was aligned to our prototyped culture.

What else?

Legeros - 08/30/07 - 18:40

"What cultural attitudes would we choose? The Japanese-style shaming of those who cause (or experience?) fires would seem to compel citizens in the direction of prevention. But would that extend to life safety? Would a culture that attaches shame and stigma to fire victims find itself more tolerable of civilian injury or death? Would saving buildings become more important than saving bodies?"

As long as we look on acts of negligence as 'accidents', then we can give up on 'shaming people'. In 31 years I have yet to see an MVC not the result of negligence of some sort. Nor have I ever seen a building fire, save for a lightning strike (and a couple of those were questionable), that was not the result of negligence (or malice).

The term 'accident' suggests a random act of happenstance, or cosmic influence. Nope, we don't like blaming people for their own misfortunes bought about by bad choices.

The Japanese culture of shaming folks who cause fires comes from their ever-so-intimate experience with burning cities (with a little help from a few B-29s). And I am sure that the European experience is pretty similar (think of London, Dresden, Hamburg, etc.)

As to the rest of it? Well, a lot of us would be looking for jobs. We would not need so large a suppression force because we would have the ideal fire prevention codes. And with the perfect building codes, we could be less aggressive, arriving on scene, analyzing risk factors and such, entering it into the computer, and out comes a plan. One that eliminates the potential of firefighter injury or death.

Pierce, Seagrave, E-One, and others would be making fewer fire trucks, and smaller ones to boot. That would lead to fewer turnouts, SCBA, etc.

You know, you could destroy an entire industry like this. Instead of a multitude of apparatus manufacturers, maybe we would follow the overseas model of a very few manufacturers.

Interesting.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/30/07 - 19:40

There was an interesting article in Fire Chief magazine in the 1990s. I've tried to find it, but it was before they developed electronic archives. It was a description of a Fire Department staff meeting in the future, when we'd got all the "values" and cultural things sorted out. The theme was that we've got it all upside down right now – we spend the bulk of our human and other resources on response and intervention, when it would really make more sense to do so on prevention.

The chief officer at the top, and the subordinates with the most clout, were the prevention folks. If operations had to respond to a call, it was considered a prevention failure and somebody had to explain why a fire had started, and why there weren't systems to put them out, etc. The ops guys were unhappy because they never really had a chance at being chief of department – the prevention guys were the most important. It was really thought-provoking.

For years, I've also give thought to how the same paradigm could apply to EMS. How many 9-1-1 calls could we eliminate if we went to 1420 S. Wilmington Street every morning and took blood sugar checks and reminded the folks to take their diabetes and seizure medications?

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/31/07 - 10:05

Skip that sounds great, then we can go and wake up some people at 7 am and tell them to stay up all day and get a job instead of sleeping all day and getting liquored up all night. That could help cut down on the 3am drunk calls!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Not complaining just voicing my opinion on the night owls!!

Jason Lane - 09/01/07 - 00:55

I remember reading the Fire Chief article. I had not long finished my AAS in Fire Protection and I thought about the possibilities presented. That prevention would take a bigger role than suppression. The Republican in me at the time saw it as a way to reduce the costs of public safety and save the taxpayers some money. Oh, such an idealistic soul I was at the time.

Fast forward a few years. As an overworked and underpaid paramedic I saw that some of the current ways of doing things just was not working. Remembering the emphasis on 'prevention' activities in the mentioned article (and others), I thought about the following scenario-

A homeless individual consistently calls EMS to get in off of the street. Whether he was hungry, cold, or hot, he knows that calling 9-1-1, or having someone else call, will get him a ride to a warm/cool palce with food, and he won't even have to pay for it. EMS crews get annoyed, as do fire crews, at the 'repeat customer'.

Now, the 'EMS Prevention Bureau' goes to work. A quick trip to the local ED to re-allocate a couple of carton of milk, maybe a jello, and a bowl of cereal, or other like article, on a sporadic, semi-regular basis, and the calls go down. Throw in a couple of blankets and a dispoable pillow or two, and the calls cease entirely. I have not been to transport that individual since January. I still see him, but not at 0245.

Maybe not what the writers had in mind, but the same basic principle.

Outside the box.

You know, if we spend a little while during the daylight, outside of the station checking on some of these people, provide a little comfort, and we can reduce some of these calls. The same would apply to some of the other regulars.

DJ (Email) - 09/01/07 - 09:59

The USFA has released the latest edition of "Fire in the United States," <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/statistics/repor...> PDF document, 77 pages.

Executive summary notes "Even considering these positive trends [in reducing fire rates], the United States still has a major fire problem compared to other industrialized nations. The study and implementation of international fire prevention programs that have proved effective in reducing the number of fires and deaths should be considered."

Legeros - 09/01/07 - 17:01

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'?

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

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.

Classic Chicago Fire Apparatus

08/29/07 50 W - + 16 - 14

Found on another discussion board, here are [several galleries of vintage Chicago fire apparatus](#). Plus fires, stations, and some rigs from other cities. The kicker is that they're in color. Glorious color. [Early snorkels](#), [FWD tillers](#), [Cardox crash trucks](#), and even [water towers in action](#). Gorgeous.

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'?

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

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 Engine 16

08/29/07 50 W, 1 I - + 19 - 13

Here's a familiar piece of apparatus, presently serving as Four Oaks Engine 2. Placed in service as Engine 16, the [1978 Mack](#) was refurbished by [Pierce in 1992](#). It also served as Engine 30 (reserve), Engine 102 (reserve), and Engine 23. It was sold to FOFD in May/June 2005.



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](#))

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.

Blogging with Drawings

08/30/07 32 W - + 18 - 16

Found by way of the [NY Times Freakonomics blog](#), here's a novel approach to publishing one's thoughts. [The blog is called Indexed](#). The author draws drawings on index cards.

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'?

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

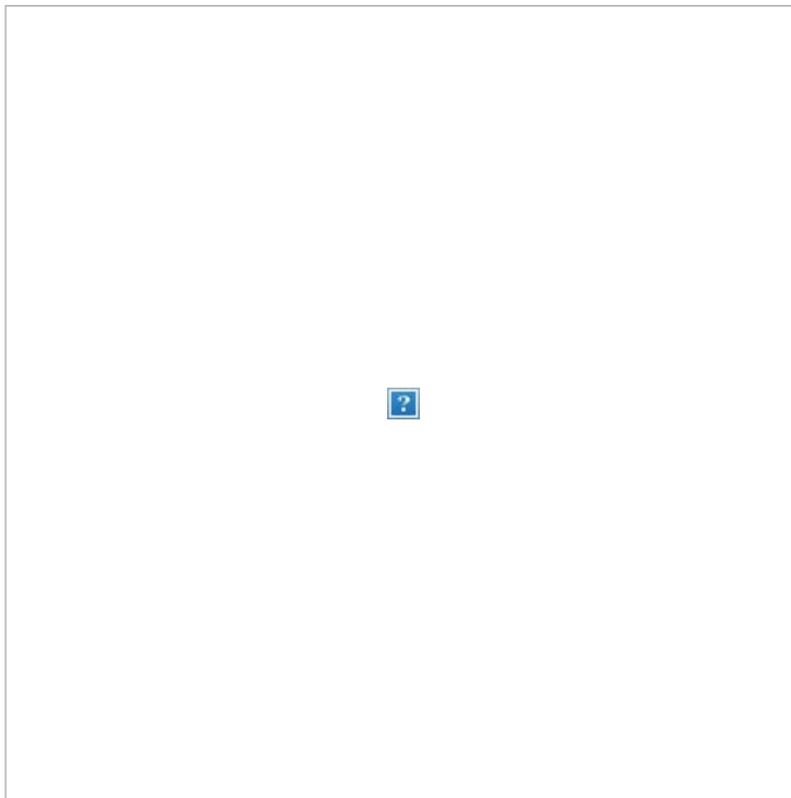
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Faster 911 in Fayetteville

08/30/07 14 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

Fayetteville Observer article on [improvements to emergency dispatching](#) in Cumberland County.



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

Historical Help Wanted

08/31/07 697 W - + 23 - 14

Who can help answer / confirm / correct / debate the following historical questions about the fire service in North Carolina? All input is appreciated. The list will be updated as additional information is gathered.

Q: What were first fire companies formed in NC?

A: New Bern (1773). Salem (1785). Fayetteville (1791). Washington (1791).

Q: Where were the first hand engines delivered in NC?

A: Wilmington (1755). Salem (1785). Salisbury (1817). Raleigh (1819).

Q: Where were the first steam engines delivered in NC?

A: New Bern (1865). Charlotte (by 1865). Wilmington (1868). Raleigh (1870). Elizabeth City (1873).

Q: What are early accounts of mutual aid in NC?

A: Raleigh to Fayetteville by railroad, November 5, 1885. Others?

Q: When were the first fireman's tournaments held in NC?

A: Steam and hand engine contests at State Fair in 1870. Earlier?

Q: When were the fireman's associations formed in NC?

A: North Carolina State Fireman's Association (1888). North Carolina Colored Fireman's Association (1888/1889). North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs (1932).

Q: When were the first municipal water systems with fire hydrants installed in NC?

A: Fayetteville (1820). Others?

Q: When was the first electric telegraph fire alarm system installed in NC?

A: New Bern (1883). Charlotte (1887). Raleigh (1887). Durham (1891). Others?

Q: When were the first colored firefighters / fire companies in NC?

A: Fayetteville (1848). Wilmington (by 1866). Warrenton (1868). Raleigh (1869). Others?

Q: Who were the first firefighter fatalities in NC?

A: Edward Peel, Washington (1902). Johnnie Gaskill, New Bern, (1904). Henry Mitchell, Rocky Mount (1906).

Q: Who received the first motor apparatus in NC?

A: Asheville / Charlotte / Lumberton / Salisbury / Wilmington / Winston (1912). Earlier?

Q: Who received the first motor aerial apparatus in NC?

A: Wilmington (1914). Raleigh (1916). Charlotte (1917). Others?

Q: Who were the first fully-paid fire chiefs in NC?

A: Charlotte (1887). Wilmington (1897). Others?

Q: Who were the first fully-paid fire departments in NC?

A: Charlotte (1887). Wilmington (1897). Durham (1909). Raleigh (1912). Others?

Q: When was the first forestry fire tower built in NC?

A:

Q: What were the early military camp/base fire departments in NC?

A:

Q: What were the early institutional fire departments in NC?

A: State Hospital in Raleigh (1895). State Hospital in Morganton (1900?). Others?

Q: When were the first free-standing training towers built in NC?

A: Wilmington (1927). Charlotte (1938).

Q: When were the first fire department unions formed in NC?

A: Raleigh (1938). Others?

Q: Which departments had auxiliary firefighters during World War II in NC?

A: Raleigh (1941). Others?

Q: When were two-way radios first installed in stations and vehicles in NC?

A: Raleigh (1955). Others?

Q: What were the first full-time black firefighters hired in NC?

A: Winston-Salem (1951). Durham (1953). Others?

Q: Which were the first rural/suburban fire departments in NC?

A: Rural Hall, Forsyth County (1939). Bessemer, Guilford County (c1940). Others?

Q: When were the first fire department ambulances or rescue squads operated in NC?

A: Raleigh (1953). Goldsboro (by 1962). Fayetteville (by 1970s). Parkwood (1972). Wilmington (by late 1970s).

Q: When did fire departments first perform extrication or basic technical rescue in NC?

A:

Q: Who were the first public safety departments in NC?

A: Durham (1971). Chapel Hill (c.1971). Winston-Salem (1973). Long Beach (late 1980s). Others?

Q: Who had the first lime or yellow apparatus in NC?

A: Greensboro (1973). Durham (197_). Winston-Salem (197_). Yrac, Wake County (1975). Rocky Mount (197_?). Wilson (197_?) Numerous airports. Nahunta, Wayne County. Bailey, Nash County. Township Six, Craven County. Others?

Q: What were the first First Responder and EMT programs in NC?

A: Greensboro (1977). Charlotte (1978). Raleigh (1980). Fairview, Wake County (198_). Others? Some fire departments also sent units to EMS calls long before EMT/first responder programs, such as Greenville and Wilmington.

Q: Where were the first full-time female firefighters hired in NC?

A: RDU (1977). Greensboro / Raleigh (1978). Charlotte (1980). Others?

Q: When were EMT-D programs started in NC?

A:

Q: When were the first haz-mat units placed in service in NC?

A: Charlotte (1983). Greensboro / Raleigh (1984). Cary (1986). Others?

Q: When were NC Regional Response Haz-Mat teams placed in service in NC?

A:

Q: When did fire departments begin performing advanced technical rescue in NC?

A:

Q: When were NC USAR task force teams placed in service in NC?

A:

Q: What other NC fire service milestones come to mind?

A: Firefighter certification began in 1985 with FF I, II, & III and Fire Instructor I, II, III, and IV. Associate degree programs in Fire Science started in the early 80s, with Wilson Tech and Guilford Tech among the first schools.

Updated with information from recent decades, courtesy of DJ. Thanks!

Legeros - 09/01/07 - 13:33

Township Six is in Craven country, just outside of Havelock.

DJ - 09/01/07 - 15:27

How could I forget...RDU was sending EMTs on calls with Cary Rescue from 1977 on. They were recognized as a non-transporting responder by OEMS around 1980. First ones in Wake County do to so.

DJ - 09/01/07 - 15:34

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

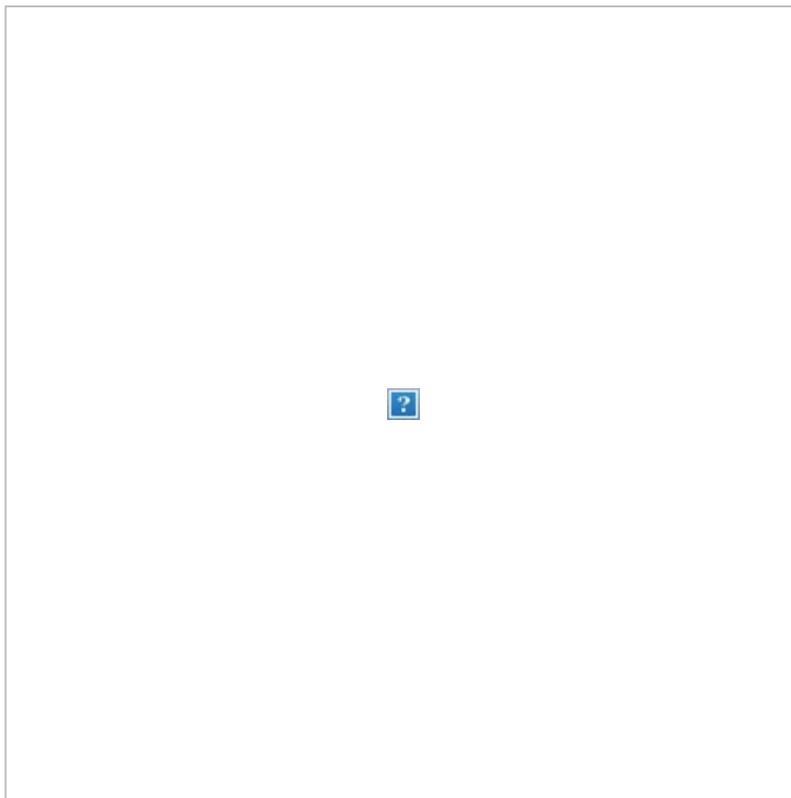
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

The Big Fire and Building Codes

08/31/07 77 W, 1 I - + 19 - 17

WRAL reports that the [city-commissioned report investigating building codes after the big fire of February 22 was released today](#). The report recommends local fire codes be changed, such as "moving combustible materials like pine straw away from townhouse and apartment complexes and using more fire-retardant soffit materials in the eaves of such buildings." The findings are expected to be discussed by the City Council at their Tuesday meeting, notes the news agency.



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.

Evolution

09/01/07 125 W - + 10 - 12

Readers may notice that less scuttlebutt is being posted as topics. This is intentional and represents the ongoing "tuning" of this blog. Though "we've heard" information has been posted in the past, it didn't quite feel right. Wasn't passing the sniff test. Is insider info interesting? You betcha. Does it add value? Not necessarily. Reflection and reader reaction has helped in this regard. The blog remains an experiment-- 21 months and counting!-- and its direction has been evolving. Ergo, less grapevine. Sorry. There isn't enough value either for readers or the guy behind the computer. Big, exciting things will always be easily visible once they're executed. And this blog will cheerfully share "we've observed" information, where appropriate. It's the backroom news that's going bye-bye.

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'?

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

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.

Jordan Lake Educational State Forest

09/01/07 67 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Located in Chatham County off of Highway 64, the [Jordan Lake Educational State Forest](#) features a fire control exhibit with a helicopter and a tractor with plow. No climbing allowed, alas. Neat, but not quite the same as when old pumpers were parked in city parks for kids (and adults) to climb on. Those were the days.



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'?

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

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.

Smokey Bear Says...

09/01/07 16 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

He even has [his own web site](#).



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.

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.

Fill the Boot

09/02/07 48 W, 1 I - + 18 - 6

Raleigh firefighters are again raising money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. They're out and about the city this weekend, boots in hand. Stop and drop some dough. [This NBC17 story](#) notes that RFD has raised \$300 million for MDA since 1954.



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](#))

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.

Mystery Medic Unit

09/02/07 43 W, 1 I - + 11 - 12

From a reader, a mystery medical unit seen at a car fire on I-40 in Orange County. The door seal says Medical Emergency. The windshield bears an NC inspection sticker. Who can identify same?



I think it might be the Senior medic truck from Durham County EMS... Could someone out there confirm this?

Guest7597 - 09/02/07 - 18:37

Its not from Durham EMS, we have a couple of excursions for the Supervisors and Sr. medics.

Loren Cone, DCEMS& CFD - 09/02/07 - 22:12

Did match anything on the Orange County EMS site, either... Couldn't find any Charlotte MEDIC pics. Maybe there? The mystery continues.

Legeros - 09/02/07 - 22:14

Can anyone tell which fire department that is in the background.....Maybe we can start there.

Chris King - 09/02/07 - 22:18

The reader advised that the engine is New Hope's.

Legeros - 09/02/07 - 22:19

and can be verified that it is E-431 by visiting their website: <http://www.newhopefire.com/apparatus.htm..>

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/03/07 - 00:57

How many New Hope fire departments are there in NC, you ask? Orange County (1973), Randolph County (1986), Wake County (1956), Wayne County (1956), and a fifth one formed in 1953 (Franklin County?). Info. from Secretary of State web site. Looking at the CFP station list, looks like a NHFD might also exist in Gaston County.

Legeros - 09/03/07 - 06:07

It's nothing from Charlotte, I know that. When I lived in Chapel Hill a few years ago, Orange County Emergency Management ran paramedics in SUV's and Crown Vic's, but this doesn't look at all like Orange County EM. I could possibly be from the Orange County Rescue Squad, but I couldn't find anything on their website that showed any apparatus other than the heavy rescue. I do know that in Orange County, there are very few agencies that provided EMS, so this is definitely a mystery.

Native Charlottean - 09/03/07 - 09:38

Maybe the ultimate gearhead?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/03/07 - 09:49

maybe a demo unit from a outfitter?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/03/07 - 10:49

Yup... not MEDIC. I do agree, it could simply be a demo since it doesn't really identify an agency. Also, Mike, you are correct.. there is a New Hope Fire Department in Gaston County (Belmont, NC) near Lake Wylie. <http://www.newhopevfd.com/>

Luke - 09/03/07 - 11:11

It's Medical Emergency Ambulance of Asheville aka "MEDIC of Asheville". Must have been passing thru.

Olson - 09/03/07 - 11:46

and the site once again doesn't fail to deliver!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/03/07 - 13:49

Thanks everyone for all of your assistance. I knew if anyone could help me figure out who this unit belonged to, it would be you guys. Thanks again,

Larry Z, NREMT-P

Larry Zicherman ([Email](#)) - 09/03/07 - 23:17

For more information on them see <http://www.medicstation28.com/>

Olson - 09/04/07 - 13:31

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.

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.

Firefighting in Charlotte

09/02/07 107 W, 2 I - + 11 - 13

Charlotte Fire Department Captain Shawn Royall has written a photo history. *Firefighting in Charlotte* will be published by Arcadia Publishing on September 10. "Fire trucks, firehouses, and the firefighters are depicted in images obtained from personal collections, newspapers, archives, and museums." [Order from Amazon](#).



Arcadia has published nearly 70 photo histories of public safety agencies. Search by theme on their [Catalog Page](#) to see all titles. Big city FD histories include: [Chicago's Engine 78](#), [DCFD](#), [FDNY \(1901-2001\)](#), [FDNY \(fire patrol\)](#), [FDNY \(historic fires\)](#), [Milwaukee](#), [Portland](#), [San Francisco](#), [Seattle](#), and [St. Louis](#). Plus, ahem, Raleigh and Wake County [Volume 1](#) and [Volume 2](#).



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'?

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

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.

Feds to Restrict Volunteers at Disasters

09/02/07 28 W - + 15 - 11

Found on the [CFP discussion list](#), here's the story of a [federal program to help responders getting into disaster scenes](#). Seems sensible.

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'?

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

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.

Cool Camera Accessory

09/02/07 43 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

Cheap, cool accessory for Canon digital SLR cameras. Search "canon eyecup" on [eBay](#). Cost < \$10, shipped. Blocks light, buffers eyeglasses. Buy two, just in case. The rubber cup can easily detach. Bit o' glue helps.



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'?

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

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.

Applause

09/03/07 63 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

Emerging from the halogen-cast shadows of Ketley Court and headed to rehab, the men and women of the engine, ladder, and rescue companies were greeted by applause. Their audience had gathered at the edge of the cul-de-sac. Dozens who watched and listened and waited. And when the procession of Raleigh firefighters appeared, everyone clapped. Heroes welcome.



Working fire at 7805 Ketley Court, two-story residence with partially finished attic. Just over 3,000 square feet. Engine 4 first arriving, with fire in attic area. About 8:16 a.m. Other units included E18, E16, E15, L16, R14, B1, C5, A8, C198, FC1, E1, L23, B4, SFEMS 1274, EMS 203, EMS T1.

Legeros - 09/03/07 - 22:52

Some scary moments, sounded that way via radio anyways. I'm just glad that the brothers (and sisters) on the Northside won another one and all went home virtually unscathed. Way to represent....

Silver - 09/04/07 - 18:40

As one of the non-suppression units on the scene, the applause was quite a sight to witness. If that doesn't make you proud to be a firefighter, I don't know what does! Good job to all the responding personnel.

RFD574 ([Email](#)) - 09/04/07 - 18:56

Photos posted, though nearly exclusively featuring rehab and staging. Arrived late, was in Cary when occurred.

Legeros - 09/04/07 - 19:00

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

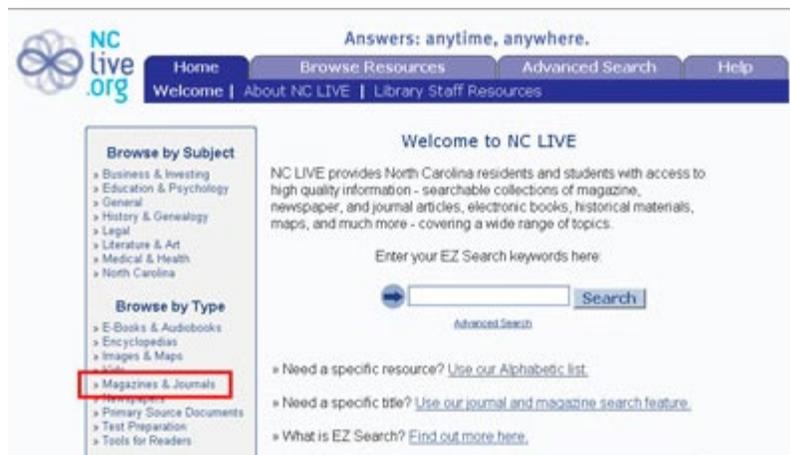
Yes

No

Magazines and Journals

09/04/07 184 W, 2 I - + 11 - 14

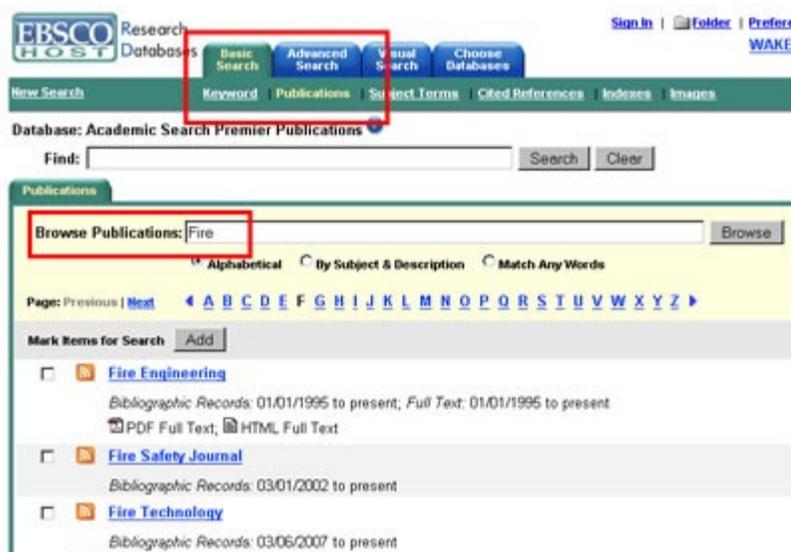
Several fire service journals and publications are available via [NC LIVE](#), free access to which is provided to [Wake County Library](#) patrons. Titles include *Fire Chief*, *Fire Engineering*, and *Fire Management Today*. Here's information on [remote access to library resources](#).



Once you have accessed NC LIVE, click **Magazines & Journals** on the left-side navigation area. The Magazines & Journals list displays. Look for two resources:

- MasterFILE Premier Publications
- Business Source Premier Publications

Click on either of the resources. When the main screen displays, click **Publications** under the Basic Search tab. In the Browse Publications search box, enter "fire" to see available titles.



Clear as mud? Thanks to the Missus for finding these. Available journals and periodicals:

MasterFILE Premier Publications

Fire Engineering

01/01/1995 to present

Fire Management Notes

01/01/1995 to present

Fire Management Today

01/01/1995 to present

Fire News

02/01/1994 to 07/31/1997 (bibliographic records only?)

Business Source Premier Publications

Fire Chief

01/01/2003 to present

Fire Safety Engineering

05/01/2002 to present

Fire Engineering

01/01/1995 to present

Fire Safety Journal

03/01/2002 to present (bibliographic records only?)

Fire Technology

03/06/2007 to present (bibliographic records only?)

NC LIVE also subscribes to digital Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Very cool, for both map fans and history buffs. Some info about Sanborn maps is available in my research presentation, linked from here: <http://www.legeros.com/presentation/>

Legeros - 09/04/07 - 18:17

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

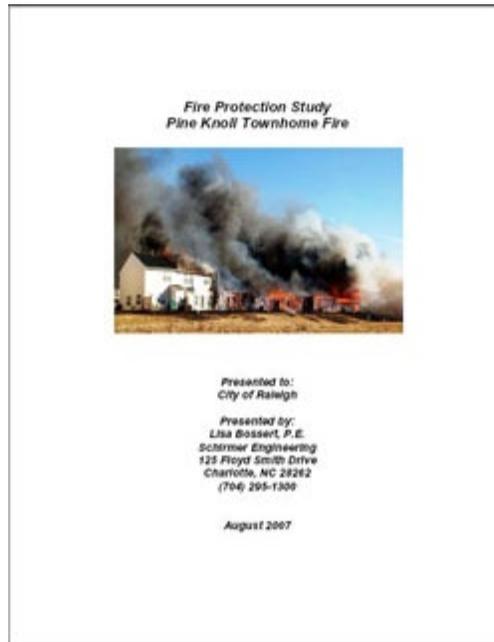
/ [Textile](#)

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.

Pine Knoll Townhouse Fire Report Available For Download

09/04/07 87 W, 1 I - + 15 - 5

The Inspections Department’s report on the Pine Knoll Townhouse fire of February 22 is [now available on the City's Web site](#). The PDF report runs 189 pages, and includes 158 pages of appendices including fire photos, post-fire photos, the fire department report, weather reports, firewall details, a site schematic, and tools for assessing and mitigating wildfire vulnerability. Cover photo by Lee Wilson, but of course. The Public Affairs announcement notes the report will be presented to the City Council on September 5.



Blog summary of the big fire: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we...> Archived photos, bottom of page:

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/ar..>

Legeros - 09/04/07 - 22:28

i will let you know how it is when I finish reading it in a year or so, 189 pages!

Ralcitizen - 09/06/07 - 09:56

It’s worth noting that the report does NOT review suppression operations that day, but focuses on cause, spread, building codes, etc.

Legeros - 09/06/07 - 17:47

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Firefighters Seek Relief From Heat And Jump In Productivity

09/04/07 56 W - + 14 - 10

Also announced by the Public Affairs department, [Raleigh firefighters have switched from full-length trousers to shorts](#). The announcement also cites studies from Toronto and New York City, showing reduced heat strain and decreased heat exhaustion with wearing shorts, but without increased numbers of burns. To paraphrase.

And let me tell you, man is it nice.....

Silver - 09/05/07 - 15:02

that's right rub it in.... rub it in.... FOOLS tonight.. come down

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/05/07 - 15:38

So can they wear bunker pants on EMS runs? I don't care how hot it gets (and I am in FL now, just keep up with Raliegh from my years in the area) I would never want to have to kneel in someone's house or outside without pants. I have noticed a few pics on the site of FFs at MCVs in shorts, would not want to do that either.

David - 09/05/07 - 17:05

You can wear bunkers on EMS runs if you'd like, not mandatory though.

Shev, at the firehouse bro, would love to come but can't.....

Silver - 09/05/07 - 17:51

In my opinion, if you're going to wear bunkers on EMS runs, you're probably better off just not wearing shorts and keep your uniform pants.

Silver - 09/05/07 - 20:28

Bunkers on EMS runs...hmmm.....

There were some articles etc., and maybe an NFPA standard, stating that bunkers (contaminated with who knows what dirt, carcinogens, etc.) should not be brought in to the living areas of fire stations.

If that is so, is it OK to bring those bunkers in to people's homes when fire is not being fought?

Curious what other people think.

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/06/07 - 07:38

We used to wear bunkers on all calls after 2000 in the FD I used to run in (AACOFD). However, we were required (paid and volunteer) to wash our gear weekly. Great big commercial washer and dryer in the station for that. We also had to wash them after a building fire.

Of course, uniform shorts were never an option.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/06/07 - 10:36

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

photoattorney.com

09/05/07 55 W - + 18 - 10

Here's an interesting [blog about photography and the law](#), from attorney whose practice concentrates on the law for photographers. The postings appear to be mostly about copyright and contracts, and some information about photographer's rights. There's also this nifty posting from August 20 about [adding a copyright notice inside Canon digital cameras](#). Very cool.

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](#))

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.

Education

09/05/07 25 W - + 15 - 11

Great quote, found elsewhere. "Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence." [Robert Frost](#) said it.

"I attack everything in Life with a Mixture of Extraordinary Genius and Naive Incompetence and it is often difficult to tell which is which."—I adapted it from The Hitchikers Guide to the Galaxy...that is my motto along with "Don't Panic" :-)

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/05/07 - 23:44

Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so.

D Adams

Good judgment comes from experience, and often experience comes from bad judgment.

R. M. Brown

Keep working on the basics- most of us are not advanced enough to make advanced mistakes.

A Brunacini

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/06/07 - 10:07

" I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy. "

—John Adams

"Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught".

—Oscar Wilde

Kermit - 09/06/07 - 19:29

"If our house be on fire, without inquiring whether it was fired from within or without, we must try to extinguish it." Thomas Jefferson May 9, 1798

lee - 09/06/07 - 22:17

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.

Cary Still Down One Ambulance

09/05/07 21 W - + 20 - 7

NBC17 reporting on [Cary EMS and the status of the ambulance involved in last month's accident](#).

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'?

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

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.

Double Doubles

09/05/07 98 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

Two-alarms twice today. 4708 Fargo Court, above Crabtree Valley. Alarm time about 4:10 p.m. Single-story, wood-frame duplex. 2,278 square-feet. Heavy fire through roof of structure on arrival of Engine 16. Smoke visible across the city. Primarily exterior attack, due to unstable roof conditions. Second alarm requested for manpower. Second second alarm, 1249 Quincy Court, just off Walnut Street. Alarm time around/after 8:00 p.m. Two-story, wood-frame apartments (town homes?). 7,200 square-feet. Heavy fire from second floor on arrival of Battalion 1, who requested second alarm on arrival. Engine 2 first engine. Quickly controlled. Pics forthcoming for Fargo.



Radio traffic was interesting to say the least.....

J.Boggs - 09/05/07 - 23:10

What do you mean by interesting? I think Battalion called for the second.

visitor - 09/05/07 - 23:33

It should be noted that Cary firefighters were able to quickly to control the fire.....even in long trousers!

guest - 09/05/07 - 23:35

interesting, better than no radio traffic

visitor2 - 09/06/07 - 09:57

To clarify; first alarm = 3 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Rescue & 1 Battalion

WORKING FIRE DISPATCH = 1 safety engine, air unit, division chief

SECOND ALARM = 2 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Rescue & 1 Battalion

There was a little confusion as to what an "alarm" was. But, I think Car 5 handled it very well and professional, and I'm sure the issue will be straightened out soon. Just in my opinion, the units on the "working fire dispatch" shouldn't be referred to as a "second alarm" or "second alarm units". If this is the case, then every fire in city would be considered a 2-alarm fire, which can be misleading and technically is incorrect. Reason being, every working fire gets the "working fire dispatch". Clear as mud? One of those things that will be clarified now and probably won't be an issue anymore....

Silver - 09/06/07 - 10:38

I think the problem lies in the terminology of "Major Working Fire"

Raleigh is the ONLY department that I know of that uses this terminology.

It seems like for clarity, MWF should be eliminated, and go with 2nd alarm, 3rd alarm, etc.

I know it's a CAD issue, but it can be fixed.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/06/07 - 12:23

Good point Jeff...

Silver - 09/06/07 - 22:45

So were these true 2 alarmers with 6 engines, 2 ladders, 2 rescues, 2 BCs, 1 Air, and 1 DC? I know Cary probably has a different assignment, based on the fact that they don't have an "air unit" etc.

Luke - 09/07/07 - 07:22

Luke, FYI: Cary has 2 mobile air unit's, T-6 and T-7 both have complete compressor/cascade and full compliment of spare bottles. I guess you would say, killing more than one bird with only one stone. The new heavy rescue that is on order will also have an air system that will start the phase out of the "Truck" companies and a phase in of the "Heavy" rescues. The plan will be to place an air system on each "Heavy" rescue since they will go to all working fires, ("MAJOR's" included??)It also provides an air resource that would be of value at technical rescue events. Also, in Cary, a "Second Alarm" (thats what we call em')brings the second battalion chief, an additional engine and ladder as well as notifications to the Deputy Chief and Safety Staff.

Guest - 09/07/07 - 08:18

Guest, I understand Cary's concept. I was meaning... they wouldn't have an "Air 8" responding on the working fire assignment, it would simply fall into their rescue's assignment.

I like the concept of having an air truck that is responsible for all working fires, haz-mats, and any other incident deemed necessary. I don't always agree with tying up a specialized piece of apparatus with 4 (or 5) firefighters for the simple task of refilling air bottles. Do I think the Rescues should have that capability? Yes. Do I think they should be the only ones responsible for fulfilling that task? Hmm.. no. No right or wrong here, just what works best for each department.. as deemed by the higher ups!

Luke - 09/07/07 - 14:47

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Picture Boards Speak in Health Crisis

09/05/07 33 W, 1 I - + 8 - 12

Nifty concept, [using pictures to bridge language barriers in emergency rooms](#). It's being done in Jersey. Hospitals, rescue squads, and public health clinics. [These people make 'em](#).



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'?

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

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.

New Apparatus at Station 16

09/06/07 79 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

Here's a pretty sight. The 2007 Pierce Enforcer pumper was placed in service today. The 2007 Pierce Arrow XT 105-foot aerial ladder was placed in service Tuesday. They replaced a 1997 Pierce Saber pumper and a 1995 Simon-Duplex / LTI 100-foot aerial platform, both of which will become reserve units. Is this the first time for an engine and ladder to be placed in service at the same station, at the same time? Welcome to the neighborhood. Click to enlarge:



Engine 11 and Truck 11 received their present pieces in May and June of 2005. Station 1 received its Pierce tiller and American LaFrance engine about apart, in September 2004 and January 2005. Still researching other deliveries...

Legeros - 09/06/07 - 19:41

Here's another one, Engine 5 and Truck 5 received their American LaFrance apparatus in September and October, 1961. Both 900 Series.

Legeros - 09/06/07 - 19:43

how about the new logos on the pumper, formerly only used on ladders

andrew - 09/06/07 - 20:29

They still need chevrons on the back.

robert g - 09/07/07 - 23:09

sharp rigs, cudos to RFD for getting some nice equipment and loads of it at that!

I had the chance to look at the new resuces the other day and was impressed. Now go get that staffing Chief McGrath!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/08/07 - 12:24

It's going to happen, just give it time. This year our O.T. budget was increased by \$60,000. A lot better than what it was, when prior administration(s) were turning O.T. money in at the end of the year. Thanks for that!!!

This past year was a huge year for the comm. center, just give it another year and you'll see a few more major changes. Chief McGrath and city officials are on the same page as to what's going to be requested in the upcoming year or so.

Silver - 09/08/07 - 12:50

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'?

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

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.

Statewide Radio System a Work in Progress

09/06/07 43 W, 1 I - + 18 - 15

WRAL story [about the VIPER radio system](#). Says the reporter, 39 out of 100 counties are represented in the system. Here's the [official VIPER site](#), and the [RadioReference.com VIPER page](#). Can you ever have too many radios?



You know, I think I heard it said somewhere that the major falling down in most big operations is communications (or the inability to do so).

Is it important that all of the Triangle area's (Wake-Durham-Orange-Franklin-Johnston-Harnett-Chatham Counties and the municipalities within) fire-EMS-police-rescue resources be able to talk to one another without `patch throughs'? I would think so.

Quote from the WRAL report- "Much of the state was still without, but on the whole leaders said they're better prepared for the next disaster.

Thirty-nine out of 100 counties were represented in the VIPER radio system as of Thursday. Leaders said they worry that if it takes too many years to implement, the technology could be outdated by the time it's finished."

So, is it a state responsibility to provide radios to individual agencies? I think not. It is great that they provide the basic infrastructure, but it is up to local governments to come on board.

Maybe some thought should be given to day to day communications operations, as well as the ability to communicate in a crisis, before we buy big ladder trucks, platforms, and rescues that are not staffed, or run with a crew of 1 or 2.

Now, when the feds want you to do something, they attach it to the purse strings. So if communications is so important (and I think it is) how about attaching "interagency communications ability" to grants, pork barrel, state programs, etc. If you want a grant, then you have to show what you have done to build interagency communications so that you can provide for your citizens in time of need. If VIPER is what the state has decided to go with, then make it happen.

Expensive? Yep. And don't get me wrong, I am not a fan of big government. I do think there are things government does better- fire-police-EMS-public works-roads-defense. The jury is out on health care, but that is another topic.

But we have to do something, and we cannot wait forever.

OK...let's get it going. Opinions?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/07/07 - 18:47

To give people a better understanding of what VIPER is and how the State and local agencies are involved please read the following thread on

RR.com: VIPER vs NCSHP low band:http://www.radioreference.com/forums/showpost.php?p=177031&postcount=1 . WRAL makes the situation sound more grave than it actually is...Rome was not built in a day...

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/07/07 - 20:53

Speaking of communication issues; the CAD-horse will be beat again!!! Structure Fire; Trailwood Dr. and Tryon Rd. Only one city unit dispatched, and the "special service" unit coming from Garner. All the while, a "special service" unit sits in #20.

Yes, we jumped the call. But, we shouldn't have to.....

It kills me how Tryon Rd. both ways from the intersection is the city, but the intersection itself is the county. What gives? Can any of our brothers or sisters from the county just bring us up to speed on where the CAD system, as well as AVL's, stand today?

Silver - 09/08/07 - 00:46

There is a little miss leading in WRAL's report. 39 of the 100 counties are on the 800 MHz system, but VIPER uses all types of radios. 98 of 100 counties are in the VIPER system and can be patched to any other agency regardless of radio type/freq. All 8 of the SHP communication centers and the State EOC have the capability to patch different departments together. For example if a Wake Co unit responded to Burke Co the patch could be made so there would not be a communication problem between the different counties. VIPER has the capably to patch law enforcement, fire and EMS together. Procedures are still being written to how the system will be implemented, but it is working now and in only emergency situations.

NH100 ([Email](#)) - 09/08/07 - 02:25

Patches are dangerous.

Half the time you cannot hear radio traffic being transmitted the other half the patch doesn't work. Take the big wreck on I-40 a few months ago. There was a patch from Tac ## to M/A 1. They patched a Wake Co. Talkgroup to a Wake Co. Talkgroup????? Needless to say after the first few minutes the IC ordered the patch to be terminated and all units to be on M/A 1. There should be no need for a patch, ever. It WILL get somebody killed and then we'll be back to wondering what went wrong. And somebody will say "communications" and they'll be 100% right, but it's a problem that we already know about and should work to fix.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/08/07 - 08:40

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Wake Forest Fire Department Announces New Numbering Scheme

09/07/07 87 W - + 11 - 14

FireNews reports on [new numbering in Wake Forest](#). Expected to be fully operational by September 25, the system is based on WFFD Station 1's county designation of Station 6. Apparatus will have three digit numbers, starting with the new station numbers of 61 through 67 (which includes future station designations). Chief officers will have three-digit numbers, starting with 600. Personnel will have four-digit numbers, starting with 6000. See the above article for full information. Numbering schemes are also [still being discussed on the FireNews forums](#).

Amazing that this could be done without any coordination of the other depts in the County or 911. Who's steering the fire ship anyways? Time for someone to step in before we get any more numbering systems in place.

Anonymous to Keep My Job - 09/07/07 - 23:04

So the Rolesville chief would be 15000? That's a mouthful. I agree we need a new system but this is a lot

robert g - 09/07/07 - 23:12

For those wondering about the new numbering scheme, the FOUR digit numbers are simply internal tracking/personnel numbers, NOT RADIO NUMBERS/DESIGNATIONS. Therefore to answer your question Robert G, Rolesville chief, with the similiar system, would be 1500 not 15000. Is it going to take some getting used to? Sure, but we had to do it with the 800 mhz and locution, so I don't see it as a big deal. If you look at as a whole, it's pretty simple to figure out.

Anonymous-

When does ANYTHING that a Wake Co dept decides to do involve any coordination with other depts in the county or even 911 for that matter? I think it's funny that you have to post "Anonymous to keep my job" as your screen name, to me, that's a problem in and of itself.

Stay safe

Wayne - 09/07/07 - 23:30

Isn't there a simpler way than this?

What if, for instance, the first-out engine at Station 61 was...Engine 611? And the second-due engine becomes (surprise) Engine 612. Same way with any other type of apparatus. If there were two aerial apparatus placed at Station 63, couldn't the second-due piece be called Ladder 632?

Only one rescue at Station 62 (again, an example)? Rescue 621 makes sense. And this way, if RFD should ever have a Station 62, you can still tell the apparatus from the two departments apart.

And if I need to call for Wake Forest's chief, I could just ask for Chief 61. If I need their senior deputy chief, I'd ask for Chief 61A.

Just seems to me like the less decoding one needs to do in order to figure out the system, the better. Y'all think about it.

bombero.loco - 09/08/07 - 08:09

sigh... well I guess when WFFD is being dispatched by the Town of WF it won't matter anyways. God forbid we do anything in this county that makes sense at all. Especially when there was/is already a numbering scheme in place in this county that only 1/2 of the departments use anyways. I say we just start calling our trucks whatever we want who cares if it makes sense in the "BIG PICTURE". oh well....

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/08/07 - 08:43

What a great time for 911 to step up and say NO – there is nothing wrong with the system in place and we are not changing CAD and Locution to reflect rogue local desires

robert g - 09/08/07 - 09:04

From the article, The department considered several numbering schemes, but eventually settled on one that would incorporate their long term

growth. Based on above comments, does that mean no FD should be allowed to change their numbers, going forward? That does not seem realistic, as no rules or guidelines for changing numbers presently exist.

Guest - 09/08/07 - 09:19

sure they exist, the county gives each station (outside of Raleigh and Cary) a number. There is a numbering scheme in place within the county that some stations use already which WFFD did use. And there isn't anything wrong with it. I guess it just shows the growth in this county there are more and more depts that want to branch off and do their own thing, which isn't really a bad thing, it just goes against the concept of interoperability that we all beg for. I think we're all used to hearing brush ##9, and now WFFD has ##9 as a rescue... it's just different and will take time to get used to. I had heard they were going to Engine 1, Engine 2, Ladder 1, etc... so I guess this is better than that idea.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/08/07 - 09:35

Jeff,

Hang in their brother! We're on the right track, it's just that change is hard to accept sometimes. After viewing the comments from past posts relating to the topic, I was very anxious to see the comments that would be generated once this information was released. One thing is true in life; you can't please some people no matter what you do to make it better.

Why did we even entertain the thought of a number change? We needed a comprehensive and consistent numbering scheme that would address all of our needs for future facilities, apparatus and personnel. The current system does not allow for that. Once we had seven firehouses up and running it would have been a nightmare to manage the apparatus that would be responding from those houses. We would have had Engine 61, Engine 431, Engine 481, Engine 521, etc. Tracking units from the same department that are numbered on a scale with that wide of a range would have been very confusing to manage. Having a system where each firehouse is numbered in a comprehensive and consecutive order will allow for quick and easy management on the fireground. The system we chose is also one that is widely used throughout the state. If one pays attention to the methodology utilized to create the system, one would see that it is very simple to comprehend. I'll break it down for the ones that are having a difficult time understanding:

We have adopted the entire bank of 60's (60-69 are now dedicated to the Wake Forest Fire Department)

Our administrative division, which includes Chief, Paid Deputy Chief, Volunteer Deputy Chief, our three Volunteer Battalion Chiefs, the paid training chief and the on duty safety lieutenant will utilize the 60 series. This means that our apparatus identification unit will be Car 600, Car 601, Car 602, Car 603, Car 604, Car 605, Car 606 and Car 607

Our operations division, which currently includes two firehouses and all of the apparatus housed in them will utilize the 61 and 62 series:

Station 61 will be our headquarters station. In this firehouse we have two pumper-tankers, one tower ladder, one rescue company, two brush units, one utility unit and one ATV. The methodology used to number these vehicles are as follows: a "0" identifies a ladder truck of any type, a 1 or 2 identifies an engine, a 3 or 4 identifies a pumper-tanker, a "5" identifies a straight tanker, a "6" identifies a utility vehicle or special apparatus, a "7" identifies a brush unit, a "8" identifies a brush unit or other off road type vehicle, and a "9" identifies a rescue company.
Station Number + Apparatus Type = Apparatus Identification

So, at Station 61 we will have Pumper 613, Ladder 610, Rescue 619, Brush 617, Utility 616 and ATV 618. Also at Station 61, we are housing two units that will be utilized for Station 63 when it opens next year. Those units are Pumper 633 and Brush 637

Station 62 is our sub-station on Ligon Mill Road. In this firehouse we have two pumper-tankers, one brush unit and one air unit. These units will utilize the following numbers under the above methodology: Pumper 623, Brush 627 and Air 626. Also at Station 62, we are housing a unit that will be utilized for Station 64 when it opens in late 2008. That unit is Pumper 643. The Brush Unit for this firehouse is stored at Station 61 and will be Brush 647.

Our Volunteer Staff will move away from the three digit system and adopt a four digit system. Why? Because as most of you have already stated in past posts relating to having too many Engine 1's, Rescue 1's, etc, we have too many 100's, 200's, 300's, etc. So, our personnel will be numbered as follows: We are still utilizing the Administrative 60 series to do this:

The Fire Chief's personal radio designation will be 6000, Deputy Chiefs 6001 and 6002, Battalion Chiefs 6003, 6004 and 6005, Training Chief 6006

Captains personal radio designations: 6007, 6008, 6009: Lieutenants personal radio designations: 6011, 6012, 6013 and 6014

Firefighters will begin at 6015 and end at 6099

Right across the border in Granville County, the Brassfield Fire Department is using the same personnel methodology. The Station is #16. The Chief is 1600, Assistant Chief 1601 and so on. If one would do some research, one would discover that this type of numbering methodology is utilized in many counties throughout North Carolina.

Jeff I appreciate the assistance you have given me and as for your statement about Wake Forest taking over dispatching the Fire Department; That may not be that far away. I'll keep you posted.

Thanks Man!
Chief

[6000] - 09/08/07 - 11:20

You're kidding about the town dispatching you, right?

CFP743 - 09/08/07 - 11:34

The biggest step forward WFFD took was when the PD stopped dispatching the fire trucks and EMS. 2 dispatch centers in this County is one too many. Time for system solutions and not individual answers

robert g - 09/08/07 - 11:40

well we already have 4 dispatch centers in this county handling fire/ems/pd

and it showed how bad you can get it messed up when cary called raleigh to get an ems unit at a gas leak. somehow by the time the call was processed it was recommending an EMS unit from apex. well for some reason Apex L-1 was dispatched. You should have heard it when they came up on the channel. One center solves it all!

Chief Swift, this is not Mr. Harkey, rather just another wake county firefighter who wishes you the best luck getting what you are asking for in all elements.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/08/07 - 11:51

Sorry about that brother. I meant to say "The" comment instead of "Your" comment. Thanks for the support anyway.

And before we get way off track here, let's just omit the communications center issues. I agree that there are more cons than pros to the Town dispatching us. We'll talk more on this subject later on down the road. Thanks Guys!

[6000] - 09/08/07 - 11:59

Chief Swift I would like to say congratulations. Its great that you have stepped up to the plate and decided on something while the county still drags their feet. I love the progressive attitude you and your guys at WFFD have. No if more people would cathc on.

Adam Brown - 09/08/07 - 23:35

Way too many county chiefs will not give up being called "Car 1" so good luck with what you do in WFFD as the numbering will always be confusing, just so long as you show up with whatever number on the side of your rig when we call for help. Thanks and be safe.

DFHD1990 ([Email](#)) - 09/09/07 - 10:58

I think one thing causing initial confusion what the idea that there would possibly be some five-digit units/members if the WFFD system was used county wide. That is not correct as per my understanding.

For example, the Rolesville Chief would not be 15000, but would be 1500.

Wake Forest is using the "60" series for their members.

Hope this clears up a few things.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/09/07 - 11:01

Great steps WFFD....any idea when/if you guys will get on the state retirement system?

Silver - 09/09/07 - 12:58

Several Fire Departments throughout the state are working to have the state retirement system implemented for incorporated fire agencies. This is going to be a long uphill battle for us, but I think that eventually we'll get it. Many civilians are working hard behind the scenes to assist

us.

[6000] - 09/09/07 - 18:38

Why not become town wmployees or municipal department and then it wont be an uphill battle

guest - 09/09/07 - 21:20

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'?

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

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.

Firefighter Tattooes

09/07/07 45 W - + 14 - 14

Here's a different kind of photography site: www.strikethebox.com. Dedicated to the art of firefighter tattoos, reads the description. Appears appropriate for all ages. About the art form itself, this [Wikipedia entry enlightens](#). Wonder how many tats are awaiting discovery around here?

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'?

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

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.

Apex

09/09/07 15 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Random station shot. Apex Station 3 on Saturday night.



Mike, I saw you and was going to talk to you but you left before i got there. Stop in next time. Lee was there earlier in day taking pictures also.

Apex Batt Chief - 09/09/07 - 21:19

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Cherry Point Building Burns

09/09/07 75 W, 1 I - + 14 - 11

[FireNews](#) via [CFP](#) and [WITN-TV](#) reported today that the Headquarters Building at Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station was heavily damaged by fire overnight. The incident started around 11:00 p.m., with flames through the second floor of the structure. (Where is that building? Drawing a blank here.) Every Craven FD and all Carteret FDs west of Beaufort were called for mutual aid. Companies staged at HFD. Still surfing for additional info.



Okay, from the CFP site, all Craven departments are Cove City, Cherry Point MCAS, Dover, Fort Barnwell, Harlowe, Havelock, Little Swift Creek, New Bern, Rhems, Township 6, Township 7, Township 9, Tri-Community, Vanceboro, West New Bern. All Carteret departments east of Beaufort are Atlantic Beach, Broad and Gales Creek, Emerald Isle, Millcreek, Morehead City, Newport, Pine Knoll Shores, Salter Path, West Carteret, Wildwood. Had to consult the FM's office web site map for that one, 

Wonder if the island FDs above were request, or just mainland?

How many ladders is that, for Craven and Carteret? Atlantic Beach, Cherry Point, Morehead City, New Bern. Who else? Wildwood has a telesquirt.

Legeros - 09/09/07 - 21:36

New Bern's newspaper has a story as well, <http://www.newbernsj.com/>

Here's aerial map/photo of C Street. Nothing looks U-shaped, though. H-shaped, yes. <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=Havelock,+..>

Legeros - 09/09/07 - 21:50

I know that Pine Knoll Shores has some sort of telesquirt or maybe quint, Emerald Isle has a stick, Western Carteret has a snorkel. Not sure about Beaufort FD

car3550 - 09/10/07 - 09:32

I think salter path has a ladder also.

Adam Brown - 09/10/07 - 12:37

Enter this in Google maps: 34.899281, -76.901464 for the building: <http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=e..>

Was still smoldering a bit this morning, roof was partially collapsed at the northern entrance and the center of the southern wing. Securing all of the classified material was a complication that was not, and continues to not be, pleasant.

Cpl Bob ([Email](#)) - 09/10/07 - 16:39

I do not know about Craven but the only ladder from Carteret that was called for was Morehead City's platform. Atlantic Beach and Wildwood sent a telesquirt. When mutual aid was called from Carteret they were dispatched for one engine and 4 ff's.

Morehead City and Salter Path have platforms. Atlantic Beach and Wildwood have squirts. Atlantic Beach, Pine Knoll Shores and Emerald Isle have quints. Western Carteret has a snorkel. That's all the ladders in Carteret.

Jesse - 09/10/07 - 19:17

West Carteret has a snorkel? Not many of those are left around the state. Who else still has 'em? Raleigh has a 1988 Pierce in reserve. Rocky Mount has a 1978 Pierce in reserve, or so says their web site. North Wilkesboro has one. Sunny Point Military Ocean Terminal, too.

Legeros - 09/10/07 - 20:31

I think Fayetteville got rid of theirs. How about Wilson and Goldsboro? I know they did have them.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/10/07 - 21:00

Wilson yes, shows web site. Durham's is gone. Greensboro's is probably gone. Charlotte's is probably gone.

Legeros - 09/10/07 - 21:06

Looking at Lee's ALF photos, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/s..> Washington had a 1979 ALF. Sanford had a 1968 ALF. Asheville had a 1977 ALF. Statesville had a 1973 ALF.

Looking on the web... Greenville had one, <http://home-and-garden.webshots.com/phot...> Henderson had one, bought in 1978.

Stantonsville/Moyton just bought a 1978 Pierce/Oshkosh, <http://www.stantonsburg-moyton-vfd.com/i..> Thomasville received one in 1967.

Legeros - 09/10/07 - 21:16

Goldsboro still has one, at Station 5 known as Snorkel 5.

car3550 - 09/10/07 - 22:26

Greenville's was sold to a firm in Florida for tree work/high tension work. The snorkel boom was removed and the chassis scrapped.

Washington's was sold across the river in Beaufort Co. to Chocowinity, Washington now has a Pierce 100' Rear Mount Platform.

Steven ([Email](#)) - 09/11/07 - 14:48

City of Henderson and Vance County, Co own a 1977 Pierce/Snorkel that is stored at City Garage since Henderson obtained a new KMC ladder truck some time back on a Federal Fire Grant. The truck is used as a backup and brought out if needed in the County.

rnln ([Email](#)) - 09/11/07 - 17:53

FYI:

Carteret County Aerials – Morehead City 70'+ Platform, Wildwood 50' Telesqurt, Atlantic Beach 75' Quint and 50' Telesqurt, Pine Knoll Shores 75' Quint, Salter Path 100'(?) Platform, Emerald Isle 75' Quint, Western Cartert 75' or 85' Snorkel

Craven County Aerials – Cherry Point 50' Telesqurt, New Bern 100' Platform and 75' Squrt

Aerials Operating at the fire – Cherry Point T-2 (50' Squrt), Morehead E-2 (70+ Platform), Wildwood T-1 (50' Squrt) and New Bern T-1? (100' Platform)

Also the picture listed in this post is New Berns 100' Sutphen operating on side A (1) of the structure.

Someone in the know.

Someone in the know - 09/15/07 - 09:16

Legeros,

The fire building was the large building located in the center of D St. 2nd. Ave and C St. on your google map link.

Someone in the know - 09/15/07 - 09:26

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.

‘Silent Disasters’ Drain Red Cross

09/10/07 23 W - + 14 - 11

The *News & Observer* reporting on the Red Cross and the [impact of residential fires on their local chapter](#).

Tracie Thomason here. I’m the Client Services Coordinator at the Red Cross. Thanks for posting this article. This is a great site! Please pass on a massive THANK-YOU to all the EMS Workers and Firefighters in Raleigh and Wake County for working with the Red Cross. I know it can be frustrating to be on a scene and wait around for us, but we really are grateful for everything that you do for us and for the families you help.

Tracie Thomason ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/11/07 - 21:30

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’?

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

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.

Embryo Fireman Refuses to Jump

09/10/07 134 W - + 12 - 16

Raleigh Times, May 6, 1933. Fifteen-Foot Leap Into Fire Net Balked At By Young Man. One young Raleigh man probably lost his chance Saturday of getting on the local force of fireman when he balked at taking a 15-foot leap from a window into a fire net at No. 1 Fire Station as part of the test given prospective firemen. Fire Chief W. E. Holland gave trials to six aspirants for two vacancies on the force of firemen, the vacancies arising out of the recent city election. Asked if there was any chance of the young man making the grade after he refused to take the required leap into the fire net, Chief Holland grinned and said "That just lets him out." The examination prospective firemen have to undergo is no cinch.

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](#))

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.

History Presentation, October 9

09/10/07 74 W, 1 I - + 18 - 13

Mark your calendar for the evening of Tuesday, October 9. Mike Legeros will present a short history of the Raleigh Fire Department at the Cameron Village Public Library, 1930 Clark Avenue. The 7:00 p.m. event will feature a 45-minute presentation about both the volunteer and fully-paid periods of the Raleigh Fire Department. There will also be a demonstration of a vintage alarm box and station gong, and other odd surprises. Expect alarming fun.



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'?

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

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.

September 11 Memorial Events

09/10/07 136 W - + 12 - 14

[NBC 17 reports](#) that Gov. Easley has ordered flags at state facilities to be lowered Tuesday in honor of Patriot Day, a federal holiday to honor victims and survivors of the terror attacks. The president has also asked all Americans to observe a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m., the time the first plane struck the World Trade Center. Other local September 11 events:

- Speech by historian and author Matthew Warshauer, McKimmon Center at North Carolina State University, 12:00 p.m., \$15
- Ceremony to dedicate UNC memorial to 9/11 victims, University of North Carolina, 11:30 a.m.
- Flag and Chapel chimes ceremony to honor six Duke alumni who died during the attacks, Duke University, 5:00 p.m.
- National September 11 Memorial Museum, in front of Raleigh Municipal Building, September 15, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

See the [NBC 17 story for more information](#).

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'?

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

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.

This Afternoon's Fire

09/10/07 46 W, 1 I - + 10 - 15

[FireNews via CFP](#) reports on this afternoon's fire on [Bay Harbor Drive](#). Engine 21 arriving at a [two-story townhouse](#), heavily involved. Two extra engines. Four extra EMS units. Ladder 11 flowing. One resident transported to burn center. No apparent coverage on other media sites, yet.



Lee has posted pics, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a...>. He also notes that NBC17 has a good slideshow of viewer pics, from early into the incident, <http://media.mgnetwork.com/ncn/images/Sl..>

Legeros - 09/11/07 - 04:46

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'?

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

Big Fires

09/11/07 92 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

Lots burning around the state in the last 24 hours. Flea market in Dunn. Theater buildings in Manteo. Multi-alarm woods fires in Wake, Orange, and Duplin counties. Nine+ departments in Dunn, including aeriels from Fuquay-Varina and Holly Springs. That was this morning. Mutual aid was again rendered this afternoon in Cary, off Green Level Church Road. FDs included Cary, Apex, Morrisville, Parkwood, Western Wake, Durham Highway, Swift Creek, Holly Springs, Fuquay-Varina, and North Chatham. Plus Forest Service. What were some of the move-ups? Pics coming.



I saw a Bethesda engine as well as a Fairview engine at Cary #7.

Silver - 09/11/07 - 23:46

WW E-191 was covering CFD #5, SCFD E-3 was also covering, but I don't know where. I am guessing it was CFD #3

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/12/07 - 00:02

Yes, SCFD was at CFD #3. We ran one call while we were there. Dispatched as a vehicle fire, but no fire upon arrival.

Griggs - 09/12/07 - 11:49

DHFD Engine at Morrisville Station1

DHFD - 09/12/07 - 19:11

Does anyone have a complete list of all move ups and all units on scene?

curious - 09/12/07 - 20:35

Rough estimate of units on scene included (accuracy not guaranteed):

Cary FD: E-7, E-5, E-3, E-50(Truck 6's crew), R-2, L-1, L-3, L-5, Brush 9, SO-20, SO-21, Batt. 2 (Frazier), Car 1, Car 2, Car 3, Car 5

Morrisville FD: E-1, Tanker 3, Brush 2, Car 3 (Boeing), Car 1

Apex FD: E-3, L-1, Tanker 1, Brush 1, Car 1, Car 5

Western Wake FD: Pumper 196, Brush 299

Swift Creek FD: Tanker 6, Chief Griggs

Durham Highway FD: E-4

Holly Springs FD: E-1

Fuquay-Varina FD: Tanker 1

Parkwood FD: E-611, Brush 617, Chief 100

North Chatham FD: Brush Truck and Engine

Apex EMS with ambulance
Cary EMS with ambulance and supervisor 580
Wake EMS Truck 1
Barry's Cafe
Cary PD
Wake SO
Wake EM
WC-1
NC Forest Service

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/12/07 - 22:07

Thanks for the good coverage. Fires and other things does happen in Cary that I think gets over looked by the local media and does not get any coverage at all. Keep up the good work.

fire1983 - 09/13/07 - 11:30

reading in from another part of the state, this fire seems to show how multiple departments can respond efficiently and contain a potentially devastating fire. i'd be proud to be a member of any of these agencies.

outofcounty - 09/13/07 - 14:45

As someone from the outside looking in, but still a member of the fire service; it was a damn fine job by all of the agencies involved. You had, on my count, 3 different counties represented in the staging area.

Two chiefs and a captain, all from different departments, seemed to have staging on lock down (good thing). Command seemed to be putting personnel in the right areas, and all in all looked like one hell of a successful team effort.I mean, 50 acres controlled in no time!! Good job again...

Silver - 09/13/07 - 18:10

Blog coverage of events can stretch far and wide, as many readers have observed. But don't forget FireNews, <http://firenews.net/>, which is the premiere source for such coverage. In addition to the FN main page, click on the FN-911 incident log, <http://www.firenews.net/weblog/>, in the upper-right corner, which includes feeds by Carolinas Fire Page. Also check the new headlines area, <http://www.firenews.net/headlines/>, that was just added.

Legeros - 09/13/07 - 20:49

Silver, not just staging, but we were also doing unit and personnel accountability. It took us a little while to collect all the passports and get the correct operating location for all the units. By the way thanks for your help for a few minutes while we were sorting things out.

Also, thanks to everyone in staging for being patient. Everyone wanted to go and see and do, but most understood we were waiting for a resource request and passed the time hydrating and catching up with friends and colleagues. We had a couple units try to self deploy, but the parking lot set up did not allow for units to slip out past us.

Griggs - 09/14/07 - 12:11

You are quite welcome, wish I could've done more. Keep up the good work.

Silver - 09/14/07 - 15:11

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

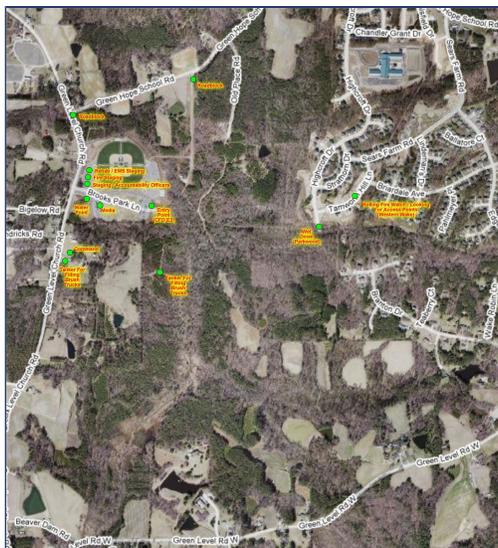
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Fire Map

09/13/07 24 W, 1 I - + 16 - 13

Here's an annotated aerial photo of the scene of Tuesday's major brush fire, first draft. Additions and corrections welcome. 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.

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.

Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, 9/20

09/14/07 44 W - + 15 - 12

The next Wake County Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, at 7:00 PM, at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building on Cary Drive near I-440 and Poole Road.

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

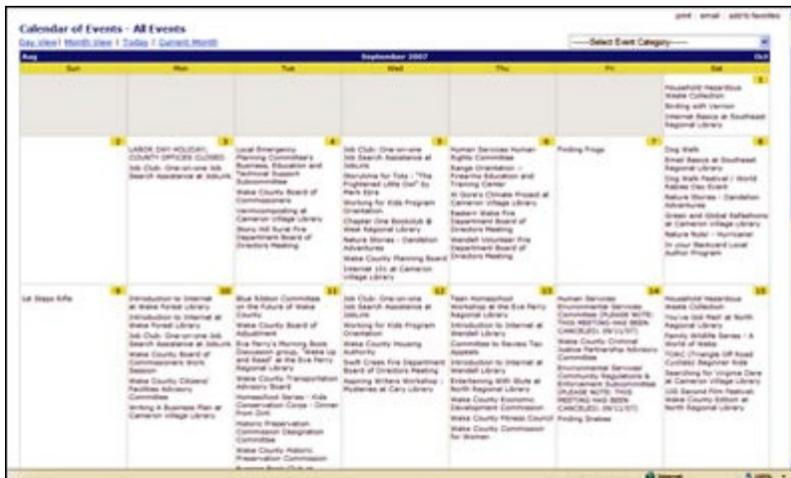
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

More Meetings

09/14/07 35 W, 1 I + 14 - 12

When is the next WCFC meeting? Check the [Wake County Calendar of Events](#), which lists both the Fire Commission meetings and Board of Directors meetings for several fire departments. All are public meetings.



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'?

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

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.

This Evening's Storms

09/14/07 109 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

Sounds like the Fuquay-Varina area bore the brunt of this evening's severe weather, at least in Wake County. Numerous trees down. Electric (and phone?) service out. Nursing home evacuation on Sunset Drive. At least one working fire, Sanford Drive, among a number reported earlier. Fire command on Ops 10, dispatching and managing area units. Mutual aid and coverage including Angier, Apex, Bay Leaf, Cary, Fairview, Garner, Holly Springs, Swift Creek, and Western Wake fire departments. EMS agencies on Sunset Drive included Apex, Buies Creek, Cary, Garner, Harnett, and Wake. [WRAL](#) posted this stunning photo of a funnel cloud in the area of Old Stage Road and Highway 42:



Man, you guys stay safe down there!!!!

Silver (at N.J. F.F. Convention) - 09/14/07 - 21:38

It got crazy down this way, confirmed funnel cloud sightings in Lillington, also heard wso and shp confirm one on 42 nears sauls rd (about 2 or 3 miles from 42/old stage).

I did see Fairview e-2 running down 401 after leaving dinner, while it was raining lions and mooses... I noticed a large loss of power in the area and multiple trees down on the ride home, it was a mess. Hope everybody stayed safe.

mike were all those departments running in the F-V area? WOW... there's been some awesome m/a and move ups here in the last few months/year.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/14/07 - 22:33

Still Evacuating the nursing home at 0122 Hours!!

HS43422 - 09/15/07 - 01:22

It was a dark and stormy night. Pics posted <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 09/15/07 - 12:04

That looks like Monneypenny court, off old stage rd. just south of 42. And that 2 story white house in the top left of the photo looks like Donnel Braxton's.....

J.Boggs - 09/18/07 - 15:14

Thank You j.boggs, now I can drive right to it with your knowledge of the old stage road area.

Tiffany - 09/18/07 - 20:56

there were two working fires one fuquay and one in fairview The one in fairview off of sandford avnue was well involed on arrvail of FFE5,FFE1,FFR1,FFTA6 and FVE2 The one in fuqay im not sure where its at

4447 - 09/27/07 - 17:16

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'?

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

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.

Steam Fire Engines in Action

09/14/07 49 W - + 22 - 6

Here are a couple cool videos from YouTube, found by way of [Firegeezer's blog](#). The first video shows a horse-drawn steamer in action at a muster, as well as hand hose reel working. The second shows a Waterous steamer churning and burning up close.

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'?

searchCrystal

09/15/07 26 W, 1 I - + 13 - 14

Here's a [neat new search site](#) that compares other search sites, and displays a visual representation of results. Try both the Web and Images tabs.



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](#))

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

Old Engine 13

09/15/07 68 W, 1 I - + 15 - 15

Recently found this nicely posed photo in a scrapbook. Raleigh's only Pirsch, delivered in 1985 and original bundled with a ladder. See [this blog entry](#) for that story. Also the last pre-light bar engine. The pumper served four years as Engine 13, and seven years as Engine 4. It also served as Engine 22 and Engine 27. Presently a reserve engine, it was refurbished in 1999.



This was also the last engine delivered with driver's side ladders as well as a portable gun mounted on the roof (like they were with the Macks).

I lived just off Hillsborough Street when it was delivered, and man, there was no mistaking the sound of that engine. It was almost louder than the Federal Q!

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/15/07 - 22:47

Can you pull any handlines off the side of that engine? Later on you could once they added the speedlay compartments.

lee - 09/17/07 - 13:13

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'?

This Evening's Fire

09/17/07 82 W, 1 I - + 18 - 14

Three alarms at 1201 Trillium Circle. Dispatched about 10:40 p.m. Heavy fire in rear of three-story, wood-frame apartment building. Engine 8 first arriving. Command by Battalion 3 in front of structure. Aerial stream by Ladder 20 in front right of structure. Six units heavily damaged. No injuries reported and 21 residents displaced. Units on scene included E1, E2, E3, E5, E6, E8, E10, E13, E14, L1, L16, L20, R7, R14, B3, B4, C5, C71, C198, A8, EMS 4, 7, 8, 13, 203, 572, 602, T1.



great pic

lee - 09/17/07 - 13:14

any move ups by county units, if not why not, three alarm fires deplet the city of units and it should be deemed neccessary to move county units up...does anyone have a full unit list?

roger - 09/17/07 - 13:59

No county move ups or scene response that I am aware of. At least Swift Creek did not, and we are the closest county station.

Griggs - 09/17/07 - 16:45

Western Wake called Dispatch and notified them that we had personal to cover 8 and 14's area, but once again....we didn't see the closest unit being dispatched. They had units coming from the other side of Raleigh to a fire alarm that was just off of blue ridge road. I really don't understand this system.

Kermit - 09/17/07 - 18:03

Mike, give us a run down of distances for the closest county units and Cary Stations 2 and 3 which Im sure could have been in the second alarm if not the first.

guest - 09/17/07 - 18:09

It's not the system's fault, the root of the problem lies elsewhere.

wcff - 09/17/07 - 19:24

Dead horse alert. Take it over to the Watch Desk and exhume as desired.

Legeros - 09/17/07 - 19:38

...and pics posted.

Legeros - 09/17/07 - 19:39

It seems as though Raleigh is seeing alot more working fires than in years past. Mike, I hate to be lazy but, do you have any info, or know where I could get stats that compare the number of fires in Raleigh to the average number of fires nationwide. I keep hearing people say that fires are down; it seems as though the fires, just like people, are moving to different areas.

rookienc - 09/17/07 - 21:17

Additional coverage of the fire, from this morning's paper: <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/tuesda...> For national stats on fires, the USFA has this page: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/statistics/>.. For local stats... ?

Legeros - 09/18/07 - 07:12

Story and select photos posted today at Firehouse.com: <http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Phot..>

[This thread is still closed for the time being.]

Legeros - 09/19/07 - 21:08

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'?

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

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.

Cary Fire Academy Graduation Ceremony, 9/28

09/18/07 44 W - + 16 - 19

News release. The Cary Fire Department Recruit Academy #14 graduation ceremony will be held Friday September 28, at 7:30 p.m., at the Cary Academy Fine Arts Center, [1500 North Harrison Avenue](#). Fifteen recruits, plus pipes, drums, pomp, and circumstance. Cue Edward Elgar.

I heard RFD just had some promotions? Anyone know if this is true? What about any details? Mike, Lee any pics?

wondering - 09/19/07 - 13:14

Here is a link for a few pictures from Raleigh's ceremony on September 14: <http://ncfop88.org/wand/news.htm>

Mike - 09/19/07 - 16:37

Congratulations to new Cary firefighters Brandon Braswell, Leslie Brinson, Thomas Hodge, Mellanie Jones, Alexander Killin, Damien King, William Kochies, Andrew Leighton, Robert McSorley Jr., Joseph Nicosia, Mark O'Connor, Christopher Parker, Stephen Renken, Jonathan Schreiber, and Matthew Zaytoun. Killin was the Valedictorian, O'Conner was the recipient of the Leadership Award, and McSorley is a second-generation Cary firefighter, son of Engine 7 Engineer Robert McSorley Sr.

Legeros - 09/29/07 - 13:03

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'?

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

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.

Wake EMS Promotion Ceremony, 9/21

09/19/07 280 W - + 17 - 16

News release. Wake County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will promote 20 paramedics to Field Training Officer (FTO) status and four FTOs to Senior FTOs on Friday, September 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wake County Commons Building (4011 Cary Drive) in Raleigh. "To work as a paramedic in Wake County's system takes a lot of dedication and professionalism," said EMS Chief Skip Kirkwood. "These paramedics have not only performed at the highest level, but have demonstrated the ability to coordinate emergency care and the integration of new staff members into this high-tech EMS system."

The newly promoted FTOs will be greeted by the Wake EMS Honor Guard and the Wake and District Public Safety Pipes and Drums band as they enter the pinning and oath ceremony. Commendable Service and Baby Delivery awards will also be distributed. Newly promoted officers will be available for photographs and interviews. FTOs are considered the best paramedics in the field, and are trained to orient and guide new paramedics into Wake County's cutting edge Emergency Medical Service System, a leader in the EMS industry. These 24 men and women stand out among their peers - a group of 106 Wake County Paramedics.

Paramedics being promoted:

Mini City area (Capital Blvd & Millbrook)

Garry Pomerleau
 Bo Degnan
 Junith Peterson
 Quentin Riffle
 Raymond Fetchko
 Tim Martin
 David Schiller

North Raleigh

Tony Fraccola
 Mark Anglin
 Buddy Hanna

Downtown area

Brandon Morgan
 Michael Lyons
 Patrick O'Boyle
 Scotty Parrish
 Tevnan Keller

West Raleigh

Benji Currie
 Curtis Fuko
 Rhodes Smith

Wake Forest area

Cheryl Labrecque
 Chris Gherardi

Also being recognized as Senior FTOs:

Wesley Marshall - Downtown area

Gary Linder - Downtown area

Aaron Wenzel - Downtown area

Ronnie Pleasant - West Raleigh

To all;

A belated, but well deserved nonetheless, Congratulations to all in your honourable promotions.

All the best in future endeavours;

Dave Beecroft

District Chief

London Fire Department

London, Ontario, Canada

Dave Beecroft ([Email](#)) - 04/21/11 - 13:29

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'?

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

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.

Wake County Fire Commission Meeting Agenda

09/20/07 139 W - + 25 - 10

The agenda for tonight's Wake County Fire Commission meeting, released yesterday. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM, at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building on Cary Drive near I-440 and Poole Road.

Call meeting to order

- Invocation
- Roll of members present
- Approval of Agenda

Minutes

- Adoption of Minutes for July 19, 2007, Regular Meeting

Regular Agenda

- Fire Station Closure Criteria and Evaluation
 - Update on Western Wake Fire Station #2 Service Replacement
 - Consideration of Next Fire Station for Evaluation
- Facility Committee
 - Consideration of Project Plan for Fire Station in Southeastern Wake County
 - Bay Leaf Fire Station #1 Reconstruction
- Information Agenda
 - Staffing Committee
 - Apparatus Committee
 - Chair Report
 - Fire/Rescue Services Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
 - 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person
- Adjournment

Did anyone attend? Anything interesting happen?

Wake FF - 09/21/07 - 08:00

Recap coming.

Legeros - 09/21/07 - 08:15

Last night's meeting lasted last two and half hours. The majority of the meeting was devoted to discussion of facilities, staffing, and budget, and the need for a "master plan" that integrates and presents priorities for all three. The Fire Commission voted at the end of the meeting to create such a plan, by way of the facilities, staffing, and budget committees. They are requested to collaborate for that purpose.

Regarding the agenda item of Update on Western Wake Fire Station #2 Service Replacement, WCFM staff presented an action plan with a dozen-plus steps and dates. Next up is developing service agreement with Cary Fire, which the Fire Commission will review prior to presenting to the Board of Commissioners in January.

Regarding the agenda item of Consideration of Next Fire Station for Evaluation, WCFM staff presented background information that included

the list of fire stations originally identified for initial closure analysis: Bay Leaf #3, Falls, New Hope #1, Western Wake #1, and Western Wake #2. They also provided collected data on the stations, including number of parcels, assessed value, number of residential structures, number of commercial structures, reported incidents in "peninsula area" in FY04, reported incidents responded to from station, current ETJ percentages, closest fire stations, percentage of roadway within 1000 feet of hydrant, and closest fire stations with tankers. They asked the Fire Commission to decide on how to proceed forward. The Fire Commission voted to send the matter to the Facilities Committee, to evaluate and advise a recommended action.

Regarding the agenda item of Consideration of Project Plan for Fire Station in Southeastern Wake County, the plan was presented for approval. It targets 2010 as an opening date. The location is the Raynor Road area. The town of Garner is being talked to about participating in the project. The Fire Commission voted to proceed with the plan, and notably the next step of finding land.

Regarding the agenda item of Bay Leaf Fire Station #1 Reconstruction, the Facilities Committee chair showed a presentation that summarized the problem and several solutions. The current assessment of Bay Leaf Station #1 includes structural problems on the right side of the building, structural problems in the truck bay area, failing septic system, attic area utilized as dormitory space, fire code compliance issues with current sleep areas, and station does not need administrative needs for a headquarters fire station.

Solutions include renovating the station (\$1.1M), remove and rebuild (\$4.3M), build elsewhere (\$7.6), build elsewhere on a different type of zoned land (\$6.4M), delay project several years (8-10% per year cost escalation), or do nothing.

The Facilities Committee also asked that the Fire Commission hear from the Staffing Committee prior to voting on the Bay Leaf station, so the larger perspective of priorities could be considered. After much discussion about needs and priorities and those issues, the Fire Commission voted in a split vote to delay any new fire station construction until a larger "master plan" was presented.

Regarding the agenda item of Apparatus Committee, the committee reported that Seagrave will be awarded the bid for the latest brush trucks. The bid amount is \$73,900.

Regarding the agenda item of the Fire/Rescue Services Director Report, the issue of apparatus numbering was raised. WCFC staff requested that the 800 mhz and CAD group examine the issue of a county-wide numbering system.

Corrections, clarifications, and additions welcome.

Legeros - 09/21/07 - 22:37

I heard that morning pride is taking over as the turnout gear supplier for the county. Can anyone confirm?

Kevin - 09/22/07 - 13:54

I can confirm....Morning Pride was voted on by the turnout gear committee and Newton's fire and safety will be the supplier of the gear. RFD, CFD and Wake Co are still awaiting final approval from the purchasing dept. before purchasing can begin.

NH100 ([Email](#)) - 09/22/07 - 23:53

I'm all about being a vollie and supporting our kind but let's be realistic about some stuff and realize that funding for Western Wake, Bay Leaf #3, New Hope #1, and Falls needs to stop. There are too many other stations that actually have territory that could use the money.

Henry P. - 09/24/07 - 19:30

It must be a real burden to see things so clearly that the answer seems so simple...

AB - 09/24/07 - 20:34

Well Said Henry P.

CFF856 - 09/24/07 - 21:20

I'm going to have to disagree with you Henry P. refer to watch desk for continuation... I'm sure legeros will close this thread... no offense mike

I'm sorry - 09/24/07 - 21:41

Been awhile since I've seen a commentary so worthwhile agreeing with. Speak on Henry P.

Concerned Taxpayer - 09/24/07 - 22:23

Lets not forget

Eastern Wake station 2.....

concerned taxpayer #2 - 09/25/07 - 11:05

we better start a new thread about that last statement.

taxdontwannapayer3 - 09/25/07 - 12:31

I will keep it civil here (just for you Mike) but with the HUGE influx of people moving to this area EVERYDAY (an average of 60 people A DAY!!), I DON'T see a need to CLOSE ANY FIRE STATIONS!!! Whether people agree with it or not, most of these stations in question just need to be utilized PROPERLY!!! It is time people quit complaining about shutting down stations due to petty differences and work to CORRECT THE SYSTEM IN PLACE!!! The problems that people complain about (\$\$\$,staffing, call volume,apparatus,etc) falls on the ADMINISTRATION of the dept(s) and the COUNTY!!! That's why I say FIX THAT FIRST, then PROVIDE THE SERVICE THE CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTY DESERVE AND PAY FOR WITH TAXES!!! I will take the rest of this to the watchdesk (I will vent more and explain more there)

Wayne - 09/25/07 - 12:43

uh huh... yup... exactly... can't agree more

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 09/25/07 - 13:41

Your right, we should not worry about closing stations down but relocating them. But, Why should be spend hard earned tax dollars on building new stations in territory that will likely by annexed in five, ten, twenty years? Just so, everyone is happy; if your on a county department, you will not lose your job just because the station closes, you will be moved. In regards to this statement, and this goes along with closest station response, Eastern Wake Rescue station 2 in the middle of the town of Knightdale, right? Medical response, fire alarm, etc, comes out for I believe it is a gym right across the street, who goes, not Eastern wake, Knightdale, which they are two or three miles away from that location, but eastern wake does not roll, they sit there. A little bit better example, call/walk in at their station two in town limits comes in, they request rescue (10-39 response), they are dispatched and who else is, Knightdale fire department is dispatched to come all the way over there to assist them, but they are county certified emt's, why can't they handle the scene. What would be a good idea is to save some money, throw an eastern wake unit into knightdale fire's station and throw a knightdale rig into eastern wake's fire station, would that work, wouldn't make sense, but would it work?

concerned taxpayer #2 - 09/25/07 - 18:00

i agree with wayne ther is no need to close ANY STATIONS

4447 - 09/25/07 - 20:35

.....Or better yet, put all of eastern wake's resources into their poole rd. station and focus on serving the county area they serve. I agree, It is ridiculous sending another fire department to another station.

Less than 1.5 miles apart BTW...

Well said Wayne...work with the current system and put resources where they are needed!!!

Pride on the East side - 09/25/07 - 21:52

"Pride" – the only reason the County has yet to act on closing fire stations that if sought today, could never be justified. "Pride" – why too many fire apparatus are unmanned tonite while stations that should have been closed are sporting new Pierce pumpers. "Pride" – what the Fire Commission and others will have to swallow to get the Fire Service in Wake County where it needs to be, not where it is today. "Pride" – a good thing – but too much of a good thing is a bad thing. "Pride" – standing up for what you think is right, when others don't.

Concerned Taxpayer - 09/25/07 - 22:37

Knightdale Eagle Rock Road, Sections of K-Dale Blvd, Old Milburnie Road, Sections of Hodge Road, Fayetteville Str., Marks Creek Road, Mailman Road, Smithfield Road, Old Ferrell Rd., Sandy Trail, Baywood Forest, 64 Hwy, 540 Hwy, Old Knight Road, Mutual Aid to New Hope, Wendell, Ashley Hills, Bishop Point, Massey Farm Rd., Old Faison Rd., Clifton Rd. (cut-off by 540). Do I need to continue on? Why, in this time of the fire service, when everything is based on response time, would anyone want to shut down a firehouse?? Just because the above fire stations have been annexed in a municipality?? Why? Why is everyone concerned about another fire department? There is too much to do to worry about somebody else. These stations have not bothered anyone. They keep response times down. You want to shut EW down and run all the way from Poole Rd. to Marks Creek Rd.? Are you really for the citizens?? These people that do not sign their name, we know who you are. People like this will just not let things go away. They are not happy unless there is something stirred up. Worry about Fire Prevention, Pre-plans, Building Construction, Fire Codes, Fire Strategy, PR and building goodwill among all of us. If there is 1 street left in the district, leave the station open for those citizens, they will need that fire station one day. Wake County, as mentioned before, is a fast growing area. Why shut

them down, when we need more. It's time that we put petty differences aside, hatred for an individual, egos aside and look for what is best for the community. I usually look on these blogs for training aids, see if it something that I can use to help me, my guys, and my community. This bothers me that instead of training, some people are too worried about whats going on next door?

[ewfd200] - 09/26/07 - 15:57

amen capt. Well said

kprice104 - 09/26/07 - 17:52

Not sure where all those areas are that you listed, but your saying; let eastern wake rescue pass right by knightdale fire station to respond to new hope and other areas. Same situation, let Knightdale fire answer a call NEXT DOOR to eastern wake rescue #2 station.

concerned taxpayer #2 - 09/26/07 - 20:58

[Closing this thread for comments. Readers are directed to this Watch Desk thread, as desired: <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/showth..>
]

Legeros - 09/28/07 - 07:20

Clayton Plane Crash

09/21/07 81 W - + 17 - 15

WRAL has a [good slideshow](#) of on-ground scene pics from Clayton. That's Johnston County's foam unit right in front of the building. It's stationed in Selma. Incident time about 10:15 a.m. Single-engine aircraft into McCall's BBQ & Seafood Restaurant at [10365 Highway 70](#). One fatality, believed pilot. Minor injuries on ground. Mutual aid from Selma, Smithfield, and Garner. NC USAR Task Force 8 dispatched. Raleigh sent USAR 1, USAR 2, Rescue 7, and Car 5. Other coverage: [WRAL main story](#), [News & Observer](#), and [WMPM radio news](#).

When I went through there about 1500, there was a CFD rescue unit leaving and a DFD engine leaving, but I did not catch the numbers.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/22/07 - 11:08

The DFD Engine as E-16, they are the main USAR truck for the city.

Kevin - 09/22/07 - 13:50

Went to Clayton yesterday to take pics of the McCall's plane crash site. Their site safety officer told me if it had been an hour later all of Clayton Fire Dept would have been inside eating themselves. He said it was payday and Special Seafood Friday and that is the normal that always send them their for lunch. Not only were civilians lucky but our own.

pics = <http://www.flickr.com/photos/chadsimon/s.>

Notice the last 10-15 pics and what it did to the far side wall from where the impact was.

2redline ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/23/07 - 08:31

It might have been a mistake in the editing but down here in Charlotte there was a shot of the crash and I swear I saw Raleigh Ladder 1 on scene. Can anyone confirm this?

DC - 09/23/07 - 17:01

Yeah, Raleigh was dispatched to send some US&R members there.

Henry P. - 09/23/07 - 18:00

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'?

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

Raleigh Urban Search and Rescue Team to Drill Downtown on Saturday

09/21/07 102 W, 1 I - + 14 - 18

News release. The City of Raleigh Fire Department, Wake County EMS and Hardin Construction are partnering on a unique training session on Saturday, Sept. 22 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the RBC Plaza. The goal is to have a better prepared rescue team, which will benefit all construction workers in the Triangle as the area continues to see its skyline grow. The 33-story RBC Plaza is under construction in downtown Raleigh on Martin Street between Fayetteville and Wilmington streets. [Read the entire news release.](#) Pics forthcoming.



I was out at the NCSU/Clemson game. Anyone know what Talkgroup they used for this? Just trying to note it for future reference. Thanks!

Marshall Sherard CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/22/07 - 18:30

Not sure who the dude in the stretcher is but I can assure you he has 10lb b*lls!! I know the guys doing the knots!!!

Porter ([Email](#)) - 09/23/07 - 13:25

The role of victim was played by R. Ubber Dummy.

Legeros - 09/23/07 - 13:43

Even he was not safe!! just kidding

Porter ([Email](#)) - 09/23/07 - 21:02

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Wake County Area EMS Trivia Test #2

09/22/07 571 W - + 15 - 15

Dale Johnson presents his second EMS trivia test, this time expanded beyond the borders of Wake County. Answers later.

1. The Cary Area Rescue Squad had the first Hurst power tool in the county, other than the Raleigh Fire Department. On which truck did they initially carry it?
 - a. Their first rescue truck
 - b. Their first ambulance
 - c. Their second ambulance
 - d. It was carried by the Cary Fire Department

- . 2. Which Raleigh area emergency department was laid out such that ambulance patients had to be wheeled through the waiting room?
 - a. Raleigh Community Hospital
 - b. Mary Elizabeth Hospital
 - c. Rex Hospital (emergency department in back)
 - d. Wake Memorial Hospital

3. The Raleigh Fire Department started their first responder service out of which station?
 - a. One
 - b. Three
 - c. Five
 - d. Nine

4. RFD Rescue 9 appeared on the cover of which emergency medical service catalog?
 - a. Dyna-Med
 - b. Gallâ€™s
 - c. Dixie Medical
 - d. Physio Systems

5. Which of the following agencies provided an available ambulance for President Gerald Ford's visit to the NC State Fair?
 - a. Cary
 - b. Raleigh
 - c. Parkwood
 - d. East Chatham

6. Who was the first NCOEMS regional coordinator for Region J?
 - a. Tom Collie
 - b. Ed Browning
 - c. Anita Clark
 - d. Mary Ford

7. Which Wake County EMS agency never used a Swab manufactured ambulance?
 - a. Cary
 - b. North Wake
 - c. Garner
 - d. Apex

8. The emergency telephone number for Beacon Ambulance was-
 - a. 829-1911
 - b. 828-0737

- c. 834-0311
- d. 851-3277

9. Knightdale's first ambulance was on what type of chassis?

- a. Chevrolet
- b. Ford
- c. Dodge
- d. GMC

10. The 1978 edition of the North Carolina Ambulance Rules featured an ambulance from which agency on the cover?

- a. Cary
- b. Raleigh
- c. Clayton
- d. Wendell

11. This cover also featured which of the following people?

- a. Jesse Glenn and Donald Powell
- b. Fred Loy and Tom Collie
- c. Tom Collie and Ed Browning
- d. Art Mercer and Tom Collie

12. Which area hospital maintained its own ambulance fleet during the 1970s?

- a. Wake Memorial
- b. North Carolina Memorial
- c. Betsy Johnson Memorial
- d. Johnston Memorial

13. The first EMT classes taught in Wake County consisted of how many hours?

- a. 71 classroom; 10 observation
- b. 71 classroom; 10 ride along
- c. 81 classroom; 24 observation
- d. 71 classroom; 10 ride along; 10 observation

14. Which of the following were not skills permitted of the first Wake County EMT-Intermediates?

- a. Esophageal Obturator Airway insertion
- b. Establishment of IV line of D5W
- c. Administration of D50W for hypoglycemia
- d. Inflation of MAST trousers

15. The first chief of the Garner-St Mary's Rescue Squad was-

- a. Gene Lambert
- b. Ronnie Williams
- c. Robert Adams
- d. Lee Gupton

16. Which area town/community was served by an ambulance service operated by a civic organization?

- a. Apex/ Ruritan
- b. Smithfield/ Lions
- c. Garner/ Kiwanis
- d. Angier/ Rotary

17. Which of the following was NOT the name of an ambulance service that operated in Raleigh?

- a. Nova
- b. Capital

- c. C&M
- d. MTS

18. What was the first ambulance service to maintain offices on both Raleigh and Durham?

- a. Johnston
- b. Triangle
- c. Beacon
- d. Piedmont

19. The first modular ambulance operated by the Garner-St. Mary's Rescue Squad carried which of the following labels?

- a. Mobile Intensive Care Unit
- b. Advanced Life Support Unit
- c. Maximum Care Unit
- d. Mobile Care Unit

20. What was the successor to Beacon Ambulance Service in Durham?

- a. Durham County EMS
- b. Durham County Ambulance Service
- c. Duke University Medical Service
- d. Durham County Hospital Corporation

If anyone needs the answers to the first one, let me know.

DJ

DJ - 09/22/07 - 16:17

Dj, could I have the last quiz and answers, good stuff up there. I included my E-Mail address

NEff109 ([Email](#)) - 09/25/07 - 12:32

Question 5—Wake EMS with Fred Loy—Don Powell and Eddie Smith. We had a Physio Systems unit on Wake EMS #1. Eddie Smith worked for EMS part time and for Physio Systems full time.

Fred Loy

Fred Loy ([Email](#)) - 07/03/08 - 22:23

Oops...forgot to post the answers. Leave it to an 'old EMS guy' to set me straight. Here they are-

1. The Cary Area Rescue Squad had the first Hurst power tool in the county, other than the Raleigh Fire Department. On which truck did they initially carry it?
 - c. Their second ambulance
2. Which Raleigh area emergency department was laid out such that ambulance patients had to be wheeled through the waiting room?
 - d. Wake Memorial Hospital
3. The Raleigh Fire Department started their first responder service out of which station?
 - b. Three
4. RFD Rescue 9 appeared on the cover of which emergency medical service catalog?
 - d. Physio Systems
5. Which of the following agencies provided an available ambulance for President Gerald Ford's visit to the NC State Fair?

No doubt Fred was there. Question for you Fred, do you remember a Parkwood ambulance being used for one of the visits? Maybe it was for

Jimmy Carter?

6. Who was the first NCOEMS regional coordinator for Region J?

c. Anita Clark

7. Which Wake County EMS agency never used a Swab manufactured ambulance?

d. Apex

8. The emergency telephone number for Beacon Ambulance was-

a. 829-1911 (First Raleigh/Wake unified emergency number)

b. 828-0737 (THIS IS IT!)

c. 834-0311 (Thompson Cadillac/Oldsmobile)

d. 851-3277 (WKIX AM 850)

9. Knightdale's first ambulance was on what type of chassis?

c. Dodge

10. The 1978 edition of the North Carolina Ambulance Rules featured an ambulance from which agency on the cover?

c. Clayton

11. This cover also featured which of the following people?

b. Fred Loy and Tom Collie

12. Which area hospital maintained its own ambulance fleet during the 1970s?

d. Johnston Memorial

13. The first EMT classes taught in Wake County consisted of how many hours?

a. 71 classroom; 10 observation

14. Which of the following were not skills permitted of the first Wake County EMT-Intermediates?

c. Administration of D50W for hypoglycemia

15. The first chief of the Garner-St Mary's Rescue Squad was-

c. Robert Adams

16. Which area town/community was served by an ambulance service operated by a civic organization?

b. Smithfield/ Lions

17. Which of the following was NOT the name of an ambulance service that operated in Raleigh?

a. Nova

b. Capital

d. MTS

18. What was the first ambulance service to maintain offices on both Raleigh and Durham?

c. Beacon

19. The first modular ambulance operated by the Garner-St. Mary's Rescue Squad carried which of the following labels?

c. Maximum Care Unit

20. What was the successor to Beacon Ambulance Service in Durham?

d. Durham County Hospital Corporation

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/03/08 - 22:59

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'?

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

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.

Barbecue

09/23/07 39 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

WTVD has posted some viewer photos of this morning's [Smithfield's BBQ fire](#) in Fayetteville. Click the i-WITNESS link on the right side of the story. The structure at [9515 Cliffdale Road](#) was reported ablaze about 7 a.m., says [WRAL](#).



Bad to be in the BBQ business this week.

Griggs - 09/23/07 - 18:43

The CEO is not having to good of a month this month.....

Beach - 10/07/07 - 22:11

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.

Chevrons

09/23/07 22 W, 1 I - + 17 - 10

Jeff Silver shares some chevron styles recently seen in New Jersey. That flag design is certainly something else. Click to enlarge:



Rescue 17 out of Westwood, NJ

Trev - 09/25/07 - 17:15

Pretty impressive rig, inside and out....recently seen in a national fire service publication.

Silver - 09/25/07 - 18:58

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.

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.

Fire Prevention Week

09/24/07 194 W, 2 I - + 17 - 15

What's happening around here for [Fire Prevention Week](#)? Found these so far:

Friday, 10/5

- [Cary Fire Department Display](#), Center Court, Cary Towne Center Mall
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Crabtree Valley Mall

Saturday, 10/6

- [Cary Fire Department Safety Festival](#), Cary Towne Center Mall, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Garner Fireman's Day](#), Garner Station #1, BBQ at 11:00 a.m., parade at 2:00 p.m.
- [Morrisville Fire Safety Day](#) , Park Place Shopping Center, Highway 54 and Cary Parkway, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Crabtree Valley Mall
- Zebulon Fire Prevention Day, Triangle East Shopping Center, 178 North Wakelon Street

Sunday, 10/7

- Bay Leaf Open House, Bay Leaf Station #1
- [Cary Fire Department Rescue Program](#), Cary Towne Center Mall
- [Raleigh Fire Department Open House](#), all stations, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Crabtree Valley Mall

Tuesday, 10/9

- [Raleigh Fire Department History Presentation](#), Cameron Village Public Library, 1930 Clark Avenue, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 10/11

- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Triangle Towne Center, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday, 10/12

- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Triangle Towne Center, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, 10/13

- [Morrisville Fire Department Open House](#) , Station #1, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Triangle Towne Center, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Durham Highway Fire Department has its Public Safety Day this Sat. the 29th. At Leesville Road High School.

DHFD - 09/24/07 - 21:22

Knightdale Public Safety will be having their Public Safety Day on the 29th as well with the Fire Safety House.

It will be held at the Public Safety Center on Steeple Square Ct.

Across from the Town Hall and Library.

KPS - 09/24/07 - 23:36

Zebulon Fire will have its Fire Prevention Week kickoff on Saturday, Oct. 6 at Triangle East Shopping Center. Thankfully, the '48 Mack will still

be making trips around the parking lot.

ZFD - 09/25/07 - 07:48

Durham Highway Fire Department regrets to inform the public that our public safety day has been canceled due to logistical issues.

dhfd - 09/27/07 - 22:56

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'?

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

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.

Fire Safety Days This Saturday

09/25/07 48 W - + 15 - 19

Noted as comments in another thread, the following events are taking place this Saturday, September 29:

Durham Highway Fire Department Public Safety Day, Leesville Road High School, 8409 Leesville Road **Canceled**

[Knightdale Public Safety Day](#), Knightdale Public Safety Center, 967 Steeple Square Court, 11:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Cary's will be Oct 5th-7th at Cary Towne Center Mall, <http://www.townofcary.org/depts/fddept/f..>

Todd D ([Web Site](#)) - 09/26/07 - 20:25

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

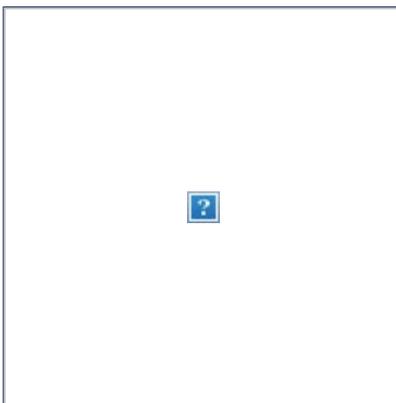
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Fire Fighters and EMS Responders

09/26/07 72 W, 1 I - + 16 - 13

As this [Firehouse.com article](#) reports, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has released a fascinating (and seemingly well-researched) study on [the effects of sleep deprivation on fire and EMS personnel](#). The document is also very visually appealing. No boring white paper here. It's also up for discussion on [this Watch Desk thread](#).



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'?

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

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.

Wake Forest Fire Department Grows

09/27/07 57 W, 1 I - + 20 - 15

[NBC17 reported yesterday](#) on the growth of Wake Forest Fire Department. The context was yesterday morning's house fire at [829 South Main Street](#). The single-story dwelling had heavy fire on arrival. Stony Hill and Falls also responded. WRAL also [briefly covered the fire](#) and included this viewer photo taken with a cell phone:



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'?

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

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.

Public Safety Day

09/29/07 84 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Nice day for a public safety day in Knightdale. Participating at the Public Safety Center at 967 Steeple Square Court from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today were Knightdale Fire, Knightdale Police, Eastern Wake EMS, Eastern Wake Fire, Wake County EMS with Truck 1, North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 8 with USAR 1 from Raleigh, Wendell Police, Zebulon Police, Clayton Police, Wake County Sheriff, Wake County CCBI, North Carolina Highway Patrol, and probably a couple others.



Thank you all for those who came out and participated. It turned out to be a beautiful day and a great success.

KPS - 09/30/07 - 14:12

Had A Great Time, your public safety personnel is great and you have a great department. Thank you for opening your doors for all of us. Hope your year is great. P.S. And you made it on the news!

wake098 - 09/30/07 - 18:10

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'?

New Online Scanner Feed Service From Carolinas Fire Page

09/30/07 315 W - + 14 - 17

News release. [Carolinas Fire Page](#) has paired with a new service that allows easy broadcasting of fire/rescue radio traffic on the internet. They currently are broadcasting Raleigh and Wake County Fire and EMS using this new service. They are looking to add many new feeds based in South and North Carolina very soon. Spartanburg County Fire, SC is also now on-line.

To listen to Raleigh and Wake County: <http://www.scannorthcarolina.com/>.

To listen to Spartanburg County: <http://www.scansouthcarolina.com/>

Some of the neat features of the feeds:

- users do not have to login or view any advertising. Just click and listen. There is no limit to the number of listeners of a particular feed.
- users have their choice of listening to the feed using any number of audio players including Windows Media player, Winamp, Real Audio, iTunes, and others. Most users already have one of the players installed. There are many free players available, including a JavaScript player that does not require any downloaded installation.
- scanner feeds have an auto archive feature. Broadcast scanner feeds are available for playback. Radio traffic is archived for approximately three weeks, and is stored in segments of 12 to 15 minutes each.
- users who participate as broadcasters incur no cost.
- users who participate as broadcasters can still listen to the scanner as they normally would.
- to connect a scanner for broadcasting, a broadband Internet connection and a patch cord is required. The patch cords can be purchased at Radio Shack for about \$4.
- setting up a scanner for broadcasting takes about 5 minutes. It requires installation of a small software application. The system resources load is very light, and the application can easily run in the background.
- users interested in broadcasting should contact cfp700@carolinasfirepage.com. All you need is a broadband connection, a scanner, and about five minutes for set up.

Thanks CFP. The transmissions from unit to unit and from unit to dispatch seem a weak and staticky. Dispatch is more clear and powerful. Using RealPlayer is the key. Windows Media Player fails after about 8 – 12 min.of run time.

Maybe my computer...not sure

James Emory ([Email](#)) - 09/30/07 - 12:30

I only got the feed up and running Saturday night, so there wasn't a lot of time for fine tuning. I'm out of pocket for the next ten days, but we'll tweak it on my return. Because it's all digital, sometimes going through a scanner, the feed will break up some. Just the nature of digital transmissions.

We hope to add other locations around NC and SC soon.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/30/07 - 16:21

Roger that...Thanks for all the hard work Harkey. Nice to listen up from Big D!

jetexas ([Email](#)) - 09/30/07 - 22:28

My ticker option is working on the firenews.net toolbar, how do i get it to work?

help please - 10/02/07 - 21:36

See this page for FireNews contact information: <http://www.firenews.net/info/contact.htm>

Legeros - 10/03/07 - 18:19

The Wake County scanner feed has been offline since yesterday. Any idea whats going on with it?

Beach - 10/09/07 - 10:39

I've been out of pocket on a business trip, I'll be back later today (Tuesday), and will fix it. Thanks for your patience.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/09/07 - 13:09

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'?

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

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.

Blogs, Comments, and Fame

09/30/07 20 W - + 17 - 15

Today's *New York Times* features an amusing article about [people who become famous through blog comments](#).

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'?

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

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.

This Morning's Fire in Carrboro

09/30/07 52 W, 1 I - + 25 - 11

[WRAL has a slideshow](#) showing some of the damage of this morning's fast-moving and fatal apartment fire in Carrboro. Fourteen units at [180 BPW Club Road](#) were destroyed. Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Durham, New Hope, and North Chatham on scene, [reports FireNews](#). The *News & Observer* also [has the story](#).



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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

easternwakefire.com

09/30/07 27 W - + 16 - 16

Eastern Wake Fire & Rescue has a new web site, easternwakefire.com. The site includes photos, links, a roster, and a memorial to Todd Allen Blanchard.

Very Nice Website, Learned a lot about your department.

AACFD5433 - 09/30/07 - 19:11

Looks nice, guess I need to get to work!

JBoggs - 09/30/07 - 20:45

What would you be working on?

AACFD5433 - 09/30/07 - 22:29

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

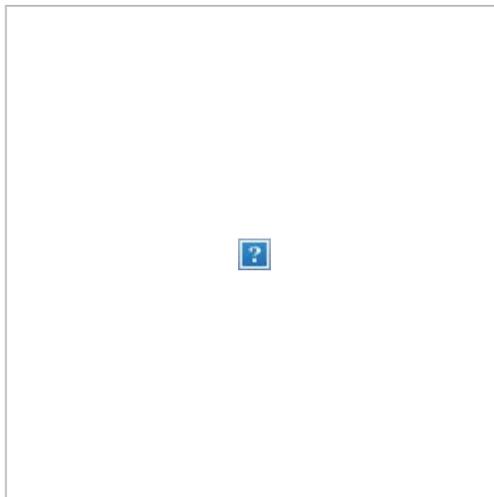
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Great Picture

10/01/07 39 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

There are great pictures and there are *great* pictures. [Sunday's FireNews update](#) featured this stunner by freelance photographer Julian Harrison of the Durham used car dealership that burned on September 9. Click to view larger version on FireNews:



Leave it to Julian.....I swear he beats all out trucks in EVERYWHERE in the city....craziness.

Kevin - 10/06/07 - 12:42

Someone should help him put together a web site for all his action pics, maybe sell them from the site. I can remember times when he was already there as we were stretching lines.....

Silver - 10/06/07 - 15:39

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'?

EQ Fire Article in Fire Chief Magazine

10/01/07 45 W - + 15 - 11

The September issue of *Fire Chief* magazine features a [narrative about the EQ fire in Apex](#). Raleigh Fire Department Captain Gregory Bridges recounts his experience as haz-mat branch commander. The print version includes photos by Legeros and Wilson.

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'?

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

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.

News & Observer Fire Prevention Week Insert

10/02/07 81 W - + 17 - 18

Today's *News & Observer* features a Fire Prevention Week insert. This year's theme is Practice Your Escape Plan, and the insert includes instructions for creating a home escape plan. The 12-page section also includes letters from State Fire Marshall Jim Long and Raleigh Fire Chief John McGrath, a personal perspective from a Raleigh fire Captain, [historical facts and photos](#) from Mike Legeros, some history on Smokey Bear, and information about the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center.

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'?

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

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.

Call For News

10/03/07 106 W - + 19 - 9

Let's see if we can leverage this blog in the direction of official news. If your fire or EMS department has (a.) news that's fit for public consumption and (b.) you are an officer of said department, feel free to [send them along](#). These can be single-line statements, one or two paragraphs, or full-fledged press releases. I'll compile and post every couple weeks. Or maybe monthly, if the volume is low. Newsworthy news is whatever you think it is: apparatus ordered, hiring started, funding approved, promotions, retirements, ceremonies, drills, etc. All that's absolutely required for inclusion is that's "official." Let's see what happens...

Wake County Annual Report

10/04/07 84 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

The county released an annual report today. Here's the [press release](#). Here's the direct link to the [annual report](#) . Public safety highlights include recognition for EMS using Induced Cooling treatment, CCBI computer upgrades, cardiac saves double the national rate, CCBI adding a forensic computer analyst, RDU and soon RPD joining the 800 radio system, Wake SO's special response team winning an award, Wake SO's Project Lifesaver, the future Criminal Justice Center, and AVL for Wake SO and, next year, Wake EMS.

Anything mentioned about staffing some empty trucks around here?

Gold - 10/16/07 - 15:27

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

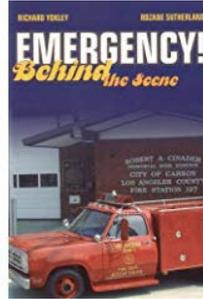
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Emergency!: Behind the Scenes

10/04/07 59 W, 1 I - + 14 - 14

Here's a [neat new book](#) about, ahem, the greatest television series of all time. Includes interviews, background information, and a guide to the episodes and subsequent TV movies. Remember those? The authors are Richard Yokley and Rozane Sutherland. The book is a bit hefty, with 402 pages. Minimal photographs. Click below to buy from Amazon. KMG 365.



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'?

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

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.

Fire Prevention Week

10/05/07 210 W, 2 I - + 13 - 16

Reposting from earlier, here's what's happening for [Fire Prevention Week](#) around Wake County:

Friday, 10/5

- [Cary Fire Department Display](#), Center Court, Cary Towne Center Mall
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Crabtree Valley Mall

Saturday, 10/6

- [Cary Fire Department Safety Festival](#), Cary Towne Center Mall, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Garner Fireman's Day](#), Garner Station #1, BBQ at 11:00 a.m., parade at 2:00 p.m.
- [Morrisville Fire Safety Day](#) , Park Place Shopping Center, Highway 54 and Cary Parkway, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Crabtree Valley Mall
- Zebulon Fire Prevention Day, Triangle East Shopping Center, 178 North Wakelon Street

Sunday, 10/7

- [Bay Leaf Open House](#), Bay Leaf Station #1, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- [Cary Fire Department Rescue Program](#), Cary Towne Center Mall
- [Fairview Open House](#), Fairview Station 1, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Department Open House](#), all stations, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Crabtree Valley Mall

Tuesday, 10/9

- [Raleigh Fire Department History Presentation](#), Cameron Village Public Library, 1930 Clark Avenue, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 10/11

- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Triangle Towne Center, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday, 10/12

- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Triangle Towne Center, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, 10/13

- [Morrisville Fire Department Open House](#) , Station #1, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Prevention Tour](#), Triangle Towne Center, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Fairviews Open House is 10/7, at Station 1 2pm-5pm

4447 - 10/05/07 - 08:07

Anyone know what happen to Cary's deal at the mall on Sunday. All I saw was one small table in the food court w/ two guys sitting there. Nothing outside.

lee - 10/08/07 - 01:06

Contact

For more information about Fire Prevention Week, contact:

Kathy Ellis
Fire Education Specialist/Senior Code Official III
100 North Academy St.
Cary N.C. 27511
(919) 460-4958
kathy.ellis@townofcary.org

That's the best I could advise you.

CFP 7021 - 10/08/07 - 01:19

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'?

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

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.

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Internet Broadcast

10/07/07 63 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Today's National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, Maryland is being [broadcast on the internet](#). The ceremony starts at 10:00 a.m. This year's events will honor eighty-seven firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2006, and four who died in previous years. Last night's candlelight vigil was also broadcast.



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'?

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

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.

Hydrant

10/07/07 34 W, 1 I - + 10 - 13

Reported by a reader, this recently replaced Raleigh hydrant on Westwood Drive at Ridge Road has a Storz connection on the steamer cap. Haven't seen that before.



All the new hydrants since early this year that Raleigh is putting in are like this.

hydrants - 10/07/07 - 15:25

most of the hydrants at the WCFTC have been replaced with hydrants like these. significant decrease in hydrant times.

rookie - 10/07/07 - 16:00

The idea is genius. Most departments in Wake Co use 5" or are planning to in the future. There are a few departments that use national standard threads. With the hydrants having a Storz already on them, there will be no need to worry about having "Raleigh" adapters on the county trucks. As rookie said...huge decrease in hydrant times, and firefighter fatigue.

Beach - 10/07/07 - 17:26

All of the hydrants going in around the North Hills area including Ramblewood drive and the soon to be St. Albans Drive have the new hydrants.

KPS ([Email](#)) - 10/07/07 - 17:49

Actually the steamers are all NST, even those in Raleigh (that are not Storz) The bastard threads are still on the 2.5" discharges so you'll still need to keep your adapters on the trucks.

And if I'm not mistaken isn't all of RFD's 3" coupled with the bastard thread?

CFP 7021 - 10/07/07 - 18:05

All steamers are not NST. Raleigh Hydrants are 4.875 (6 Sharp) Thread and NST Steamers are 4.5NH. All new hydrants going in have the new Storz connectors.

AB - 10/07/07 - 18:29

I used the wrong terminology, I did not mean to say NST I meant to say the same threads. I know that the same adapter works on both Raleigh, Cary and "county" hydrants for operating from the steamer. The only adapter that is needed is if you are working from a 4" or 4.5"

steamer.

CFP 7021 - 10/07/07 - 21:04

I was actually refering to county depts are currently using 2.5" adapters to the city hydrants, not the steamers. My purpose of my statement, if you read it again, is that I would be great if all depts(City and County) used 5" supply. That would eliminate the purpose of using the 2.5" adapters. I should have clarified that.....

Beach - 10/07/07 - 22:01

i hate freakin 5 inch lines!!

lee - 10/08/07 - 01:04

LOL....yeah they can be a hassle, but they do get the job done on big fires. Remember the old sayin. "Big fire,big water."

Beach - 10/08/07 - 10:38

All the new hydrants in 24s area are the steamer cap as well, I believe thats the city standard for all new hydrants.

Kevin - 10/08/07 - 11:27

I'd love to see them citywide. Then we can work on scaling back our "hydrant suitcases". Have you ever lifted one of those things??

Silver - 10/08/07 - 12:44

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'?

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

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.

History Presentation Tomorrow, October 9

10/08/07 114 W - + 13 - 11

Tomorrow night, Mike Legeros presents a short [history of the Raleigh Fire Department](#) at the Cameron Village Public Library, [1930 Clark Avenue](#). The 7:00 p.m. event will open with a 45-minute presentation about both the volunteer and fully-paid eras of the fire department. The electronic slideshow will consist of 79 slides and 150+ images. After a break, questions will be answered and one or two demonstrations will be performed. We'll have vintage alarm box and station gong on hand. Cover your ears. We may also demonstrate a bucket brigade, if participants are willing. [Color film footage](#) of the Raleigh Fire Department around 1950 will also be played before the presentation, starting about 6:30 p.m.

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'?

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

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.

Google Alerts

10/09/07 44 W - + 10 - 13

Want to know when something about something appears on the Web? [Google Alerts](#) is a free service that sends e-mail notifications when web sites that match specific search terms are added to the Google index. Such as, say, "Raleigh fire." Try it.

already set up the customized news – will set up alerts too – great lecture tonight!! thanks mike!!

cornerhydrant - 10/09/07 - 21:27

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'?

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

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.

New Mule at Western Wake

10/10/07 67 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

Western Wake Fire Rescue placed this all-terrain vehicle in service today. The Kawasaki Mule is equipped with fire extinguishers and EMS bags, and is present stationed at the State Fair fire base. It's transported by trailer and will be used for both special events and off-road incidents, such as transporting patients out of Umstead State Park.



What is unit designated in CAD in Raleigh?

Gold - 10/16/07 - 15:26

Car 19, and Car 29 is a golf cart.

JBoggs13 - 10/16/07 - 16:54

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.

Today's Gas Leak

10/10/07 84 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

As ably covered by many media outlets, gas-fled flames lit the intersection of Kildaire Farm and Tryon roads today. The fire started about 11:00 a.m. when construction workers struck an eight-inch gas main. The crew safely evacuated before ignition. The flames were visible from nearby Station 3. Mutual aid fire departments included Fairview, Swift Creek, Western Wake, and Raleigh. Coverage included units from Morrisville and Raleigh. The line was capped just after 5:00 p.m. Pictures coming.



....and the purpose of flowing (wasting) water on that was? Just to keep the media from asking questions?

Henry P. - 10/10/07 - 21:20

Cary, Not part of the raleigh/wake water system, their own decision, I guess!

Peter F. - 10/10/07 - 23:05

Not trying to be rude but are you even in the fire service? Because usually you try to keep the vehicle cool. Thats what was trying to be accomplished. There was a hydraulic tank as well as a diesel fuel tank on the top of the truck, and the fire was impinging on both of these. Feel free to comment me back.

Shimmy ([Email](#)) - 10/10/07 - 23:15

Apex and Cary along with Chatham county get our water from Jordan Lake. As far as I know we are the only ones taking water from there. We have moderate restrictions, that's why we are not in as need for conserving water as Raleigh and surrounding towns.

Apex Batt Chief - 10/10/07 - 23:31

I'm not trying to be rude either and nor was my previous comment but judging by the water streams that I see in the pictures and on the news they didn't look to be very effective on doing anything. Keep a vehicle cool? You mean the one that has already burnt to a crisp? Again, I'm just curious and trying to learn something new since I obviously don't understand.

Henry P. - 10/10/07 - 23:44

Besides trying to keep the diesel and hydraulic tanks cool you are also cooling the thermal column, thereby reducing the chance of damage to the surrounding structures, vehicles, asphalt, concrete, power lines, etc from radiant heat damage. E-3 (seen in the picture above) had to have

a line placed in operation on the front bumper to keep the truck cool, that's how much heat was being put off.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 10/11/07 - 05:45

The difference between asking a question and making a sarcastic comment that can be misunderstood is the manner and attitude of the question. My advice to the poster who is "curious and doesn't understand" is that maybe he should state that he is not involved in fire/ems and has a question for us... Yes we understand that water is tight but as you have learned everything has a purpose other than trying to placate the media.

Charmeck Reader - 10/11/07 - 06:59

Unless you were there, no one should be asking why that much water was being used or how the streams were directed. As many businesses that were surrounding that fire, not to mention a hospital, we are lucky that no one was killed or anything else started burning. Hats off to the Cary FD and all the other countless agencies that were involved.

car3550 - 10/11/07 - 10:14

Looks like to me it was a huge multi-agency response (see above; not to mention EMS, PD, EM) that went well....

Silver - 10/11/07 - 12:27

Hey guys it was a controlled scene. There were no building structures in immediate heat/fire hot zone. The fire source had to be shut off and then burn out. Hey if bad decisions were made then so be it lets move on. Its not really where the water is coming from its how it was managed. Protect the surrounding buildings with water curtain if necessary. Public service professionals are expected to be more efficient than public opinion. Hope for the citizens of Cary the water went back into the sewer system for later use.

Blue ([Email](#)) - 10/11/07 - 15:03

and Bay Leaf @ WW1. Whatever happened with that Fair worker who fell 20 ft off a ride? Anyone know?

AB - 10/11/07 - 15:05

Blue; Water curtains aren't adequate protection, direct water application is most effective....

Guest - 10/11/07 - 19:51

Thread opened on thewatchdesk.com for those that want to comment on the fire a little more....

Silver - 10/11/07 - 22:14

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

The Rules

10/13/07 120 W - + 16 - 11

This is a friendly reminder regarding the rules of this blog. These have also been added to the [Rules of the Road](#), which is linked at the top left. What will lead to editing or deleting of comments? Anything crude, lewd, or rude, of course. Personnel issues are also off-limits. Same with personal attacks, or attacks on specific agencies. Sh&t-stirring by anonymous posters is also objectionable. Sh&t-stirring by signed posters is more likely but not necessarily universally tolerated. On the presentation front, comments may also be edited to correct spelling and fix spacing. And if you're curious why a particular comment was edited or removed, just [mail Mike](#). These rules also apply to the blogger himself.

It would helpful, I realize, to provide a definition or examples of "sh&t-stirring." Will mull that, and see what I can produce. Until that time, I echo the opinion of Justice Potter Stewart, who famous said of obscenity "I know it when I see it."

Legeros - 10/13/07 - 08:33

No intent to stir. Just wondering based on the recent discussions in this blog if closest station was a selective choice by indiv FDs or a general std now in the county/city.

Concerned Taxpayer - 10/13/07 - 10:52

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](#))

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.

Fire at the Fair, 1964

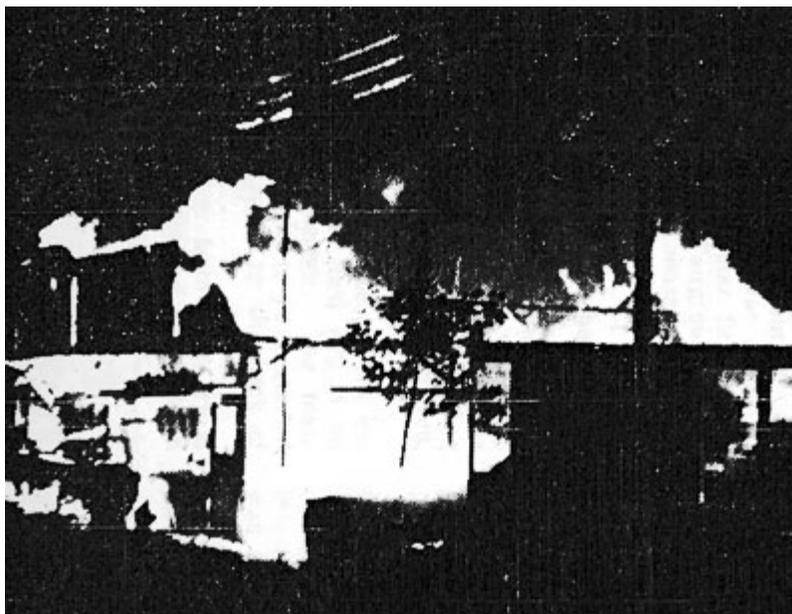
10/13/07 383 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

On Tuesday, October 13, 1964, at 6:15 p.m., Fred Lylerly was cooking in a portable restaurant at the North Carolina State Fair. The 50 by 100-foot Char-Broiler Steaks was located between Dorton Arena and the Red Cross Lounge. As many as 150 people were present when Lylerly heard a man say "Hey, fella, you got a fire." Seeing a ball of flame coming over the stove top, the cook grabbed a fire extinguisher. He then tried a second, larger extinguisher, but could not control the flames. The operators of nearby concession booths began removing tables and chairs, as the customers began their orderly exit. "There were lots of women and children," Lylerly later recalled, "but no one panicked." The fire was reported a few minutes after 6:15 p.m.

About 6:20 p.m., those milling around the Arena and at the head of the Midway noticed the "orange flames against the twilight sky." The crowd commenced leisurely movement in the direction of the glow. At 6:32 p.m., the arrival of the first fire engine drew thousands more. The entire restaurant was ablaze, and the overhead wires had started smoking. Law officers, military personnel, and Fair officials joined arms to control the crowd. Fair manager Robert W. Shoffner made his way to the scene, and "requested orderly behavior." Warnings about the wiring were also broadcast from a sound truck, which arrived after the fire engine.

At 6:45 p.m., the frame of the building collapsed as the last of the blaze was being extinguished. By 7:00 p.m., lights had been restored to the nearby booths. The owners of the destroyed restaurant suffered an estimated \$100,000 loss, having let their fire insurance lapse only three days earlier. Equipment and personnel from the Fairground Rural Fire Department, the Cary Rural Fire Department, the Apex Rural Fire Department, and one Raleigh fire station responded to the incident. Additionally, a fight started among the spectators when a man was asked by a police officer to move out of the way of the firefighters. One person was charged with failing to obey and officer in an emergency and resisting arrest. The attendance during the day that day was estimated at 150,000 people.

Sources: *Raleigh Times*, October 14, 1964. *News & Observer*, October 14, 1964. Quotes and high-contrast scanned image from the *Raleigh Times*.



Anything interesting yet out there this year?

Silver - 10/13/07 - 20:12

On Thursday, I assisted in the rescue of a piece of frozen cheesecake that had been intentionally dipped in chocolate. It didn't survive.

Legeros - 10/13/07 - 21:11

fall from 20 feet by a ride operator/assembler on wednesday

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 10/13/07 - 22:25

Friday night: Burned a side of the Division of Forestry's tent, down near the island where they shoot the fireworks. Caused by embers from the fireworks lighting off some straw around the tent, then extending to the tent itself.

Wayne - 10/14/07 - 14:53

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.

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.

When a Heart Stops, Hypothermia Helps

10/14/07 71 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

Today's *News & Observer* features a feature on Wake County EMS and their use of [therapeutic hypothermia for cardiac arrest patients](#). Last October, they became one of the first in the nation to use the treatment in the field for cardiac arrest. It's now becoming widely available across the Triangle. A [second article on cooling treatments also appeared](#). Members of Orange County EMS are pictured below:



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'?

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

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.

Spies Around the Sandbox

10/14/07 43 W - + 19 - 11

Today's *New York Times* features a feature on a [controversial 'nanny watch' blog](#). The site's been operational for 15 months, and posts reports and photos of nannies behaving badly in public. The power of the internet, blogs, and willing users.

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'?

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

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.

Herb Walls Passes

10/14/07 72 W - + 14 - 13

Herbert Poe Walls passed away on October 11. He was the original Hurst tool dealer in North Carolina, and represented the company for more than 20 years. He assisted rescue squads and fire departments around the state. The visitation and funeral will be held at [McLaurin Funeral Home in Clayton](#) on Monday. The visitation is at 1:00 p.m. and the funeral is at 2:00 p.m. [Read his obituary for more information.](#)

Thanks for posting the obit on Herb, He was a interesting person to know and like

rnln ([Email](#)) - 10/14/07 - 07:41

As a side note, not only did Herb sell and train customers on the Hurst tools, he was also an entrepreneur of sorts. Before GM ever offered the "cylinder reduction" feature on it's cars, Herb was pushing a version that he demonstrated on his own Cadillac. It would allow a V8 to work as a V6 or V4. I cannot remember if he built it, or was working with someone else.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/15/07 - 21:35

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'?

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

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.

Chapel Hill Fire Department History Exhibit

10/14/07 152 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

On August 23, 2007, the [Chapel Hill Museum](#), in collaboration with the [Chapel Hill Fire Department](#), opened a permanent exhibit entitled [Heroes of Yesterday, Heroes of Today - The History of the Chapel Hill Fire Department](#). The multimedia display includes a documentary film featuring interviews with retired CHFD firefighters. A time line, beginning with the department's inception in 1896, contains photos and articles spanning the town's major fires and department milestones.



CHFD badges and uniforms throughout the years, as well as call books from the early 1900's are just a few of the historical artifacts included in the exhibit. The centerpiece of the installation is Chapel Hill's [first motorized fire truck](#), a 1914 Ford. Designed and curated by CHFD First Sergeant Chris Bradley and Chapel Hill Museum Director, Traci Davenport, the exhibit reception hosted 200 community members, CHFD retirees, and current employees.

[See exhibit photos from Lee Wilson.](#)

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'?

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

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.

News – October 14

10/14/07 404 W - + 11 - 12

Contents:

- Cary graduates recruits
- Garner EMS receives new rescue
- Raleigh receives new apparatus
- Morrisville expects ladder truck
- New Hope receives AGF grant
- Western Wake receives mule.

Cary graduates recruits. Fifteen Cary Fire Department recruits graduated from Recruit Academy #14 on Friday, September 28. The ceremony was conducted at the Cary Academy Fine Arts Center on North Harrison Avenue. Congratulations to Brandon Braswell, Leslie Brinson, Thomas Hodge, Mellanie Jones, Alexander Killin, Damien King, William Kochies, Andrew Leighton, Robert McSorley Jr., Joseph Nicosia, Mark O'Connor, Christopher Parker, Stephen Renken, Jonathan Schreibeck, and Matthew Zaytoun. Killin was the Valedictorian, O'Conner was the recipient of the Leadership Award, and McSorley is a second-generation Cary firefighter, son of Engine 7 Engineer Robert McSorley Sr. [Photos](#).

Garner EMS receives new rescue. Garner EMS and Rescue Squad placed a 2007 Spartan/EVI heavy rescue in service on September 17. The new 881 is painted white over dark blue. The old 881, a 1993 International/Hackney, was sold to Newton Grove Fire Department. [Photos](#).

Raleigh receives new apparatus. The Raleigh Fire Department has placed two pieces of apparatus in service at Station 16 at 5225 Lead Mine Road. Engine 16 received a 2007 Pierce Enforcer pumper on September 6. It is equipped with a 1,500 GPM pump, 500 gallon tank, and 20 gallon foam cell. Ladder 16 received a 2007 Pierce Arrow XT 105-foot aerial ladder on September 5. It is equipped with a 1,500 GPM pump and 300 gallon tank. The truck is nearly identical to Ladder 22 and Ladder 26. [Photos](#).

Morrisville expects ladder truck. The Morrisville Fire Department is preparing for the early December delivery of a new ladder truck. The KME 100-foot aerial platform, rear-mounted and equipped with a 1,500 GPM pump and 300 gallon tank, will replace their 1999/1985 KME/Grumman AerialCat platform.

New Hope receives AGF grant. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded a \$139,500 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program award to the Wake-New Hope Fire Department. Awarded on October 5, the grant will be used to replace outdated SCBA technology with 2007 compliant units. More than 18,000 AFG applications, totaling nearly \$2.5 billion in requests, were received for fiscal year 2007.

Western Wake receives mule. Western Wake Fire Rescue placed an all-terrain vehicle in service on October 10. The Kawasaki Mule is equipped with fire extinguishers and EMS bags, and is presently serving at the State Fair fire base. It's transported by trailer and will be used for both special events and off-road incidents, such as transporting patients out of Umstead State Park. [Photo](#).

[Mail Mike](#) with news items. Next edition to be posted after October 30.

High-Level Rescue Repeated

10/15/07 141 W - + 18 - 11

On September 22, "B" shift members of the Raleigh Fire Department including USAR Task Force 8, along with Wake County EMS including HAMMER members, practiced rescuing a construction worker from the 18th floor of the RBC Plaza under construction on Martin Street. They lowered the 170-pound dummy to the street using a tower crane.

This morning, "B" shift members of RFD and WEMS rescued a construction worker from the 21st floor of the RBC Plaza. Reported at 8:30 a.m., the incident involved a worker who had fallen from the floor above. Engine 1 and EMS 1 were first on scene. Engine 7, Ladder 1, Rescue 7, Battalion 1, and Car 1 were subsequently dispatched. The patient was packaged and lowered to the street using a tower crane. One firefighter and one paramedic rode down with the patient. Total time was just over an hour. Good job high-risers!

Outstanding!!! An obvious sign of how training pays off, and an advantage of being familiar with points of interest in your "first due". Stop looking for corny "projects" ,AKA busy work, to do and get out and train. Pre-plan your "death traps", and I don't mean just getting contact phone numbers for the brand new sprinklered office building that just opened. Look at your long hose stretch apartment complexes, windowless buildings, and buildings under construction. Awesome job guys....

Silver - 10/16/07 - 15:21

Amen Brother, REAL Pre-Planning!

Gold - 10/16/07 - 15:25

Just shows you how much training has an impact on this job.

Bronze - 10/16/07 - 23:00

I like the "imitations" of my last name....gave me a lil' laugh this morning....

Silver - 10/17/07 - 10:17

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

EMS Workers Strain to Care for the Obese

10/15/07 23 W - + 10 - 16

Here's [another News & Observer EMS feature](#), this time on the subject of transporting bariatric patients.

Mike, have you thought about incorporating an employment listing into the website, for area fire/EM/EMS departments?

Gold - 10/16/07 - 15:28

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

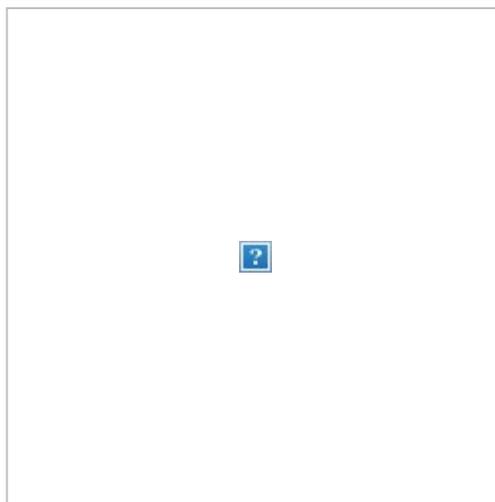
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

WakeMed Air Ambulance Unveiled

10/16/07 78 W, 1 I - + 17 - 16

This [News & Observer article](#) reports on today's unveiling of WakeMed's new air ambulance. To be placed in service on November 1, the helo is expected to make 530 flights in its first year. The hospital expects about 40 percent of transports from Wake County. Another 42 percent are expected from Franklin, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Nash, Sampson, Wayne, and Wilson counties. [FireNews](#) also posted a cool picture of the new aircraft. Click to view full-size version on their site:



I think 40% from inside of Wake County is going to be a little high. That would be over 200.

It is a nice looking bird, though.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/16/07 - 20:11

I'm thinking around 82% of them will be Johnston County

NJe86 - 10/16/07 - 21:09

I'm counting the days until you see the wake ems protocol for air transport change. The whole "if its more than 20 minutes thing" is going to "fly" (no pun intended) out the window. Wait and see, if your patient is trapped and you can help Wake Med's numbers then the bird is going to fly. Not that its a bad thing, we way under use helo's in this county anyway, but I predict the scale is going to go from never to always.

firemedic - 10/16/07 - 21:39

Yes, Definite protocol change. If it means helping the patient and not numbers though.

[WCFire533] ([Email](#)) - 10/16/07 - 21:55

I too see a change coming so that we operate a little like Durham County. There if a call comes in as a person pinned in a veh, Duke automatically gets put on stand by. If it is a confirmed pin in then Life Flight takes off. You could potentially start seeing the bird land by the time extrication is complete or just prior to on your run of the mill pin ins in the county, north and north west side of Raleigh.

Mike - 10/16/07 - 22:07

I would dispute the fact that we "way under use helo's in this county". There are appropriate situations where they stand to enhance patient care and therefore increase the potential for a favorable clinical outcome. Those situations are far outnumbered by the times that medics can load and go immediately after extrication and proceed to the closest trauma center. In my years as a Paramedic in Wake County, I have yet to see a situation where the "patient free to lift off" time was any less than 8-10 minutes – and thats on a good day. I have seen "patient free to truck in drive" times of less than 2 minutes. Seeing that the skills used in the rear of both transport modes are rather similar and in the

ambulance, you have full unencumbered access to the entire patient (I was in the rear of Air Mobile today and trust me, you have very minimal access), put me in the ambulance and drive. Just my opinion, but I would not anticipate a spike in helo scene calls in the near future in Wake County – or a change in protocol for use of aeromedical services.

Olson - 10/16/07 - 22:53

Does anyone know if the new chopper is equipped to assist in non-medical situations, say for a search, high-rise fire, as an observation platform on a large fire, etc? I don't expect a bambi bucket, but I would think there is value to the air unit at some non-medical incidents.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/16/07 - 23:20

Ditto on Olson's post. I can count on one hand, and have four fingers left, for the number of times that helicopter response/transport time had any significant influence in patient outcome during my career in patient care- and that was in Texas. I have worked in systems that freely used helicopters, and actually built up quite a reputation for cancelling them.

Olson also makes a good point about lift off time vs drive away times. I saw numerous cases in a couple of adjoining counties where by the time the helicopter could get to the scene, land, load the patient, and lift off, I could have been well on my way to WakeMed or UNC. In addition, there is a lot of literature out there on things including helicopter use. From what I have read, except in far flung rural areas, there is no real difference in outcomes (which is what matters). In addition, there is some credible research out there that suggests that maybe faster scene times are not as important as we thought they were.

As to the skills, having completed the Critical Care Paramedic course offered by UMBC, there is nothing that can be done in a helicopter that we could do in a ground ambulance. And we would have a lot more room to do it, with the option of taking some extra hands with us. There is not a lot of room in civilian type helicopters like the BK117.

Helicopters have their place in patient care, but, just in my opinion, it is doubtful that you will see any increase in medevac use around these parts. But I could be wrong- happens occasionally.

DJ

DJ - 10/17/07 - 01:08

Don't forget inter-facility transfers. Wonder what percentage of the percentage are expected for those?

Legeros - 10/17/07 - 07:31

Inter-facility transfers... you know I think that's where a lot of their runs are going to come from, as that's what most of their current calls are

CFP 7021 - 10/17/07 - 09:01

I just want to fly it!

AB - 10/17/07 - 10:15

Does anybody know if they are going to have a ride along program?

JB - 10/17/07 - 11:26

Does anyone know if they are going to be doing in any information sessions or orientation classes for area agencies?

Griggs - 10/19/07 - 12:34

Haven't heard, but I would think so, since it could be used as 'advertising' of sorts. Of course, if you've been to one helicopter safety/orientation session, you've pretty much been to all of them.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/19/07 - 13:37

True, but we have some new folks that have not been exposed to a helicopter much (and it has been awhile for the rest of us) and if we were going to have someone come give us a class, why not have the hometown helicopter come out and do it.

Griggs - 10/19/07 - 15:42

I live permanently in Wake, but go to school in the mountains where we have a helicopter fly in almost everyday to the county hospital. 2 questions... 1st, are firefighters going to be required to do a ride-in (like working codes in an ambulance) if necessary in the helicopter? 2nd question... Are there classes that will have to be taken in order to fly in? Thanks!

PFL - 10/21/07 - 13:40

When Carolinas Medical Center first got their helicopter back in the mid to late 80's every time it landed the fire department whether it was Charlotte or volunteer was required to stand by with a charged line and foam if I recall... that changed after a few years. I know the CMC birds (they have like 3 helicopters total but use one as a reserve) fly a lot, rarely is it for in county stuff anymore unless it is some serious pin-in or at the extreme end of the county. I would say at least half the flights if not more are of a non-emergency nature as is they are facility to facility transfers. They literally call around in some cases shopping their services. CMC has a fly along program for anyone that usually starts in the fall and ends when the weather warms up because the hotter it gets the less the bird can lift. No special classes are given to us really other than how to set up an LZ, what not to do, how to approach the craft etc... At least Wakemed is using an EC-135 with a fenestron tail (which means it is enclosed) and a higher tail makes approaching it easier. CMC's are Bell 230's and 430's and can only really be approached by the sides from 90 degree angles. In short when dealing with the helicopter watch yourself, watch for the pilot or crew chief to wave you in and be careful. Also as for calling for it, anyone can call for the helicopter to stand by and get it running but only a paramedic can cancel the bird... It is a great tool, if Wakemed flies it, UNC, Duke tend to be selective in their sorties.

Char-Meck Guest - 10/21/07 - 14:31

In days of old, or until around 1990-ish, Engine 12 was dispatched for helicopter landings at Wake Medical Center. Not sure if they had to have a charged line at the ready...

Legeros - 10/21/07 - 17:25

Don't think they did a charged line. I saw them a couple of times. That was back when helicopters were a novelty and were going to save the world. Of course, so were EOAs, MAST, etc.

So here we are, 20-30 years later. Nobody uses EOAs, MAST make good splints, maybe, and helicopters don't make the big difference everyone thinks.

As to setting up LZs, I know of two EMS systems within 50 miles of here that include such in their EMS protocols. One of them is pretty detailed.

DJ (Email) - 10/21/07 - 17:41

Thanks for the info! Big help!

PFL - 10/21/07 - 20:33

Here's an official news release with more info: <http://www.wakemed.org/body.cfm?id=247&a..>

And here's the official site for Omniflight: <http://www.omniflight.com/>

Legeros - 10/26/07 - 22:15

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'?

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

Incident Photography Presentation

10/18/07 60 W - + 9 - 14

Mike Legeros will give a presentation on incident photography on Tuesday evening, November 13, at the [Wake County Firefighters Association](#) meeting at Fairview Fire Station #1. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. The 20-30 minute presentation will review all stages of incident photography, from "what to shoot" to "how to shoot" to "what to do with what you shoot."

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'?

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

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.

Tradition and Helmets

In the September issue of *Fire Chief* magazine, [Alan Tresemer makes some interesting points about change and innovation](#). On the subject of helmets, he says "today's firefighters use the same basic design that their great-grandfathers used." The American fire service, he continues, seems "married" to these traditional tops. "Firefighters burn their ears and these helmets look for any excuse to fall off." But yet when MSA produced a safer fighter-style helmet in the 1980s, no chiefs would buy them. They... looked funny, he recalls one observer. Today, such helmets are becoming a standard in Europe, but are not available in the United States. "If we don't buy them," he says of innovative products such as the fighter-style helmet, "they won't build them for us."



I guess I am different, in that I like the Cairns 660 and the Phenix 1500. I have a Cairns 1044 that was given to me, and it looks like a firefighting helmet, but I cannot get into the places I need to without taking it off. I know of one person around here that bought one of the helmets pictured, and he really liked it, but he got tired of everyone laughing at it.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/20/07 - 17:29

We had a German kid come stay with us at our voli department and brought one of the Euro helmets. Yeah it is a lot different but it does offer better protection. Also if you notice the full face shield that pulls down with most of them has been somewhat worked into the newer Cairns 1010 helmets with the flip down goggles/visor.

Coop - 10/20/07 - 20:39

I'll keep my leather.....

Silver - 10/20/07 - 21:00

Kind of like the discussions about vehicle color and decoration. Tradition or safety?

SK - 10/21/07 - 08:39

^Why? There are no advantages to your old helmet over the new style. The new style offers MORE PROTECTION! But I forgot, it's better to look cool than to be safer. Maybe us vollies need to learn from European firefighters.

Henry P. - 10/21/07 - 08:50

It has been several years since I was 'across the big ponds', but I remember some strange comparisons that were valid at the time, but may not be valid now-

1. I remember smaller fleets of older trucks with smaller pumps. After converting lpm to gpm there was one large Charlotte siz city with a fleet less-than-1000 gpm pumper.
2. I remember fewer fire stations. They were bigger, with more trucks, and they had the narrow streets.
3. I remember lots of older buildings in the cities.
4. I remember talking with fire officers and learning that their fire loss rates and call volumes were a lot less than ours
5. I remember reading about a building fire in SE Asia that resulted in loss of property and life, was described as an 'accident', and the person responsible went to jail for 6 months (grease fire on the stove in an apartment building).
6. From what I read now their fire fighter death and injury rates are a lot lower than ours, even after you adjust for lower call volumes and fire

incidents. Maybe they have something with those funny looking helmets and such.

7. From what I read now their fire losses are much lower than ours. Of course, when you have entire cities set on fire by hundreds of bombers every night for a couple of years you learn about such things.

For whatever reason, we never seem to pay attention to the lessons others have already learned.

"Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so." Douglas Adams

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/21/07 - 11:42

Henry P, Not really about looking cool, I can do that in whatever I wear, hahahahahaha. I guess I like the tradition....even though that might not be right.

Let me ask this; do you have any red lights in your POV? I mean, if we're going to play safety, how many of our Brothers and Sisters died while responding in their POV's last year while en-route to a call/firehouse? And yet, we still see tons of people with the lights in there vehicles. I did it, but I guess with age comes wisdom. I see now how freakin' dangerous it is to be in a "insert any POV here", with red light on the dash, and more than likely exceeding the speed limit, weaving through traffic.

My point is, we see the danger in it, but we still do it. Yes, I realize John Q. Citizen is usually clueless when we're behind them in a mid-mount ALF with "Q" screaming and lights flashing, but it's even more dangerous when you're in a "insert POV here".

When I was a vollie in Apex, I gave a guy (we'll just call J.R.) hell for not using a red light. Now, I realize he was so right in his statements, and I wish I wouldn't have given him crap like I did. Go ahead and fire away now and see my disclosure on thewatchdesk.com if I hurt anyone's feelings, but seriously, it's nothing personal against vollies, I'm just showing how our minds work. Yes, we all know this job is dangerous, but we bring certain risks upon ourselves, knowing that it might not be the safest thing in the world. Don't worry guys, if I see you in my mirror I'll move to the right and let you by, because I know "the deal".

DJ, I see most of your points. It's been known that "over there" has made some major advancements in their fire service technology. But, I think it goes a little further than just a helmet when you compare numbers (building construction, namely truss, firefighter health and fitness, operating apparatus, and yes, firefighter safety).

Stay safe, no matter what kind lid you wear....

Silver - 10/21/07 - 13:18

Oops, supposed to say : "Stay safe, no matter what kind OF lid you wear"....

Silver - 10/21/07 - 13:19

Yeah, it is further than the kind of helmet. That is just one example. And they do pay a lot more attention to fitness than we do, and they definitely spend more effort on building construction. I doubt if they even use the light weight truss over there, because they do apply the 'what if...' to a lot more than we do.

I know we caught a lot of stuff when we put the chevrons on the back of our rides. I have heard everything from they are distracting, they draw people to them, they cause seizures, etc. And I can see the day in the not-so-distant future when we have some sort of pattern on the sides of our units, as well. Funny looking? No doubt (although now an ambulance looks kind of silly to me without them). Tacky looking? All in the eyes of the beholder, but hey, I was a teenager and twenty-something during the disco era, so I can tell you about tacky (and I have worn stuff that makes Mike's t-shirts and Hawaiian shirts look pretty, well, normal). But if it makes me safer, go for it. I would like to see a comparison of their emergency vehicle crashes vs ours.

Red lights? I can't count how many times I nearly went airborne crossing the railroad tracks on Old Apex Rd back in the day. And in those days there were no flashing lights or gates at that crossing (they were only at Academy St). I just knew that red lights made my vehicle invincible (as well as added 100 hp). Doing a doughnut in the roadway at 0200 one night crossing those tracks at 80 mph, in the rain, barely missing the train, and I STILL ran off the road into the Sycamore Plastics yard (before the trees were there) sort of showed me the error of my ways. I am just glad no one ever noticed the tire marks right away. And no, I did not go to the call (fire alarm at Austin Foods). I just went back home.

As to looking cool, I was born that way (LOL). Nobody has me beat in a white and blue E450 with chevrons and a pair of RayBans.

As to helmets, you have to wear what the boss man provides, unless he lets you wear something else. And if it meets the safety rules in effect, well, there you have it.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/21/07 - 14:42

It's Syracuse Plastics Dale... that was the best set of RR tracks to jump in Cary. Always thought that if I hit them fast enough, I could just land on E Durham Rd. It was just that the magnet on the tear drop was not strong enough to hold to my steel dash when I landed.

Olson - 10/21/07 - 16:01

Syracuse, Sycamore, Stradivarius...those were the days.

Dashboard light?!?!? Nah...genuine Federal FB11 out on the roof. Still got it, too. Original bulb and cover.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/21/07 - 17:35

Speaking of jumping tracks, Tingen Rd. near Salem St. in Apex ranks right up there.

Silver - 10/21/07 - 19:08

Did that one on the original Cary 571.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/21/07 - 19:26

I noticed tonight on the news that Long Beach, Ca. FD wears similar helmets. So much for tradition for them. I guess they decided safety was much better.

Henry P. - 10/22/07 - 19:17

Red lights?

Silver - 10/22/07 - 20:19

Yeah, you know...red lights. Those blinking things affixed so that they are visible to the front of a personally owned motor vehicle that typically belongs to a member of a volunteer fire department, rescue squad, or EMS. They are unique in their ability to add horsepower and performance ability to an otherwise ordinary vehicle. They also work better than tequila to increase your level of confidence and invulnerability.

Nowadays, they have corner strobes, LEDs, and more. In my day, you weren't cool unless you had a genuine Federal FB11 Super Fireball, along with four (4) grill lights. And if two of those grill lights were clear, then you were above all others...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/23/07 - 07:48

I agree with DJ. I don't even have a light in my truck anymore. Think about it, now a days there are stop lights everywhere....even in the rural areas. Having a "red light" in your vehicle does not mean that you can break the LAW as some people think.(such as running stop lights and speeding) Even still, you are not getting there any faster by running other tax payers off the road so you can get to the station to catch the engine for that fire alarm. Not only that you are putting yourself at risk of being involved in a accident.

Now on to the helmet subject,

We use the Cairns 1010, and so far none of us have any complaints about them.(that ive heard) To me they are light as a feather. Does anybody have those helmets that so heavy after wearing them for a while you have to pop your neck once you take them off???

Just my two cents.....

Beach - 10/23/07 - 10:42

I have a Cairns 660 for the EMS stuff, and a Cairns 1044 for the hot stuff. I like them both, although the 1044 is top-heavy. I can get my big a** in a lot of tight places and keep the 660 on. I bought a Sam Houston several years ago in Anne Arundel, but sold it quickly thereafter, because it was way too heavy. Many many years ago, I had a Morning Pride composite (it sits on my shelf now) that felt like it weighed a ton. It was a sturdy helmet, but it felt like it was made out of cast iron.

A co-worker of mine once bought one of the Brigade helmets when they were first marketed here. I tried it and it was really comfortable. It was light, and it just made you feel 'secure'. I was going to buy one, and then they stopped selling them.

As to the red lights, they serve two purposes right now. First, I can park in front of EMS station 1 now for meetings and quick visits. In other

areas of the state, particularly those that are a little more rural, there is still a certain status attributable to them. A park ranger down at Hatteras was about to write me a ticket for sleeping on the beach until he saw the light.

But it does seem like it was a lot more fun back then. Fireball on the dash, big old red Minitor I parked on your belt...I can hear it now- "Cary to Raleigh. Dispatch Yrac for a house fire..."

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/23/07 - 10:59

Yes DJ, I know what red lights are. However, "Henry P" seems to dig about my lid, so I dug back about his "show of lights", and if he has one/many or not. Perhaps I should've directed the question to him to eliminate confusion...

I can top that one. At Apex Station 1 there used to be a white phone that hung on the wall in the radio room. That phone was the "911 line" from Raleigh to Apex. Back in the good ol' days, when we'd hang in the radio room and the phone would ring, if you had "a set", you'd pick it up and eavesdrop. Ninety nine percent of the time, it was a Raleigh dispatcher talking to an Apex dispatcher about a dispatch request or transferring a live 911 call. Sort of like a pre-alert, when someone would call 911 and the call would go to Raleigh because Apex lacked a "911 system" and the call would have to be transferred for dispatch, we'd then all scramble out of the radio room with chairs flying to grab a seat on the rig...good times.

Silver - 10/23/07 - 12:58

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

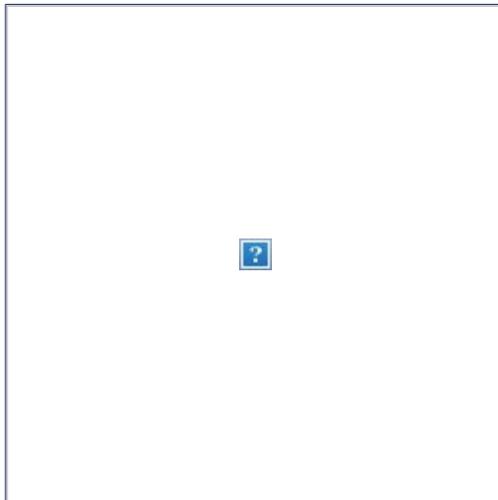
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

What's Wrong with This Picture?

10/20/07 26 W, 1 I - + 11 - 13

Firefighter Hourly [posted this head-scratcher](#) today, noting "sometimes a picture says it all." Indeed it does. Watch that last step, Doc...



Wow.

Flip ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/21/07 - 18:32

Back to the BASICS "roof Ladder, Guide Man and foot placement" We all get in a rush to get the job done and we ALL make mistakes lets learn from them! " Those that don't make mistakes are not doing anything"!

Stay Safe Brothers!

Jason Lane - 10/22/07 - 09:09

I agree with Jason in that you need a guide man/hook man and that you need to watch that foot placement. But on a roof with that pitch I would pass on a roof ladder. Bringing a roof ladder adds that much more time to the event, especially when we are trying to get up there get it done and get down. If you are using the roof ladder just to displace your weight, do you really need to be standing on the roof at all? If it was a steeper pitch then I would say bring the ladder. Just my 1/2 cents.

Mike - 10/22/07 - 15:39

Did he fall through?

WCfire533 - 10/25/07 - 10:19

Without saying what wisdom has been provided by mike and brother lane, THINK! I sent this pic on my email list earlier today as it was forwarded to me from a brother in ATL. These are the types of pics we need on our 'fridges and locker doors at the house, rather than scantily clad women- THINK! Every day, about your job, your kids, your wife, hell- your ex-wife who might get the money if you havent updated your beneficiary card! We're not perfect, but we are among the few still alive to read this blog and be blessed with the opportunity to THINK about what we are doing!!

JBoggs ([Email](#)) - 10/25/07 - 21:08

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'?

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

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.

Salisbury Former Fire Stations

10/21/07 116 W, 2 I - + 11 - 16

Left is old City Hall at 117 South Lee Street. Built in 1896, the first-floor fire station was relocated in 1965 to 514 East Innes Street. The 4,364 square-foot building also once housed a jail. From left to right, a single-width and double-width bay were located in the center of the building, below the windows. The arched openings appear to have been added after SFD vacated. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is presently unoccupied. Right is old Station 2 at 1402 South Main Street. Built in 1942, it was relocated in 1980 to 2312 South Main Street. The 2,280 square-foot building had a single, double-width bay. It is presently used by the city. 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.

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.

Catawba County Firefighter's Museum

10/21/07 135 W, 2 I - + 19 - 10

Just a couple miles north of Interstate 40, nestled amid the rolling hills outside Conover, NC, is the [Catawba County Firefighter's Museum](#). Opened in 1994, the single-story, stone-exterior exhibit hall easily rates must-see status. Six antique pumpers are displayed, a 1936 American LaFrance, a 1941 Ford, a 1952 Ford, a 1951 Dodge, a 1954 Chevrolet, and a 1945 Chevrolet. Hundreds, if not thousands, of smaller artifacts are displayed along the walls and floors. They appear to date mostly from the 1940s through the 1970s, and spotlight a period when rural fire departments were coming of age. The facility is also a great example of what interested parties can accomplish on a county-wide level. Admission is free, and its regular hours are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Visit their web site for more information. More photos forthcoming. Click to enlarge:



Why doesnt wake county have a FF museum? There is alot of history in this county

Apex Batt Chief - 10/21/07 - 22:03

Mike, I was looking around and noticed that there really is not a place for wake county ems agencies apparatus and information on here. What would be the possibility of adding such?

Thanks

Adam Brown - 10/21/07 - 22:36

So much of the fire/EMS/rescue history here is already gone. Some of the old ambulances (the Suburbans, Garner's old "Maximum Care Unit") are long gone. A lot of the old fire trucks that were here in the county exist only on this website. Even more are missing from here as well. And what about the old helmets, the MSA helmets, the big Carpenter hand lights, and more. And what about Garner's "Wonder Wagon", the old Civil Defense Reo, the original Hurst tools...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/22/07 - 00:29

I agree with Dale – most of the tangible history is gone. People call me a pack-rat – but I'm proud of it. I still have my minitor I pager (fully operational), my fireball light, original uniforms, and old radios – but how many others can say that. It really saddens me that the last of the Swab ambulances have been sold in the county. They were the start of a new era in this area and I would love to see one restored to green and white. We need to start NOW by stopping folks from throwing away our past. DJ – you contribute a lot to this site and to the history of emergency services in this area – keep it up. I enjoy reading your posts.

Jason ([Email](#)) - 10/22/07 - 01:37

Thanks Jason. Who remembers the 1974 Chevy Suburbans that were in Apex, Wendell, Wake Forest, and Fuquay-Varina? The Swabs were in Wendell (they had the first one), Wake Co EMS, Cary, Garner, Knightdale, Wake Forest, and Zebulon. And don't forget the old Murphy boxes. So many ambulances here in the county now all look alike. And these boxes (Ford, IHC, or Sterling) will NEVER have the class that the Cadillacs had...we had a bunch of them here (Olds and Pontiacs, too) but I think that all but one or two are gone.

Anyone remember the Fanon 4 channel pocket scanners with the mobile charger? Or the Standard Communications 3-channel portables? Or

the black box Motorola monitors?

I also have an old Minitor I, as well as an old Minitor II. I still have my yellow RDU Bullard helmet, an old Motorola 'brick' radio, my original Fireball, my original Responder with the mirrors, and a Fireball II.

Think about the old fire trucks that are gone. The new trucks are nice, but they do not have the 'character' that some of the old trucks had. Yrac #1 ('62 Chevy/ALF, Garner #1/10 ('57 Chevy/ALF)...F-V's tilt cab Chevy/ALF...or the older trucks from the early 50's. SHFD, WFFD.

I wonder where they all went?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/22/07 - 02:15

Vintage apparatus still in possession of Wake County fire departments includes:

- 1905 ALF steamer, Raleigh
- 1926 ALF pumper, Raleigh
- 1940 Ford/Hunter pumper, Apex
- 1945 Mack pumper, Fuquay-Varina
- 1945 Mack pumper, Zebulon
- 1950 Mack pumper, Raleigh
- 1953 Seagrave pumper, Cary
- 1954 Mack pumper, Independence, NJ/Stony Hill
- 1958 Chevy/Barton/American pumper, Rolesville
- 1963 Chevy/Darley pumper, Morrisville
- 1967 Willis brush truck, Rolesville

There are also hand hose reels still in possession of Wake Forest and Zebulon. Another hand reel is possessed by Wendell, but, I was told, is not one of the reels used by WFD.

Additionally, these rigs are also around:

- 1941-42 Ford mini pumper, Durham/Garner/Harrells, last seen still owned by Harrells FD in Sampson County
- 1957 FWD pumper, Raleigh/Hopkins, presumably still sitting outside Knightdale Tractor
- 1960s military tanker conversion, Durham Highway/Falls/Brassfield, last known private owned in Wake Forest
- 1961 Chevy/Howe pumper, presumably still owned by Barry's Cafe
- 1979 Mack/1958 ALF tiller, Raleigh/Wendell, last seen for sale on eBay in Brunswick County

Legeros - 10/22/07 - 08:16

I saw the 1958 Ford/ALF of Garner's out off of NC50 a couple of years ago.

But still, think of all of the ones that are missing-

- Western Blvd/Fairgrounds' 1957 Chevy/American with the rear windshield and Buick motor
- Fairgrounds' Ford/ex DOT tanker that had, I believe, one of the first, if not the first, quick-dump
- F-V's Ford/Bean canopy cab pumper, which was the first non-RFD/CFD to have a crew cab
- The ex-military tankers
- RDU CFR-2, the big Ansul Magnum. Was that unit EVER activated?
- Apex Rescue's first ambulance- the two-tone blue Pontiac
- Cary's first ambulance (and the first Federally approved ambulance in the state)
- Cary Area rescue's second 581, the first 'big' rescue truck in Wake County

On a different note, Cary Area Rescue's first 581 (F-350) is still around. F-V Rescue bought it, and now the town of Holly Springs public works

has it as a work truck. The winch is still there. The top of the body (with the long ladder box) is gone.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/22/07 - 10:01

I grew up in Conover, and have been to the museum several times, most recently a couple months ago. It really is a must see. I even found a pic of my dad on the wall, from his FD days when I was a kid. Overall a really neat place.

Barrett - 10/22/07 - 10:07

Sometimes, we truly allow history to slowly slip away, but through the efforts of folks like Mike L., we have all better identified with our own history and actually have a greater recognition of the past's importance. A Wake Co. museum would definitely be a great tribute!

On a side, and following some research, we have identified that our '54 Mack B-75 (at Stony Hill FD) is only 1 of 4 still in existence and owned by a FD. As we currently understand, it is the only factory "white painted" truck of that model/year still around. We are currently working on a plan for full restoration – hopefully in the next few years, but raising the funds will take some time.

Thank you all for what you do !!

A. Rich - 10/23/07 - 21:54

These posted comments should be forwarded to the powers-that-be in Raleigh Fire Administration so that they can realize the importance of preserving Wake County's / Raleigh's fire history through a venue such as a fire museum. In addition, they need to see, and be reminded of the efforts that other jurisdictions around the country are doing to proactively preserve their histories.

Blog wife - 10/27/07 - 14:30

It's unfortunate that it does slip away. To me, it should be a collaborative effort county wide, versus one department footing the bill. But, if I had to pick whether or not to budget money towards a museum or manpower, I'm sorry but manpower would win. We're still riding three-man engines and ladders and in my eyes, it shouldn't be that way. Grant money would be a great solution though.....

Silver - 10/27/07 - 20:25

To add, Mikey L. and Company is doing a fine job and all we can do is support them the best we can.

Silver - 10/27/07 - 20:26

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

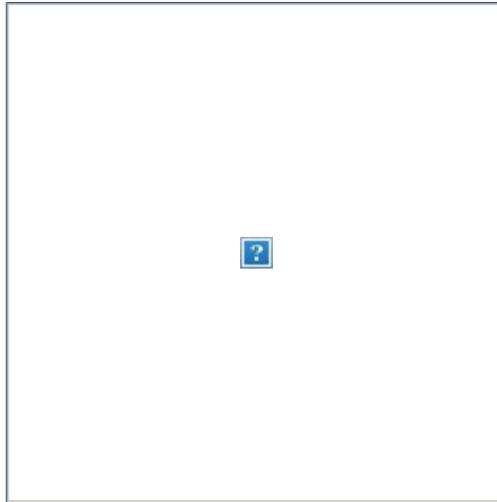
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Raleigh's Aerialscope For Sale

10/23/07 84 W, 1 I - + 11 - 16

Reported by a reader, Raleigh's 1977 Mack/Baker Aerialscope has been posted [for sale on GovDeals.com](#). The 75-foot aerial platform cost \$175,000 and first served as Truck 1. It was moved to Station 8 on March 16, 1987, and subsequently served as Truck 15. As a reserve unit, it was numbered Truck 35, Truck 111, and finally Ladder 111. Between 1970 and 1982, the city received 16 pieces of Mack CF apparatus. The last reserve engines were retired in July 2006. Raleigh's 1986 Pemfab/EEI pumper is also [for sale on the same site](#).



Next question. Though this was both the first aerial platform in Raleigh and Wake County, I believe Durham's was the first aerial platform in the region. Their snorkel dated to the 1960s. Who had the first platform in the state?

Legeros - 10/23/07 - 22:52

Greenville's Ward LaFrance was the same type as Durham's, with the open frame booms. I think it was older. Someone also may have had an American LaFrance out there. Seems like I remember one.

DJ (Email) - 10/23/07 - 23:30

Greenville F/R was a 1968 model. Rocky Mount's was a 1968 American La France.

Steven (Email) - 10/24/07 - 06:47

I really wish they'd refurb it....put a tandem on it with enclosed cab and she'd be ready to roll....

Silver - 10/24/07 - 09:43

Amen Silver, beautiful truck and it has seen a lot of fire.

Amen - 10/24/07 - 12:06

Oh to hear that "whistle" of the turbo on that beauty....

Silver - 10/24/07 - 12:19

Would be a great anchor piece for a Wake County Fire Museum – and for only \$1000.

Olson - 10/25/07 - 07:45

Make that \$2600...

Olson - 10/25/07 - 07:46

So let's talk museums. Raleigh Fire Museum. Wake County Fire Museum. Raleigh and Wake County Fire Museum. Central Piedmont Fire

Museum. North Carolina Fire Museum.

How big of a fish would we want to fry? And branding is everything. Would the living history of Raleigh and/or Wake County participate as heavily if it were an NC museum?

We are the Capitol City, so why not a statewide museum? Well, local FFs might not feel as compelled if it's not named Raleigh or Wake.

And as museum operators have told me, personal interest has to be considered. For example, retirees often want to see rigs and replicas from their eras, versus "long ago."

Such things as scope and naming are worth discussing, when thinking of how to make it happen.

Legeros - 10/25/07 - 09:03

Well...the "American Museum of Firefighting" is taken- that one is in Hudson, NY. Ton of local apparatus from hand pumpers on. Go to <http://www.fasnyfiremuseum.com/> for more. A lot of really neat stuff there- if anyone is interested I have pictures. They even have the original Mattydale lay pumper.

A serious attempt would have to be made at fund raising, in order to try and locate and obtain apparatus that has been sold. There is also the task of restoring old equipment (the old RFD FWD pumper comes to mind). And while a lot of it would need to be local stuff, other stuff far and wide would have to be included to, just to get the 'variety' of firefighting.

I kind of like the idea of "Southeastern Museum of Firefighting".

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/25/07 - 09:18

...put another way, what would a fire museum look like to **you**? Does it feature rigs and artifacts going way back, or just from the era that you were active? Does it emphasis rolling stock, or vehicles and equipment, or the experience of being a firefighter? Is it also an educational center, for children or the community? Is it a place for retired, active, and future personnel to congregate and socialize? Is it a historical repository, for storing and cataloging artifacts? Does it spearhead the restoration and repair of artifacts? etc. etc.

The words "fire museum" invariably means different things to different people. Sample some around the country and they're all a bit different, and some times drastically different. Compare, say, the new North Charleston (SC) museum with the Catawba County museum. See some museums here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/col..>

Thinking about what a Raleigh / Wake / Piedmont / North Carolina / Southeastern fire museum would look like is another good first step in the process.

Legeros - 10/25/07 - 09:34

If they are going to eventually move RFD station 1 or station 3 like the talk has been for years. Why not just use one of those buildings that the city already owns. That is what Charlotte did for their museum. It is an old engine house. It would be especially nice at one of those state, being that they are 2 of the 3 stations that still have the brass poles.

Mike - 10/25/07 - 10:43

I like the idea of the older rigs. One of the things that I am always impressed about from all of the museums I have been to are the REAL old stuff. Just to see what folks worked with back before my day. If it was going to be restricted to Raleigh, for example, then I would think RFD #1 or #3 would be good. If it was going to be something more, then something bigger might be in order.

Older apparatus, equipment, turnouts, stuff...that's what it would need.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/25/07 - 12:13

Let's be real here folks. I'd love to see a museum at one of the above mentioned firehouses. However, with both properties sitting on prime real estate, if the city can make a dime, then guess what.....the city is going to make a dime.

Silver - 10/25/07 - 15:23

there's got to be some way to get an educational grant if fire prevention classes would be held there for children - wouldn't it be great if a trip to the fire museum was part of the yearly curriculum? all sorts of videos could be available - cooking safety, evacuation safety, the dangers of turkey fryers, dangers of residential fireworks and fire pits - add to that the fun of seeing all the apparatus and gear and it would make a great

day trip for kids statewide

corner hydrant - 10/25/07 - 20:10

That's somewhat what NCFD's museum is, it is amazing and a great setting for education events. Grant and the guys down there did it up right.

CFP 7021 - 10/26/07 - 10:30

I don't think they can just tear down or sell off station 3. Isn't it classified as a historical landmark?

Mike - 10/26/07 - 12:17

I'm sure they'd find some red tape to cut through and make it happen. To be honest, I'd love to see a firehouse put right there where the current #3 sits. Put a ladder and engine in there and roll!!!

Silver - 10/26/07 - 12:20

Station 3 is not considered a landmark to my knowledge. Nor does the reported physical condition of the structure lend itself to a museum concept. It is also horribly small for such needs.

I am not a fan of repurposing existing structures for museums. I believe greater value can be obtained building new.

Station 1 might seem like a someday possibility, but it would likely cost a small fortune to bring it up to code and, if the second story were used, make it ADA compliant.

It is certainly in an ideal location, though!

Legeros - 10/26/07 - 12:26

I tend to agree with Legeros on this one. Even though it would be extremely cool to transform a former firehouse into a museum, it would probably not be very cost effective. Station 3 would definitely be too small and the land Station 1 is located on is far more valuable than the station itself. And like Silver mentioned earlier, the city would just sell it off due to the money they could generate from either of those properties. Think of how many former firehouses are still owned by the city...zero. So, I suppose it would take some serious donations or fund-raisers to fund a museum, especially located downtown. Unfortunately everything comes down to the mighty dollar. Which is unfortunate since a fire museum could be such a great asset to both the City of Raleigh and the entire state of NC. I wonder how other fire museums are funded?

RFD574 ([Email](#)) - 10/26/07 - 13:53

and if it will be the repository of all old archives, as well as a library (wouldn't that be great?!) climate control becomes crucial – there is a narrow margin of safety temperature and humidity-wise – still, would love to see an old station turned into a museum

corner hydrant - 10/26/07 - 15:33

Besides, wouldn't the parking be an issue at these stations?

Steven ([Email](#)) - 10/26/07 - 15:49

The Charlotte Fire Dept museum is based out of old station 4, and the biggest issues they have with it is the size because it is very small and can't display all the apparatus, but also if I recall Bank of America owns the land now and there has been some talk that it may be sold at some point by the bank. Charlotte downtown real estate is getting insanely pricey and people in Charlotte have no problem tearing down history in the name of progress. I will say this getting to walk through the same building my grandfather was a captain at is an awesome experience, and basing the museum in an old station adds a lot of character but you definitely run into storage issues.

Char-meck guest - 10/26/07 - 16:13

Sold, \$5,600.

Legeros - 11/12/07 - 08:09

The City of Barnwell SC purchased the Baker Aerialscope from The City of Raleigh. This is their first elevated device ladder or platform. Plans are to repair, care for and use it to support truck company needs for their town. Future plans would be a rechassis of the unit in 5 years. Don't worry we will take care of it and we will be proud to tell everyone its rich history. We are proud to own it and come to Barnwell in a few months to see how she looks.

Tony ([Email](#)) - 11/15/07 - 16:26

I'll be down in a few months....

Silver - 11/15/07 - 20:04

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'?

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

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.

Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums Tartan Ball, November 16

10/23/07 331 W - + 18 - 11

News release. On Friday, November 16, 2007, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m., the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums will host our second annual Tartan Ball at the downtown Raleigh Sheraton Hotel, [421 South Salisbury Street](#). The event will feature the skirl of the pipes and drums, Scottish and Irish dancers, an appearance by the Barrowburn Celtic Band, and a Kirkin' o' the Tartan performed by band Chaplain Paul Ormond, a retired United States Army chaplain. Tickets are only \$10.00 and can be purchased online. Finger food will be provided, and there will be a cash bar. Kilts are encouraged and business casual dress is requested. An ad book is available for anyone interesting in advertising and sponsoring a portion of this event.

In the vernacular of bagpipe bands, the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums are a "service band." We exist to provide musical support, in the tradition of the Scottish Highland regiments, to the public safety agencies in and around the Triangle region.

The bagpipes have a long history of association with military and public safety units. Some of the world's finest and best known pipe bands are associated with such distinguished agencies as the police departments of New York, Chicago, Boston, Toronto, and Vancouver, the fire departments of New York, Boston, Toronto, Houston, and of course our colleagues across the Atlantic throughout Great Britain. The "pipes and drums" are a prominent feature at parades, ceremonies, and funerals throughout the world.

Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums were formed out of a chance meeting of public safety pipers and pipe aficionados in the spring of 2006. On June 8, 2007, some 50 interested law enforcement officers, firefighters, and paramedics attended an organizational meeting. The band was incorporated on August 17, 2006, and was granted not-for-profit status in 2007.

Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drum is a tax-exempt, not for profit organization under state and Federal 501c3 applicable laws.

Please visit www.ForOurFallen.org for more information.

Just so nobody's confused – this is a very CASUAL affair. The "ball" designation is traditional – no tuxedos, gowns, or formal attire. Golf shirts and khakis work fine!

Hope to see many of you there!

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) - 10/24/07 - 08:11

Large time had by all.

Legeros - 11/16/07 - 23:57

Was a blast, a bit more formal than last year, hopefully a sign of things to come?!

band looked good and sounded great!!! it's amazing to see what a group of dedicated individuals can do in such short time

They are to be commended for their efforts and dedication!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/17/07 - 00:18

Things are only going to get better...I promise.

Thank you to all of our family, friends and co-workers for coming out to support the band.

We are doing this for all of you.

Joe Brady

Jospeh Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/28/07 - 22:07

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

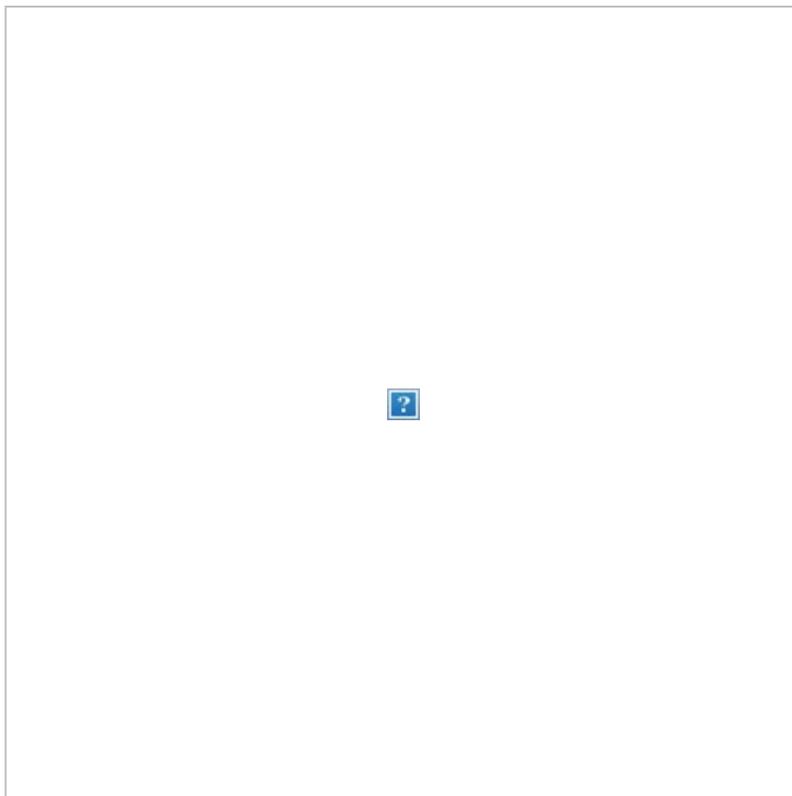
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Photos of the California Fires

10/24/07 61 W, 1 I - + 15 - 8

The *Los Angeles Times* has [complete wildfire coverage](#), including photo galleries on the lower right side of the page. Brian Vander Brug shot the below picture at the Rincon Indian Reservation. [Television stations CBS 2 and KCAL 9](#) also have a number of slide shows of the fires. They are presently linked at the top of the page.



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.

King Striker

10/24/07 108 W, 1 I - + 19 - 15

[The Black Mountain Fire Department](#) in Buncombe County displays a bell outside the [fire station](#). Below the bell is a Gamewell striker mechanism. This spring-wound device was triggered by electric current, and would toll the corresponding box numbers. By 1924, the town had 15 "imaginary boxes" used to signal firefighters to the location of fires. That is, the dispatcher would transmit a box number that indicated a particular location in the town. Wendell had the [same model of striker mechanism](#) when it operated a Gamewell system beginning in the 1930s. Raleigh also used a striker mechanism with its Gamewell system beginning in 1888.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Structural Collapse Rescue Training Being Held At Keeter Training Center

10/26/07 91 W - + 18 - 11

News release. Members of emergency response regional task force teams from across North Carolina will take participate in a structural collapse rescue technician course at the Raleigh Fire Department's Keeter Training Center. The two-week course begins Monday, Oct. 29 and continues until Nov. 9. The course is being taught by North Carolina Task Force 8 (NCTF 8), which consists of members of the Raleigh, Cary, Durham and Chapel Hill fire departments, Wake County EMS and Atlas Engineering of Raleigh. [Read the entire news release.](#)

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'?

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

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.

Junior Firefighters in Wake Forest and Youngsville

10/26/07 25 W - + 15 - 10

This week's *Wake Weekly* features a pair of articles on junior firefighters in [Wake Forest](#) and in [Youngsville](#).

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'?

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

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.

Kerr Lake Fire Department

10/26/07 37 W, 1 I - + 19 - 12

[This WRAL story](#) about the newly forming Kerr Lake Fire Department features a rather familiar looking piece of apparatus. Is that Durham Highway's former 1981 Mack/Darley pumper-tanker?



That would be former tanker 8 which was donated earlier this year to the forming Kerr Lake Fire Department.

DHFD - 10/26/07 - 18:47

They aren't recognized by the state yet as a FD because they don't have enough training hours, but they can't get classes at their FD without paying for them until they are recognized by the state.

Mike - 10/26/07 - 20:58

That's our state tax dollars at work, for you.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/26/07 - 23:59

ok so a way around it... the guys get made members of other nearby departments and then take all their classes and get hours???

or can some kindly instructors perhaps donate their time/effort to get them some hours?

how can we help?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 10/27/07 - 00:34

I had the pleasure of meeting the Chief and Asst.Chief when they came to DHFD to get tanker 8. Very good people, and there cause is great. It's an unprotected area with other departments considerably far away covering it. If anyone finds out a way to further help, let me know.

Graney - 10/27/07 - 01:03

VGCC is working on how to get them hours. It is not a matter of sending an instructor up there to teach. The classes have to go through the community college system. For those classes to be free of cost to the students they have to be members of a recognized dept. It kind of is a catch 22, but VGCC is working on a solution so they can get their hours.

Mike - 10/27/07 - 10:57

Contact info for the department?

JBoggs - 10/27/07 - 22:24

Will they have any full time/part time employment?

HMarks - 10/27/07 - 23:00

Yes. contact info'd be great.

Flip - 10/29/07 - 01:08

As a charter member of Kerr Lake VFD, I would like to thank all the people who have helped us through the past year. I am so proud to be a member and we are currently in training through VGCC. I am very proud of this 81 Mack/Darley. We are very close to being state certified and I cant wait.. Again thank you all.

Keith Pegram ([Email](#)) - 03/16/08 - 15:59

What is the exact address of the department and when would be a good time for people to stop by?

To: Keith - 03/17/08 - 14:02

Kerr Lake VFD was finally certified by the NCOSFM in 3/09; finally began to get Vance County funding in 06/09. We are very grateful for all the support and donations we have received. We are having an open house this Saturday, August 15, 2009, from 1400-1700. We would love to see all of you there! Address is 5021 Satterwhite Point Rd., Henderson, NC. Phone: (252) 430-7911. Chief Mark Minish (252) 226-2352. Again, thanks, and hope to see you Saturday.

Pat Minish ([Email](#)) - 08/12/09 - 14:04

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'?

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

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.

Acknowledgements

10/26/07 102 W - + 15 - 10

The research and recording of the history of Raleigh and Wake County fire departments has not occurred in a vacuum. Dozens of folks have provided their time and assistance lo these last years. Many are thanked at the beginning of Mike's books, both [volume 1](#) and [volume 2](#) of *Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting*. Others have helped more recently, and they are also greatly appreciated. Finally, there are those who have been living the history, Raleigh and Wake County's firefighters. They've been doing the heavy lifting for two centuries now. They deserve the greatest credit for the rich history they have helped write.

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'?

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

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.

Two Firefighters Injured Last Night

10/27/07 58 W - + 17 - 14

[WRAL is reporting](#) that two firefighters were injured at last night's fire in southern Wake County. They were reportedly injured when a wall collapsed. They were grazed, and one suffered light burns. Both were transported to WakeMed, treated and released. The fire at [7201 Rock Service Station Road](#) was reported shortly after 8 p.m.

You think we argue about topics on here. Go to the WRAL story on this and read the comments about this fire and the FF's that got hit by the wall. All they want to argue about "is how much water was used, and who cares if FF's got hurt that is what we get paid for".

By the way the water came from a nearby pond.

Mike - 10/27/07 - 10:59

man that is ridiculous. i cant believe someone would have the nerve to say that. one guy stood up for us though. unbelievable. stay safe everyone

PFL - 10/27/07 - 13:02

There are folks on there with too much nerve

WCFire533 - 10/27/07 - 22:53

Was listening to that fire when it happened. No guys hurt, all that matters. FTM.

Flip - 10/28/07 - 01:37

Too seriously, I should say.

Flip - 10/28/07 - 01:38

I was going to post a comment on the WRAL site but was so pissed that I couldn't narrow my comments down to a particular subject. Ignorant things posted there include: Most fires are fought from the inside; Too much water was used; it is insignificant when a firefighter is injured; and firefighters jobs aren't that dangerous because my husband is a cop and he doesn't get to call me when he's work, but firefighters can call home. Unbelievable.

Rookienc - 10/28/07 - 12:21

Ignorance reveals a need for knowledge. Perhaps a public education campaign is in order, that answers the types of questions that lay people can have. Such as:

Will the fire department run out of water during this drought?

Does the fire department use the same water that we use for drinking?

Does the fire department have to conserve water or fight fewer fires during the drought?

Do volunteer firefighters fight fires the same way as paid firefighters?

Do volunteer firefighters face the same risks as paid firefighters?

Why are firefighters paid to sleep at fire stations?

etc.

Basically, all the familiar perceptions/misperceptions. Might work wonders. Food for thought.

Legeros - 10/28/07 - 13:12

Rookienc, the comment was "fighting a fire from the inside isn't the best way to fight one". Some of us tried to set her straight, but I doubt it settled in....don't let someone who hasn't walked in OUR shoes make you upset, it's pure ignorance on her part.

Silver - 10/28/07 - 13:30

public education is desperately needed, concerning prevention, especially in our current drought situation – how many fires could be prevented

if people would just be more careful about discarding smoking material, not lighting fireworks in their back yard, not burning fire pits in a yard full of dry mulch, not starting a barbecue inches away from their siding – education on safety inside the home is also needed, a review on what type of interior furnishings are especially flammable, what are the safest window treatments, safe use of candles (is there any?) great to have video demonstrations of all this in a new fire museum

the fd is the first line of defense in any emergency, fire, hazmat, biological or otherwise – i don't think most people realize that

trying to save water by not putting out a fire adequately would let it get out of control or flare up again (which would require a lot more water!) – i don't think the people making these comments have ever been in a fire

corner hydrant - 10/28/07 - 15:01

Don't be so certain that she is a cop's wife, regardless she knows nothing about the fire service.

Engine1driver - 10/28/07 - 17:37

I'm not going to say for one second that a firefighter's job is more dangerous than a police officer's. Let's be realistic here. People HATE cops just because of the job they choose to do. Very few hate firefighters enough to just shoot at them just for being a firefighter. And I honestly believe those that think a firefighter's job is more dangerous than a cop's have very little experience in the fire service. And no, I'm not saying our job isn't dangerous. However, our job IS a controllable danger.

Henry P. - 10/28/07 - 18:38

Well said Henry P. The only reason I would think that a criminal or whatnot would shoot us is the similarity of the uniforms.

[WCFire533] ([Email](#)) - 10/28/07 - 19:41

I really do think that there needs to be more public education about not just how to prevent fires, but also about our jobs. It seems like whenever there is a fire related story on one of the local news sites the comments about firefighters are absolutely ridiculous. Just about everyone realizes how much the area has grown over the past decade, but how many actually realize how much busier their local fire department has become? More importantly, how many understand what kind of resources their department needs to deal with the increase in runs?

rookienc - 10/29/07 - 09:51

thinking that some kind of newsletter like the city's recycling, solid waste and water treatment plant put out would be good, but have it be quarterly, with season specific fire safety recommendations – include information on the fire service in each issue – have a separate children's version with fire safety cartoons or coloring pages to teach kids about fire safety

corner hydrant - 10/29/07 - 17:20

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'?

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

This Evening's Collapse

10/27/07 59 W, 1 I - + 16 - 16

Outside awing collapse at [3048 Medlin Drive](#). Three people reported unable to exit building, or least through front door. Engine 14 and Rescue 14 handled. Second engine, ladder, bat chief, div chief, and EMS returned to service. Dispatched 10:04 p.m. Cleared 10:47 p.m. Here's the [building with awning intact](#). Built 1960, says tax records.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Fire Service and the Internet: Friend or Foe?

10/28/07 64 W, 1 I - + 22 - 13

As mentioned on a couple other blogs, [Tin Helmet](#) writer William Carey opens with this provocative perspective: "I believe that the sole contributor to the loss of honor, brotherhood and loyalty is probably the most used instrument in the fire service; the Internet." [Read his entire commentary](#) . Interestingly, the web site utilizes PDF documents for postings.

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'?

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

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.

Ocean Isle Beach Fatal Fire

10/28/07 43 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

WRAL's coverage of this morning's multi-fatality fire in Ocean Isle Beach includes a [slideshow with a number of images](#). They've acquired a couple images of the fire itself. The Wilmington *Star-News* also has a [slideshow of the fire](#).



USA Today offers a national perspective on deadly college fires, following up on their own report from last year. This appeared a couple days ago, <http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007..>

Legeros - 11/01/07 - 07:39

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Greenville Goes Purple and Gold

10/28/07 47 W, 1 I - + 16 - 15

Found on the [FireNews headlines page](#), WNCT reports on [Greenville's new purple and gold Pierce pumper](#). Yowza! With red trucks in Raleigh and light blue trucks in Chapel Hill, can dark blue be far behind for Durham? It's all about school pride.



heard that the chief of Greenville FD had some pressure put on him by Chief Jones in Chapel Hill, sharp rig...

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 10/29/07 - 00:15

that's the best one yet ... good work to greenville fd

piratealum - 10/29/07 - 07:46

Where's my red spray paint????!!!

NCSU Fan - 10/29/07 - 13:26

Anything is better than those carolina blue rigs down the road..

Charmeck Guest - 10/29/07 - 17:44

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'?

Mysteries of Station 2

10/29/07 1240 W - + 14 - 17

When Memorial Auditorium opened on August 14, 1932, it replaced the City Auditorium at the corner of Fayetteville and Davie streets. The older building [burned two years earlier](#). The new auditorium was constructed with a [two-bay fire station](#) in the southeast corner of the building. This was the new Station 2 and it replaced a smaller, single-bay facility on South Salisbury Street. The new station also included a maintenance shop for the fire department. Old Station 2 was retained as city property and later used as a paint shop.

When [Station 1 on West Morgan Street](#) closed on August 12, 1941, it was relocated to old Station 2 on South Salisbury Street. The Morgan Street station was the city's original "[headquarters fire station](#)" and had been built in 1896. It was condemned in 1939, and the tower was removed that year.

Old Station 1 housed an engine company and a two-piece ladder. One crew staffed the engine, and a second crew staffed both the aerial ladder and service ladder trucks. The building also housed the fire department offices, and the fire alarm equipment. [New Station 1](#), however, was a considerably smaller building.

With the closing of the Morgan Street station, there were only 6 available apparatus bays:

Station 1 - 1 bay
 Station 2 - 2 bays
 Station 3 - 1 bay
 Station 4 - 1 bay
 Station 5 - 1 bay

The fire department's fleet of active apparatus consisted of six pumpers, one aerial ladder, and one service ladder. An "auxiliary truck," a pick-up truck equipped with a pump and water tank, was either also in service or would soon be added. Records suggest that the reduction of available apparatus bays resulted in the following changes:

Before August 1941

Station 1 - Engine 1, Aerial Ladder Truck 1, Service Ladder Truck 1
 Station 2 - Engine 2
 Station 3 - Engine 3
 Station 4 - Engine 4
 Station 5 - Engine 5

After August 1941

Station 1 - Engine 1
 Station 2 - Aerial Ladder Truck 1, Service Ladder Truck 1
 Station 3 - Engine 3
 Station 4 - Engine 4
 Station 5 - Engine 5

The time frame for the above actions-- removing Engine 2 from service, and relocating both ladder trucks to Station 2-- is not known. In December 1941, the United States entered World War II. The effect of the war upon the fire department, with personnel leaving for military service, may have influenced the removing of Engine 2 from service. It is also possible that the "auxiliary truck," likely staffed with two people, was subsequently placed in service as a modest replacement for the absent engine company.

The need for a sixth fire station was realized around this time, and Station 6 opened on March 3, 1943 in a [rented building with a single bay](#) at 2519 Fairview Road. Engine 6 was placed in service with a 1919 American LaFrance pumper purchased used from Farmville, NC. Wartime restrictions made acquiring new apparatus difficult, and the city would purchase no new apparatus until 1949.

With the opening of a Station 6, there were now 7 available apparatus bays:

Station 1 - 1 bay
Station 2 - 2 bays
Station 3 - 1 bay
Station 4 - 1 bay
Station 5 - 1 bay
Station 6 - 1 bay

The apparatus was likely distributed as follows:

Station 1 - Engine 1, Auxiliary Truck (parked behind engine)
Station 2 - Aerial Ladder Truck 1, Service Ladder Truck 1
Station 3 - Engine 3
Station 4 - Engine 4
Station 5 - Engine 5
Station 6 - Engine 6

Building a permanent Station 6 took a few more years. By the summer of 1948, the city lost its lease on the building that housed Station 6. The engine company was temporarily relocated to Station 5. It is not known if the single apparatus bay at Station 5 was large enough to accommodate both engines. On June 25, 1949, a [new Station 6](#) opened at 2602 Fairview Road. This building had two apparatus bays. Two days later, Truck 6 was placed in service, with the 1922 American LaFrance service truck presumably relocated from Station 2.

With the opening of a permanent Station 6, there were now 8 available apparatus bays:

Station 1 - 1 bay
Station 2 - 2 bays
Station 3 - 1 bay
Station 4 - 1 bay
Station 5 - 1 bay
Station 6 - 2 bays

The apparatus was likely distributed as follows:

Station 1 - Engine 1
Station 2 - Truck 1, Auxiliary Truck
Station 3 - Engine 3
Station 4 - Engine 4
Station 5 - Engine 5
Station 6 - Engine 6, Truck 6

When Station 1 was moved to Salisbury Street years earlier, a replacement site was promptly purchased on South Dawson Street. The \$15,000 lot measured 70 by 236 feet and was located adjacent to the [old Union Depot](#). If memory serves, you can still see the remnants of railroad tracks across Harrington Street and leading to the old depot location.

Construction of a small building to house the equipment of the electric-telegraph fire alarm system commenced immediately, and on the same day as Station 1 was moved to Salisbury Street. The \$3,500 building utilized window frames and other materials salvaged from the old station. The [two-story structure](#) also included a garage for housing the fire department's "emergency truck" and space for the traffic signal repair shop. New alarm equipment was also installed. The city had 130 alarm boxes at that time. The "alarm house" was completed in the rear of 220 South Dawson Street in the spring of 1942.

Constructing a new Station 1 would take another ten years. Reasons for the delay included the unavailability of building materials during wartime. Also during this period, beginning in 1949, the fire department commenced several capital upgrades including the purchase of six new

pumpers and the replacement of [Station 3 on East Hargett Street](#). The latter structure was 53 years old at the time of its closing in 1951.

[New Station 1](#) opened on October 5, 1953. The \$142,106 facility was opened on the same day. The City Manager presided over the ceremonies which included short speeches from the Mayor, City Council members, and the Fire Chief. Immediately after the ceremonies, members of the fire department's Ladies Auxiliary held an open house and conducted tours until 9:00 p.m. New Station 1 housed Engine 1, a new second engine company named Engine 9, and Aerial Ladder Truck 1.

With the opening of the new Station 1, there were now 11 available apparatus bays:

Station 1 - 3 bays (or 6 bays, if counted as double-length)
Station 2 - 2 bays
Station 3 - 3 bays
Station 4 - 1 bay
Station 5 - 1 bay
Station 6 - 2 bays

The apparatus was distributed as follows:

Station 1 - Engine 1, Engine 9, Truck 1
Station 2 - Engine 2, Auxiliary Truck
Station 3 - Engine 3
Station 4 - Engine 4
Station 5 - Engine 5
Station 6 - Engine 6, Truck 6

The Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad was organized the same year that the new Station 1 was opened. The unit operated two vehicles, a white panel van and a blue and white heavy rescue truck with Civil Defense logos. Both were soon stored at Station 1. By the mid 1950s, the active apparatus of the Raleigh Fire Department was distributed as follows:

Station 1 - Engine 1, Engine 9, Truck 1, Rescue 1, Rescue 2
Station 2 - Engine 2, Auxiliary Truck
Station 3 - Engine 3
Station 4 - Engine 4
Station 5 - Engine 5
Station 6 - Engine 6, Truck 6

The [makes and models of the apparatus](#) were:

Engine 1 - 1953 American LaFrance 700 Series
Engine 2 - 1936 American LaFrance 400 Series [unconfirmed]
Engine 3 - 1951 American LaFrance 700 Series
Engine 4 - 1950 FWD F-75-T
Engine 5 - 1951 American LaFrance 700 Series
Engine 6 - 1950 Mack 86LS
Engine 9 (at Station 1) - 1953 American LaFrance 700 Series
Truck 1 - American LaFrance 500 Series / 1919 American LaFrance Type 17
Truck 6 - 1922 American LaFrance Type 14
Rescue 1 - 1954 GMC
Rescue 2 (at Station 1) - 1954 Reo
Auxiliary Truck - 1948 Ford F3

The make and model of Engine 2 is unconfirmed. The 1936 American LaFrance was the newest of the reserve engines, and it is reasonable to assume that it again served as a front-line piece of apparatus until the seventh "modern" engine was purchased, a 1957 FWD.

Future research may answer the mysteries of exactly when and why Engine 2 was removed from service, and the specifics surrounding Station 2 in the 1940s and early 1950s. Until then, it makes for compelling speculation.

Mike...the 1954 Rescue truck was a GMC, not a Chevy. Yeah, I know, what's the difference?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/30/07 - 08:18

Thanks, updated.

Legeros - 10/30/07 - 17:17

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](#))

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.

Beautiful Sight

10/29/07 11 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

Ladder 1 rolling on a sunny Sunday. Click to enlarge:



You know, you ought to get a picture of the new LADDER 1 making the turn from Dawson onto Martin, as a companion to the other picture of the ALF doing the same thing. On second thought, that might not be a bad idea with some of the other pictures from the 'old days'- restage them with the new trucks and the new faces.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/30/07 - 08:25

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'?

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

Strange Ladders

10/30/07 61 W, 1 I - + 19 - 16

The photos and footage from Ocean Isle Beach show an E-One aerial ladder with a European-style bucket. Bailey, NC, also has one. Here's a [picture from Lee](#). Click to view full-sized version. On the other side of the pond, aerial apparatus are also leaner. Smaller cabs, fewer compartments, no ground ladders, etc. See this [German-language Wikipedia page](#) for examples.



First it is a sad thing that happened in Ocean Isle. Second I noticed the bucket in some of the footage and wondered whose rig that was. Rosenbauer is starting to push their Metz line of aerals here in the states, most mirror the European type of trucks except they have ground ladder storage, but little compartmentalization. They are pushing the ease of set up, and maneuverability of the designs. I think Kensett Square in PA uses a Metz and there are a few others scattered through the country. Also aren't the Euro ladders staffed differently, I believe they usually only have two people on them but more on the engines? Also any one have any insight on how well this style of ladder works from E-one? The bucket looks small.

Char-Meck Guest - 10/30/07 - 18:33

FDNY, Chicago, and a few others tried (Metz, Magirus, etc) them back in the 60s and 70s. FDNY converted theirs later on to Grove ladders. E-One was selling (they may still be) the Bronto Skylift aerals, built in Sweden, I think. Bronto also builds a super-articulated boom truck.

The foreign units I remember are all leaner, smaller, and more agile. They carry smaller pumps, smaller tanks, but have crew cabs for, I think, up to about 4 people.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/01/07 - 08:34

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

All Hallows Eve

10/31/07 94 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

How many big fires have happened on Halloween? Mike's records reveal a couple. October 31, 2005. Apartments at 456 Dorothea Drive. Two alarms. Morning. Quickly controlled, if memory serves. October 31, 1995. Raleigh Flying Service hanger at the airport. 5:20 p.m. Single-engine aircraft catches fire during de-fueling. RDU, Durham Highway, Morrisville, Six Forks, Raleigh, Bethesda, and Parkwood fire departments. Two employees transported for smoke inhalation. David Grant took the picture below. And, going way back, October 31, 1890. Allen & Cram Foundry at 130 South West Street. 9:40 p.m. Two hose companies and the hook and ladder company respond. Boo!



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'?

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

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.

California Department Tries Smaller Units for Some Calls

11/01/07 64 W - + 11 - 18

From Firehouse.com, the San Jose Fire Department is expanding their Supplemental Transport Ambulance Resource (STAR) units to include non-emergency fire calls. Interesting concept, though it begs a question: if you reduce the number of engine/truck/rescue runs, are they later seen as less-needed? [Read the entire article](#). Here's the [San Jose Fire Department site](#).

It is a little reminiscent of the mini-pumper concept (i.e. Syracuse NY) from the 70s- deploy fewer firefighters on smaller stuff. Supposedly the mini-pumpers could handle 80-90% of the calls. Only problem was some departments deployed them for everything, with the idea of calling for more resources if needed. Made for a lot of vacant lots.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/01/07 - 08:30

"though it begs a question: if you reduce the number of engine/truck/rescue runs, are they later seen as less-needed?"

To ask that question, you must first allow that they are needed at the level they are currently used. Do you "need" to have 1000 gallons of water and 1000' of hose on every medical call, just in case? There have been several times in my career on an ambulance when an engine cleared itself, or the Lt/Capt for formality sake asked me if they could clear because there was a fire call. If they were critical to the successful outcome of the call, how could they so easily be removed? I would postulate that they are not "needed" persay, but instead utilized so taxpayers don't feel like their money is being wasted by paying firefighters to be idle until they are truly "needed." If it were not for unions and traditions I believe if someone was to setup a public safety system today from scratch it would look very different from what we currently see.

Dave - 11/01/07 - 11:52

You don't know until you get to a call if you will be needed or not. After arriving and seeing that 4 firefighters AND 2 paramedics are not needed, what's wrong with asking the medic if you can clear that call to answer another call in close proximity to your location?

Mike, I would guess that it would depend on the spin that was put on the question. What I mean is, after awhile of the "smaller" unit use, somebody decides that the "bigger" trucks are not needed. If nobody justifies having the "bigger" trucks on stand by for "bigger" calls to the public in a positive manor, somebody else (like the media) will put a negative spin on the situation calling it "wasteful" spending or such, and the public may then see the "bigger" trucks as less-needed.

firedriver - 11/01/07 - 16:14

If you look up the Wichita Fire page (unofficial one)you'll see they use "Squads" which are pickup based brush truck type units to run medicals and other calls, as they put it to ease wear and tear on the bigger trucks. One of the departments in AZ around the phoenix area I think is running a ladder tender for non-emergency calls and high volume times for medical calls, and then if you look at Richmond VA which runs all quints but has some freightliner based "engines" or FRV's as they call them to run medicals and other calls where a full quint might not need to run. It still comes down to do you need to run a full engine company or ladder on a bs medical or something else? No, but at the same time we operate in a world where murphy's law applies and what is initially dispatched can change in an instant. That and as one person pointed out it won't take much for some bean counter to say "smaller trucks" sound like a great idea, after all the numbers say you run mainly medicals why do we need these big trucks and all these firefighters, it looks like two men and a truck will work just fine.

Char-Meck Guest - 11/01/07 - 17:56

Sorry guys, I'll never buy into the "save wear and tear" theory, especially around these parts. What did the busiest engine in RFD run last year? It's small in comparison to the others in this nation that push out 6,000 runs a year. I don't see DCFD,FDNY, Baltimore, Philly or Chicago putting a brush unit with 2 guys on the street to answer EMS calls. I just think it's a way to reduce staffing levels and save the almighty dollar.

Silver - 11/01/07 - 19:40

B I N G O ! ! !

guest 101 - 11/01/07 - 20:06

Sometimes when we have personel to staff the engine and one or two additional pieces of apparatus we send the brush truck on the medical calls, I believe stony hill does this for all medical calls, can someone confirm?

DHFD - 11/01/07 - 23:24

As an aside, we're still riding 3 on engines and ladders! I can understand if we were 6 & 6, but we're not.

Silver - 11/02/07 - 10:04

Stony Hill sends a Brush truck from the closest station An engine from the other station checks in with the crew in case there is a need for the extra manpower. Must say it works rather well. The help is there if you need it and keeps a engine in service ready if something else come up.

SHFD - 11/02/07 - 10:40

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

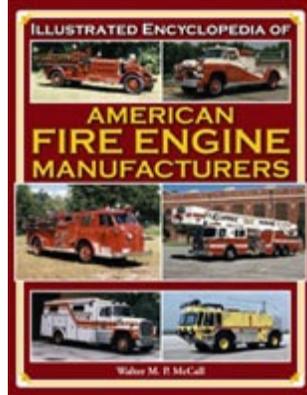
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Fire Engine Manufacturers

11/01/07 105 W, 1 I - + 13 - 16

The great Walt McCall has a notable new book, the [Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Fire Engine Manufacturers](#). It's big *and* pricey. Hardbound, 304 pages, 1270 photos, 100 smackers. Click above to read more, and/or order direct from publisher. [FSP Books](#) is also stocking same, as are likely other specialty retailers. Will it be released in less-expense softcover, some day/some year? Unknown, but this blogger would bet dollars to donuts on it. McCall is the author of [American Fire Engines Since 1900](#), the "bible of fire apparatus" published in 1976. That one built many a buff.



Looking at the cover, the 1958 GM/American caught my eye. Same paint scheme used on the Western Blvd/Fairgrounds 1957 Chev/American and the Six Forks Rd 1956 Ford/American.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/01/07 - 08:22

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'?

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

New Holly Springs Patch

11/01/07 36 W, 1 I - + 12 - 20

Holly Springs Public Safety Fire-Rescue, placed in service on April 1, 1995. Merged with Holly Springs Rural Fire Department in 1997. Patch be added to the [web site gallery](#).



Nice patch.

Snell - 11/01/07 - 18:07

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'?

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

Swift Water Rescue Truck

11/01/07 48 W, 1 I - + 13 - 17

The first of four swift water rescue trucks for North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 8 has been completed. USAR 801 was delivered to the Keeter Training Center this week. They will be equipped with boat trailers.



Where will this truck reside at when placed into service?

wondering - 11/01/07 - 23:21

TBD

Legeros - 11/02/07 - 07:32

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Mystery Truck

11/01/07 42 W, 1 I - + 11 - 15

Also appearing at the Keeter Training Center is this Raleigh Fire Department utility vehicle. Pop quiz, easy one. What's the make, model, and origin of this vehicle? It's designated Car 46 and assigned to Services.



lets see easy one 1991 chevy kodiak ex-R113 excellent use of resources I must say. As the fire department accumulates new equipment so does services and the shop.

Adam - 11/01/07 - 19:26

Could make a nice functional tow truck. Wonder if we are going to expand our lawn care responsibilities?

Guest - 11/02/07 - 00:21

Personally, I'd rather see a focus on enhancing our pre-plans, rather than expanding our lawn care responsibilities.

Silver - 11/02/07 - 10:08

Nice truck, and a great way to utilize something that is perfectly functional, rather than sending it to the auction block.

Silver - 11/02/07 - 10:09

Just looking around and I noticed that the fuel truck is also labeled 46? is there anymore into that why and how two trucks are the same number?

Adam - 11/02/07 - 21:24

Curious as to what is going to happen to the rescue body that was one it?

guest - 11/02/07 - 21:29

Quick Quiz: What saves more tax money? A) the efficient conversion of a used chassis into a practical utility vehicle or B) eliminating sending 2 engines to every sickcall in the City within 5 miles of a County station. The citizens of Wake could buy 2 tandem axle dumptrucks for the cost of fuel that is being used for redundant responses today. My \$0.02 (that will go up to \$2 next yr)

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/05/07 - 23:58

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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.

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.

Siler City Haz-Mat

11/02/07 51 W, 1 I - + 15 - 8

[WRAL has some details](#) on the hazardous materials incident on [Highway 64 in Siler City](#) that started yesterday afternoon, involving anhydrous ammonia leaking from a truck involved in a motor-vehicle accident. The Raleigh Fire Department also responded, with Regional Response Team #4. Saw Haz-Mat 22 headed that way about 5:15 p.m.



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'?

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

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.

2007 National Firefighter Life Safety Summit Report

11/04/07 379 W, 2 I - + 11 - 10

For your Sunday reading, here's a [40-page PDF report](#)  from the 2007 National Firefighter Life Safety Summit held in Novato, California in March. As summarized in this [Firehouse.com story](#), the report seeks a culture change. "The issue of safety culture, which sometimes supports undesirable and unsafe behaviors, is the dominant factor that must be addressed in order to accomplish the desired reduction in firefighter fatalities." The report recommends 16 life safety initiatives, listed below and explained in the above report. It is compelling reading, and a promotes a necessary goal. Help yourself help others.

- #1 - Define and advocate the need for a cultural change within the fire service relating to safety; incorporating leadership, management, supervision, accountability and personal responsibility.
- #2 - Enhance the personal and organizational accountability for health and safety throughout the fire service.
- #3 - Focus greater attention on the integration of risk management with incident management at all levels, including strategic, tactical, and planning responsibilities.
- #4 - All firefighters must be empowered to stop unsafe practices.
- #5 - Develop and implement national standards for training, qualifications, and certification (including regular recertification) that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform.
- #6 - Develop and implement national medical and physical fitness standards that are equally applicable to all firefighters, based on the duties they are expected to perform.
- #7 - Create a national research agenda and data collection system that relates to the initiatives.
- #8 - Utilize available technology wherever it can produce higher levels of health and safety.
- #9 - Thoroughly investigate all firefighter fatalities, injuries, and near misses.
- #10 - Grant programs should support the implementation of safe practices and/or mandate safe practices as an eligibility requirement.
- #11 - National standards for emergency response policies and procedures should be developed and championed.
- #12 - National protocols for response to violent incidents should be developed and championed.
- #13 - Firefighters and their families must have access to counseling and psychological support.
- #14 - Public education must receive more resources and be championed as a critical fire and life safety program.
- #15 - Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers.
- #16 - Safety must be a primary consideration in the design of apparatus and equipment.

[Read the 40-page PDF report](#) .

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'?

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

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.

This Weekend's National Disaster Medical System Drill

11/05/07 76 W, 2 I - + 10 - 15

On Saturday, Wake County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coordinated the work of more than 24 local agencies in a National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) drill at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) Cargo Operations Area. Fire departments included RDU, Raleigh, Cary, and Morrisville. EMS agencies included Wake County, Six Forks, Eastern Wake, Durham County, WakeMed, and Fort Bragg. [Read the advance press release](#). See photos by [Lee Wilson](#) and [Mike Legeros](#).



[Anonymous comments inquiring about the participating agencies removed. Sign your name, or identify yourself, and your comments are more likely to be left standing.]

Legeros - 11/05/07 - 20:54

[...identifying yourself means more than just your first name.]

Legeros - 11/05/07 - 21:05

mike, im a little confused about the above. what exactly are you looking for? thanks for the clarification.

confused - 11/05/07 - 21:50

What he means is, if you leave your full name, or a name by how a lot of people know you (like mine), then your comment will more than likely stay as you aren't "hiding" behind a name and maybe trying to stir the pot anonymously...

Silver - 11/05/07 - 21:59

Why didn't Dhfd, Bethesda, or Parkwood get asked to take part in the drill seeing how they would be going to the call?

Mike Dunbar - 11/05/07 - 22:33

Actually, they would NOT be part of an NDMS receiving point event, except perhaps to provide a mutual aid ambulance. This drill was not a test of our ability to round up lots of ambulances—it was about ground operations, patient tracking, command and control.

Hope that answers your question>

Skip

EMS100 ([Email](#)) - 11/06/07 - 08:40

We could possibly start a new thread in the watch desk for ones that would like to remain anonymous

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/06/07 - 10:31

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.

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.

Blast From Past

11/05/07 35 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

From the archives of FireNews editor Jeff Harkey, this is Johnston County's prior foam unit, circa early 1990s. Two monitors, and what looks like a pump in the rear. Click to enlarge:



Pump in the rear. I think it was 500 -750 gpm. Call sign was "Selma 6". It was donated by the companies at the oil terminal. They also used it as a tanker occasionally.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/05/07 - 22:47

should have read "oil terminal"

DJ - 11/08/07 - 12:08

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Strangers in Strange Lands

11/06/07 102 W - + 16 - 4

YouTube videos from the Far East. [Smaller pumpers parading in circles](#). Annotated footage of a [structure fire](#). Ambulance [leaving the fire station](#). Following an engine [leaving the fire station](#). Walking in [front of a fire station](#). Curious chains in front of the bays. [Tokyo firefighters tackling a trash fire](#). Check out the hydrant location. [Robot fire engine](#). TFD engines [responding at night](#). Are those spoken instructions also playing, along with the siren? [Extended footage of person on bicycle](#) responding to a high-rise fire alarm (?), then filming on foot. Tight turn for that ladder truck. [Engine speeding past](#). Hai!

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'?

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

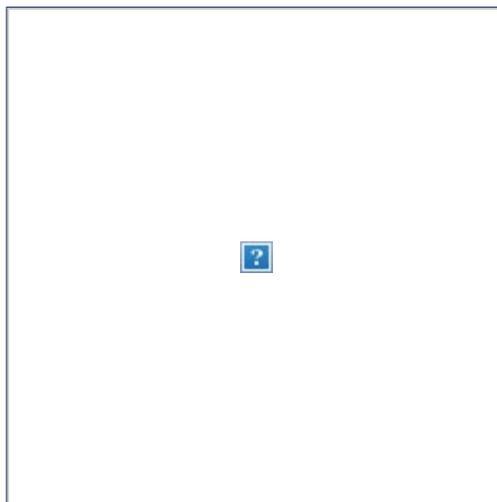
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Last Night in Asheville

11/06/07 44 W, 1 I - + 11 - 15

Big fire in Buncombe last night. Ashley Furniture HomeStore on [Patton Avenue in Asheville](#). All but one of the city's apparatus were on scene, [reports the Citizen-Times](#). Bill Sanders shot the below picture. Units listed on the [FireNews incident log](#).



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'?

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

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.

New Stony Hill Patch

11/06/07 64 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

Stony Hill has a new patch. Their prior, original patch was adopted in 1992. Based on Burlington's emblem, it was identical to Raleigh's, which was also based on BFD. Raleigh adopted the patch in the 1980s. The oops was not discovered until after Stony Hill had placed their first order, and so it was adopted.



congrats to Stony Hill on the impressive new patch.

Snell - 11/06/07 - 13:40

Nice looking patch.

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/06/07 - 14:05

that's nice looking, something a little different, but still classy

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/06/07 - 18:10

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

South of the Border

11/06/07 125 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Reporting from the road. Here's part of "Pedro's Fire Department" at South of the Border. Two single-bay building sections on opposite sides of a back street. One truck in each building, a dusty red Ford/Howe of 1960s vintage, and a cleaner orange FMC of 1980s vintage. The red truck is unlettered, the orange truck says "South of the Border Fire Department." Signs in front of each building say "this fire truck to be used only on South of the Border property" and "stay out of drivers seat unless fully approved by the Fire Chief." There is a siren atop a nearby building that summons the presumably volunteer fire brigade. You never sausage a place.



Say it aint so.....

There's 3 essential things needed here...

- 1)Make sure the lights are installed under the chassis
- 2)Turn down the Q and turn up the accordion driven music
- 3)Don't forget your sombrero

jetexas ([Email](#)) - 11/06/07 - 18:59

If memory serves, there are some pictures of private theme park apparatus in Leo Duliba's excellent book "Industrial & Private Fire Apparatus: 1925-2001 Photo Archive," <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/1...> Around the Triangle, IBM had a Ford cab-over pumper protecting their RTP plant in the early 1990s. CP&L's Harris Plant also had a pumper. A century earlier, there was private fire equipment— most likely hose reels— at State College, Saint Augustine College, and Dorothea Dix State Hospital.

Legeros - 11/06/07 - 21:28

I am confused, is it a functional fire "department"

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/07/07 - 00:31

Years and years ago, I stopped at SOTB and asked about the fire station. I never saw the truck. I was told they started that because at the time there was not a 'reliable' fire department that would respond there, given the number of people there at any given time. Of course, that was back in the 70s.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/07/07 - 13:22

Oakland Volunteer Fire Dept in located Hamer SC would be who covers that area. (approx 6 miles away) along with Rowland Rural FD in Rowland NC (about 3.5 miles away)

Concerned Taxpayer, it's just for fun, it is NOT a functional dept.

That would be the day that the fireworks place goes up!!!!

Beach - 11/07/07 - 17:23

Based on these pictures, it appears that the S.O.B. infrastructure is providing at least a minimal degree of fire protection, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 11/07/07 - 18:12

The siren atop the building looks like swift creeks.

4447 - 11/07/07 - 21:43

Same model. It was a Federal that was sold by Darley with a rounded dome rather than the sharper one. Swift Creek, Apex, and New Hope had these in Wake County. Elevation, Bethany, and Micro had them in Johnston County.

DJ (Email) - 11/07/07 - 23:03

I used to work there as a security guard a couple of years ago. The security officers and a few workers from the shops were assigned to the fire dept. Dillion County Fire Dept. and Rowland Rural Fire responded to any reported fire on the S.O.B. property. At the time myself and one other guard were the only two that really new anything about fire fighting. When we started there the red truck wouldn't even run, before I left there we had it running and pumping. I was told the fire trucks were bought to lower their insurance premiums. As far as the firefighting abilities: anything except a grass or brush fire had to be handled by DCFD or RRFD. Thats the way it was then, I understand management has changed.

[jeremy meares] (Email) (Web Site) - 11/09/07 - 15:24

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'?

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

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.

Intentionally Blurred for Reader Safety

11/07/07 25 W - + 14 - 13

[FireNews](#) was updated [yesterday](#), and includes a bit of graphic humor about midway through the page. Commence quoting Groundskeeper Willie.

For those wanting to see the unedited version, check out <http://www.flickr.com/photos/chadsimon/s..>

CFP-7444 - 11/07/07 - 11:54

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'?

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

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.

Micro Firemen Dedicate New Fire Station

11/07/07 52 W - + 7 - 14

The Micro Fire Department in Johnston County has dedicated their new station, [Kenly News.com reports](#). They've been using the building, located at [321 Highway 301 South](#), for several months now. Wonder if the old station was left standing, and its disposition? [MFD is five decades old](#), incidentally.

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'?

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

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.

Vintage Raleigh Hat Badge on eBay

11/07/07 36 W, 1 I - + 15 - 7

...except the [seller is located in England](#). Guess badge trading crosses oceans. The person who wore #43 is not known. Still looking for a list of helmet numbers from way back.



Wouldn't that be the year the person started?

Henry P. - 11/07/07 - 20:04

Negative, these were unique numbers assigned to each member. The number was shown on both helmet and badge. I have also heard, but not confirmed, that numbers were at times reassigned after a member retired or left the department.

Legeros - 11/07/07 - 21:01

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Lightner Public Safety Center Update

11/07/07 38 W - + 12 - 13

The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously today to award a \$954,300 contract for design work and other professional services for construction of the Clarence E. Lightner Public Safety Center. [Read the entire news release.](#)

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'?

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

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.

Charleston Crab House

11/08/07 126 W - + 15 - 12

Strolling South Market Street this morning when a pair of Federal Qs catch the ear. Closer, closer. Then Charleston Engine 3 and Engine 2 turn into Market from Meeting Street. Spectators gather as the rigs roll to a stop at a bar and grill at the corner of Meeting and Church streets. One and two-story brick structure, maybe 70 by 100 feet. Smoke in the building, it seems. Nothing showing, however. Engine 6 soon appears, then Truck 4, then a Bat and Asst Chief. Light smoke inside, but ultimately everything okay. Some are unfazed. As firefighters go in and out of the building, an elderly couple discusses the menu on the outside wall. Inside, there's a guy still sitting at the bar. The smoke must have been very light.

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](#))

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.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *WCFA Meeting on*« [Charleston Crab House...](#) » [Deputy Sheriff Grabs ...](#)
Tuesday / Guest Speaker Legeros

WCFA Meeting on Tuesday / Guest Speaker Legeros

11/08/07 36 W - + 16 - 11

The [Wake County Firefighter's Association](#) meets on Tuesday, November 13, at 6:30 p.m., at Fairview Station 1. The guest speaker is Mike Legeros, who will present a presentation on incident photography.

Thanks for coming out tonight Mike ... very informative presentation.

For those of you who missed the meeting, the association would like to begin work on creating a Wake County Firefighter's Day. This would be a time for fellowship and brotherhood with fellow firefighters and families at a central location in the county.

Anyone interested in helping plan this event, please contact me at my e-mail address.

Leslie Brinson ([Email](#)) - 11/13/07 - 22:44

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

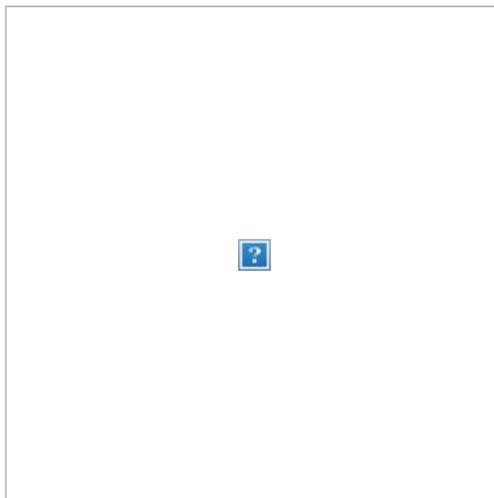
Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Deputy Sheriff « WCFA Meeting on Tuesd... » Johnston County Schoo... Grabs Hose, FireNews.net Gets Heat

Deputy Sheriff Grabs Hose, FireNews.net Gets Heat

11/08/07 71 W, 1 I - + 18 - 8

That's [Dave Statter's great headline](#), reporting on the FireNews forum responses to a thread on safety issues related to the picture below, and the Sylva firefighter who was on scene and believes the entire story was not reported. The forum requires (free) registration to [read \(or participate\) in the discussion](#). Post comments over there. Click to see larger version as posted on FireNews:



FireNews has posted a "part two" to this safety alert, with additional photos from the incident, <http://www.firenews.net/contents/news/11..>

Legeros - 11/15/07 - 07:58

Johnston County School Bus Accident

11/08/07 33 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

[WRAL's coverage of yesterday's school bus accident](#) included this aerial shot of several ambulances on scene. Ten ambulances transported 27 patients to two hospitals, they reported. 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.

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.

Pulled By Hand

11/09/07 162 W - + 14 - 13

The classic image of the steam fire engine always includes horses. Two or four ahead of the engine, galloping on cobblestone as a boiler belches smoke. Yet steamers were also hand-pulled in their day, a fact quite curious to this researcher. Were the circumstances of Raleigh's Rescue Company steamer-- primarily hand-pulled for several years starting in 1870-- an anomaly? No, as he's learned over years of subsequent research. Hand-pulled steamers were present in Charleston, for example. On January 1, 1882, a paid city fire department was placed in service with eight steamers (two as reserve), eight or more hose carriages and reels, two ladder trucks, 29 horses, and 101 men. All apparatus was horse-drawn. The year before, the volunteer force was largely "man powered." The 1881 city directory lists 14 steamer companies, only three of which had horses. The three hook and ladder companies were also hand-drawn. The personnel required for these feats totaled 1,094, a number reduced by 90 percent when converted to paid and horse-pulled.

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](#))

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.

Last Night's Fire

11/10/07 82 W, 1 I - + 10 - 15

From media reports. Two alarms at [1423 South Blount Street](#) beside the Cargill plant. Call received 7:04 p.m. Two mobile homes and a car found on fire at a vehicle storage center. Aerial stream utilized. Extinguished in 75 minutes. Blount Street closed during call. Air monitoring performed, checking for hazardous materials. Animal Control also on scene, for watchdogs reported on site. Click above link to view aerial photograph. [WRAL story here](#), and [News & Observer story here](#). Later-added photo by Lee below.



You should be able to listen to the audio of the fire at <http://www.scannorthcarolina.com>. Click "Feed Archive"

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/10/07 - 16:04

Additional details and photos posted by Lee, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/a..>

Legeros - 11/11/07 - 07:58

Listening to the audio of the feed. VERY easy to navigate the archives. Organized by day, then by 15 minute segments. Will blog about their coolness separately. For the fire, you can listen to Engine 2's arrival and size-up, for starters. Very cool.

Legeros - 11/11/07 - 08:06

This audio feed is great. Ref the fire, I missed the dispatch and arrival, but heard the W/F and 2nd Alarm dispatch. But from then on, I was busy getting ready and driving and then on scene and busy taking pic's and trying to get around and involved w/ all that, and its hard to pay attention to the radio traffic. So having this feature, I can now go back and listen to it again and hear what I missed and re-live it all. Thanks Jeff!! Good job.

lee - 11/11/07 - 13:38

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

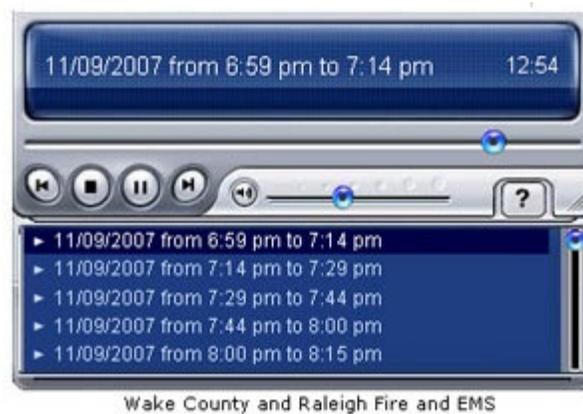
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Scanner Archives Online

11/11/07 80 W, 1 I - + 14 - 16

The web site <http://www.scannorthcarolina.com/> features a half-dozen fire and EMS feeds from around the state, including Davidson County, Guilford County and Greensboro, Mecklenburg County and Charlotte Fire, Onslow, and Wake County and Raleigh Fire and EMS. The feeds also feature over a month's worth of archive. Each day's archives are easy to navigate, divided into 15 minute segments. Very, very cool. The feeds are sponsored by [Carolinas Fire Page](#).



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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Camera + Concrete = Crack!

11/11/07 73 W - + 10 - 14

Canon Digital Rebel XT with 18-55mm kit lens, plus soft foam lens cover, plus gravity, plus concrete, plus approximately five feet of falling from inside a car to outside onto a parking deck. The result? Broken glass, but only the filter. Bought the [UV filter](#) the day the camera arrived. It paid for itself last night. Couldn't take a picture of what happened, alas. Only one camera with us.

been there done that... thank god for the filters

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/11/07 - 11:25

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'?

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

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.

RAPS Race, January 24, 2008

11/11/07 33 W, 1 I - + 18 - 17

The next Raleigh Area Public Safety (RAPS) endurance kart race is scheduled for January 24, 2008. The location is again RushHour Karting in Garner. See the [RAPS web site for more information](#).



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](#))

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.

Charleston

11/11/07 205 W - + 15 - 14

Returning to Raleigh after a week in the Low Country. Recreational visit, with a couple day devoted to exploring and researching [former and historic Charleston fire stations](#). Notable stops included the main branch of the Charleston County Public Library and the archives of the South Carolina Historical Society. Notable resources included city directories (1860s forward), city yearbooks (1880s forward), Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, and a stack of vertical files at the library. The results are being compiled at the above web site, though that may take weeks or longer. Some interesting tidbits about CFD, between 1900 and 1950: They had a marine division for many years. Firefighters utilized one or more tug boats. They used motorcycles for a while to answer still alarms. That is, alarms reported at the fire station. There was a drill tower behind Central Station, built by firefighters. They were partially integrated from the get-go, with black firefighters operating the truck companies. They still had horses in reserve service as late as the 1930s. They kept a "reserve fire station" until the mid 1930s, Old Station 2 on Queen Street. They placed a service truck in service in 1940. They placed a "crash truck" in service in 1944. They had an airport fire station by 1948.

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

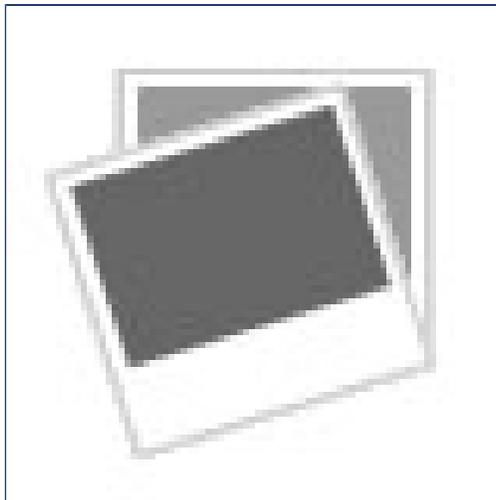
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Squad 51 Replica on eBay

11/11/07 23 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

For the firefighter or paramedic who has everything, a [replica of Emergency's Squad 51 for sale on eBay](#). Location Arizona.



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](#))

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.

Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, Thursday, 11/15

11/12/07 46 W - + 10 - 14

The next Wake County Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, November 15, at 7:00 PM, at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building on Cary Drive near I-440 and Poole Road.

Will you be publishing the minutes and agenda?

fcmt - 11/12/07 - 12:00

I will post the agenda, if it is made available ahead of the meeting. I do not record minutes, but occasionally post personal observations. Official minutes are posted on the County site: <http://www.wakegov.com/emergency/fire/co...>

Legeros - 11/12/07 - 20:42

I was looking at the fire commison website and the minutes have not been published on there for sometime, are they required to publish the minutes somewhere or how does that work?

online - 11/13/07 - 11:00

Those meetings were kept secret

not online - 11/13/07 - 11:13

not suprised...

online - 11/13/07 - 15:40

I'll miss your rendition of the proceedings. Maybe I will venture over there myself. Never know what old friends I may run into. How welcome are non-affiliated folks in these meetings? Is there a sign-up sheet or anything?

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/13/07 - 18:54

WCFC meetings are typically attended by a dozen or two chief officers and personnel, plus WC Fire-Rescue staff. The WC PS director usually attends. Citizens, such as myself, attend in smaller numbers. Just a handful if that. They are certainly welcome. There is a sign-up sheet passed around, as well.

Legeros - 11/13/07 - 19:29

The agenda:

1. Call meeting to order

Invocation

Roll of members present

Approval of Agenda

2. Minutes

Adoption of Minutes for September 20, 2007, Regular Meeting

3. Introduction of New Budget and Management Analyst Assigned to Fire Tax District

4. Regular Agenda

County Interest in New or Substantially-Renovated Fire Stations

Staffing Committee Recommendation

Staffing Improvement Plan

Facility Committee

a. Dormitory Study

b. Long Range Facility Plan

CAD/800 MHZ Committee Recommendation – Standardized Radio Identification System

Cary Fire Department Contract for Cary Suburban Fire District

5. Information Agenda

Chair Report

Fire/Rescue Services Director Report

6. Other Business

7. Public Comments

30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person

8. Adjournment

Legeros - 11/14/07 - 19:30

Fire Commission Meeting minutes on the County's website have been updated, to include the last meeting. We finally worked out some site issues and, hopefully, we'll be able to keep the minutes posted in a timely manner. It's a work in progress, possibly to include audio in the future.

Chris ([Email](#)) - 11/15/07 - 16:39

Some select summations from the meeting, as recorded both by myself and from the notes of others:

The commission approved a plan from the Staffing Committee that will staff four full-time FFs per fire department for the first year of the program, and will expand to four full-time FFs for all stations in the third year of the program.

The 800 mhz/Numbering Committee reported that they met and recognized the following issues with regard to fire apparatus numbering:

- o Present system is inconsistent
- o Duplication of some unit numbers exists
- o Confusion results among other agencies (law enforcement, for example)
- o Current system lacks expandability, especially for departments with multiple stations.

The committee recognized that number is a complicated issue with strong emotions. They will have to have total buy-in from all users. They proposed to continue working on this issue.

The Facility Committee reported that Eastern Wake Station 2 has been added to the list for evaluation of station closure.

The Facility Committee also reported that no life safety issues are present at Bay Leaf Station 1.

Public comment at the close of the meeting resulted in a lively discussion of fire unit numbering and the newly announced EMS unit numbering. In particular, it was pointed out, the new Rolesville EMS unit numbers will duplicate Rolesville Fire Department unit numbers. It was also observed that the new Six Forks EMS unit numbers will duplicate Bay Leaf Fire Department unit numbers.

It was also observed that there is a need for greater collaboration between fire and EMS agencies with regard issues that impact both sides.

Regarding fire unit numbering, the the Public Safety Director stated he would bring a recommendation regarding this issue to the Fire Commission in January.

The authority of the Fire Commission was also stated in a nice summary fashion at the end of the meeting. The County Commissioners, it was noted, have indicated repeatedly that they look to the Fire Commission as the authoritative body regarding fire service issues in Wake County.

Legeros - 11/16/07 - 18:21

Mike when does the staffing program start?

4447 - 11/16/07 - 18:25

I believe the program starts FY2009.

Legeros - 11/16/07 - 18:30

Wow, 4 full timers per station huh... that'll be great. I wonder if, at that time, there will be any kind of formal career ladder program, if they will be county employees with all benefits, or if it will remain to be a "we'll just give the money to the department" kind of thing. I would think it would be cheaper in the long run to group all of the benefits and the such into a group plan such as the County's. I would also wonder about things like 401K, if they would be in the state retirement system, etc.

Could be very interesting to see who would take these full time gigs at departments if they can carry their time in the state system with them.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/16/07 - 19:11

If the program starts in FY2009 that means that there wouldn't be 4 FF's at every station until FY2012. That sucks. On top of that only 4 FF's per station sucks. We need more people now.

Mike - 11/17/07 - 16:19

So will this include city departments that cover county areas? Some that comes to mind: Apex, Holly Springs, Fuquay-Varina, Morrisville, Wake Forest, & Zebulon to name a few. Or will this only help the contract departments covering the county? I would like to think that my county tax dollars are going to help the city department that covers my county house as well and not just the county departments.

I would like to see the employees of these county departments be county employees. It would cost less and benefit the employees with some consistency and benefits. For that matter, when a station is relocated or closed (I like relocated) the employees can be moved from 1 county station to another county station. Just some thoughts....

Donaldson - 11/17/07 - 20:02

Based on documents regarding this plan that were provided at the meeting, the included departments appear to be:

Apex
Bay Leaf
Durham Highway
Eastern Wake
Fairview
Falls
Fuquay-Varina
Garner
Holly Springs
Hopkins
Morrisville
Rolesville
Stony Hill
Swfit Creek
Wake Forest
Wake New Hope
Wendell
Western Wake
Zebulon

Legeros - 11/17/07 - 22:36

If the County taxpayer is going to fork over millions for these new personnel, I certainly hope these will be career County employees and not just more dollars funded to the FDs. Hopefullt they'll get around to closing some of the stations on the list before they hire folks for them

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/18/07 - 00:04

Closing stations is the wrong answer. Relocate resources and personnel if needed. The population density and call volume has already exceeded our capabilities and closing stations will only make it worse. How long to you want to wait for your 2nd due unit? It's a life safety issue.

and Taxpayer...a career staff through WC was attempted [with one of the departments], and it failed miserably. Stick with the employment plan that was put out in 2005 and ENFORCE the requirements and pay scale. Don't tell the men/women answering all those calls for service that we should take away their already limited resources by closing a station.

WCFF - 11/18/07 - 08:38

My comments were more towards the fateful outcome of hiring a FF into a career position only to dissolve the entity for which he/she is employed within a year or two.

I would be interested to the causation of why previous attempts "failed miserably". One would think the appeal of government retirement and related benefits would bring forward more career-minded individuals to the community fire service, rather than someone just looking for a job. Not to impune those currently working for FDs in the County, but to devote many years with no transferable service time seems like something that needs to be resolved – for those currently on the job and before any major countywide hiring binge.

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/18/07 - 14:26

I, too, would be kind of curious to know as to why the county-employed firefighters "failed miserably". I can think of several things that could have contributed, but since I was not here when they did that, I will let someone else offer the reasons.

I do know, however, the reasons why something similar did not happen in a near-by county, although that involved EMS and not fire. There was a proposal to place county employed paramedics in the independent rescue squads that were not providing paramedic service. The main objective raised by the squads was that they would not have "control" over the county employees, i.e. the power to hire and fire. From what I have seen in some volunteer organizations that employ paid staff is a belief that the paid staff is merely the "hired help". It is not that way in all places, but certainly is in some.

It's a delicate balance. Then you have career ladder issues. And at some point the paid staff resents answering to a volunteer officer (especially when we start counting certifications), then the volunteers resent not being allowed to hold or being shut out of officer positions, and so on and so on...

While I personally would think that the county-employee route is the way to go, from a benefits and salary standpoint, there are some that will not want the "central authority" that goes with being a county employee. That is one of the reasons why you have many EMS personnel here in the county that do not want to work for the county.

At any rate, I keep espousing the wonders of Anne Arundel County, MD. It is a large combination paid/volunteer organization. They are not problem free- just go to The Watch Desk and look them up. But it is a workable system to build on. Could it work here? Certainly. Would it be ALLOWED to work here? Now THAT would be a good question.

DJ - 11/18/07 - 15:41

I hear acceptance into the State Retirement System isn't far off....(fingers crossed) That would really be great for our guys and gals.

AB - 11/18/07 - 17:14

AB I like your optimism. A quick search of the bills introduced last session in the General Assembly showed nothing of it's kind. Let's hope the next session garners enough interest in the legislature to make this happen.

DJ – did EMS in Wake not at one point have County medics working in the rescue squads?

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/18/07 - 18:23

As to including non-government firefighters and EMS in the retirement program, it has been tried and killed a couple of times, at least, in the legislature. It rates right up there with 25 year retirements for EMS and fire. Until the career firefighters and EMS personnel in this state learn to work together and get involved in the political process, it ain't never gonna happen. Don't count on the good will of many of the folks on Jones Street. If you want to become part of the retirement system, you have two options, go to work for a government agency or get involved in the process of change.

And yes, WCEMS used to provide paramedics to Apex, Wendell, and Knightdale EMS that I know of, maybe Zebulon. Wake Forest/ Northern Wake and Fuquay-Varina decided to go the non-paramedic route, and well, we see how that worked out. Right now WCEMS provides a paramedic to HSF, and they provide the EMT and the ambulance.

DJ (Email) - 11/18/07 - 18:49

Personal opinion (and those of you that know me....), EVERYONE who is employed to provide a public service here in Wake County, and NC; should receive State retirement benefits. Obviously the employees of municipalities do, but let's not forget our brothers and sisters who do the same job at "private-non-profit" organizations. The organization receives taxpayer monies to provide a public service, the same service that the neighboring city or town provides. Regardless of "testing" procedures, and "we're better because it's harder to get a job here", all B.S. aside- we do the same job. Give those Combo-department FF's Benefits! (for those of you who don't know me, I'm a Municipal Employee.)

FTM-PTB!

JBoggs - 11/19/07 - 23:33

It's not up to anyone here. It is totally in the hands of the legislature. Laws and such would have to be changed.

Get involved. Make phone calls. Call your legislators. Send them letters.

That is the ONLY way it is going to happen...

DJ (Email) - 11/20/07 - 01:11

Excellent points JBoggs. Sounds like this should become the champion issue for both the Fire Commission and the Wake Co Firefighters Association. And as DJ pointed out, this is not a local decision and can only be changed by act of the General Assembly.

For those interested, here is a link to who represents you in the GA [http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/counties/..](http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/counties/)

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/20/07 - 12:48

Contact NCSFA to support their efforts.

AB - 11/21/07 - 19:41

With the new tax evaluations, Wake County should be able to staff ALL fire trucks in ALL fire stations.... ;-) I don't know about everyone else's property, but mine has more than doubled in just three years. I am OK with paying if it means all stations get fully staffed, every rescue squad and EMS double their fleet and on street personnel, and the Sheriff's Office get more cars and personnel on the street. If Wake County is going to double my taxes; then how about doubling my services. OK I'm off my soap box.

Donaldson - 11/22/07 - 22:10

Yeah...and for everyone that you find that says they don't mind paying higher taxes for more deputies, police, fire, and EMS, I'll show you two or three that will say no. And then there are those that say we should all pay higher taxes "for the children", meaning hand over more to the schools. Then there are those that say we need the convention center, a light rail system, greenspace, more help for the 'disadvantaged', and more.

I work in this field, and I'll offer this- until we stop spending money on new fire trucks that we do not have the staff for, then I can't see handing more money over. If you cannot get it out, guaranteed, on the first alarm with a guaranteed crew, then you do not need it. Period.

I don't want to 'double' the EMS fleet. It's hard enough to get new paramedics as it is. Let's work on keeping the experienced ones we have BEFORE we think about adding more. If I am having an MI, or worse, I want at least one experienced, seasoned, calm, cool, and collected paramedic there.

OK...it's getting a little off topic, but, hey, it's the holidays, I'm bored right now, and they just re-evaluated everything and I got my revaluation notice. I don't want to pay anymore higher taxes for anything, until I am assured that all the money now is being spent wisely, efficiently, and properly.

And that ain't happening right now.

DJ (Email) - 11/23/07 - 12:42

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh Fire Department Apparatus Register Updated

11/12/07 44 W - + 16 - 12

Numerous updates have been made to Mike's [Raleigh Fire Department apparatus register](#). Added the new Pierces. Updated some reserve unit statuses. Added some new older photos. Questions, comments, and fact-checking welcome. There are always holes to be filled.

Is there anything significant about Ladder 16 not being numbered (decaled) yet, Mini 9 actually being at Station 4, and the spare Battalion Chief's SUV being parked in front of Car 198 at Station 9 ?

Jon C - 11/13/07 - 22:42

Mini 9 was placed in service as Mini 4 on August 17, if memory serves. It was moved to make room for a second investigators vehicle. The 2004 Ford Excursion is presently serving as Car 198, and is used by the full-time investigator at Station 9. The full-time investigators were placed in service on August 18.

Legeros - 11/13/07 - 23:09

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

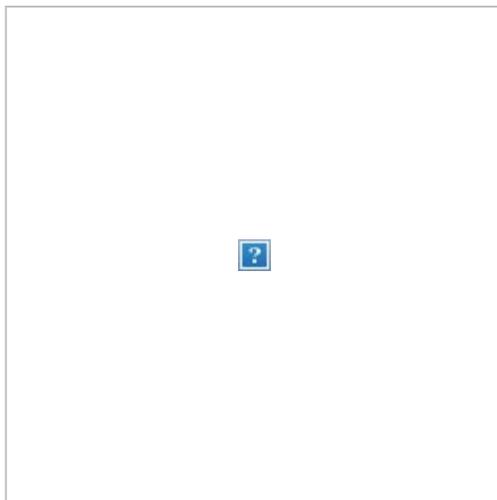
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Cranes and Rescues

11/15/07 40 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

Today's *News & Observer* reports on both a [small crane \(and trench\) rescue by the Chapel Hill Fire Department](#) and a [big crane rescue exercise with the Raleigh Fire Department](#). Takaaki Iwabu took the picture below in Raleigh:



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'?

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

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

Wake County EMS Announces New Numbering Scheme

11/15/07 115 W - + 49 - 43

[FireNews](#) reports that a new numbering scheme has been announced for the Wake County Emergency Medical System. It's expected to be operational on November 28, and will be utilized by all EMS agencies in the county. The changes:

Wake EMS will utilize EMS 1 through EMS 39.
Holly Springs 1471 will be renumbered EMS 6.
Apex 471 to 473 will change to EMS 41 to 43.
Cary 571 to 574 will become EMS 51 to 54
Eastern Wake will utilize EMS 61 through EMS 69.
Garner 871 to 875 will be renumbered EMS 81 to 85.
Six Forks units will be EMS 121 through EMS 125.
Rolesville units will be EMS 151 and 152.

Wake EMS 203, 204, 205 will change to Districts 1, 2, 3, respectively.
Cary 580 will be renumbered District 5.
Eastern Wake 602 will become District 6.

For those in the know, will Garner's rescue units (881, 882, etc.), be renumbered? Are there any other EMS-based "special units" affected? Presumably Wake EMS Truck 1 will remain same. Perhaps Garner EMS 881 will be Truck 2?

Legeros - 11/15/07 - 08:28

What about Apex EMS?

Gooch - 11/15/07 - 11:46

if I had to guess... EMS 41-4?

CFP 7021 - 11/15/07 - 11:48

Glad to see someone take the lead on this in Wake County. Has the fire service, other than Wake Forest, taken any initiative as of yet? I know this was a thread sometime in the last year or so here.

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/15/07 - 13:00

It looks like, because of AVL, and because rescue is dispatched from the fire side, the Garner EMS rescue trucks will be moved from the "EMS side" of the CAD to the "fire side." So far, they are slated to be called Rescue 881 and 882, but that could change.

Skip

EMS100 ([Email](#)) - 11/15/07 - 15:34

Is there any provision to make sure that the radio call sign number is the one that is on the truck? That would REALLY help out in ICS situations. It gets kind of confusing to see, say "*76" on a truck that is going to be called "*2".

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/15/07 - 15:45

There is an item on tonight's Fire Commission Agenda "CAD/800 MHZ Committee Recommendation – Standardized Radio Identification System" that should give a report on the fire side of the unit numbering issue. I am not sure what the details of the report are.

If you have an idea, talk to you Chief and have your Chief forward/present the idea to the CAD/800 Committee. I know some (if not all) Chiefs have been asked for some input on the numbering issue. I have said it before, start at your fire department and get your department on board with the idea and then go to the next level. Blogging here is good, but the wheels of change do not necessarily start to turn here. If you are really interested, come out to the Fire Commission meeting tonight. It is easy to say what "should be done" but more difficult to examine and

participate in working on a solution.

I think there is a better system out there; I am just not sure what it is.

Griggs - 11/15/07 - 16:24

i wonder how the numbers will work, since Rolesville EMS will be using 151 and 152, and Rolesville Fire also has a 151 and 152....I can see some interesting radio traffic....151 to 151, advise 152 that 152 will be responding.Just a thought.

kprice104 - 11/16/07 - 00:29

If the units use the appropriate designated typing prefix, in this example "EMS 151 to Engine 151", it should not be a problem. EMS 1 and Engine 1, as well as EMS 13 and Engine 13, have been answering calls together for years and I can't remember a time of confusion – even after the advent of Tac channels. And I hear "Fire Dept A" 101 call "Fire Dept B" 101 daily on fire calls.

Time will tell

Olson - 11/16/07 - 00:46

Six Forks EMS 121 to Bay Leaf Pumper 121. Running out of the same station.

lee - 11/16/07 - 00:48

And RFD ENGINE 1 and RFD LADDER 1 also run out of the same station. And they answer calls with EMS 1. It only gets confusing when you have multiple ENGINE 1's, multiple LADDER 1's, multiple MEDIC 1's, etc. Then yo ahve to tack on the "(insert department/agency name here)" onto the front of all the engines, ladders, etc.

In the grand scheme of things, I really don't care what you call it. I just want the number on the unit to match what we are calling it..

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/16/07 - 11:08

Someone started a new thread on this topic on the watchdesk. It's going to be an interesting ride now folks. My hats off to Skip and the boys for at least getting one service up to date on things. For those that want to start crying about the fire side and I want to have my own E-1, L-1, and etc. GET OVER IT!!! Like Olsen said if you say Engine XXX and EMS XXX, it won't matter much. No different than saying Engine 1 or Ladder 1. Just my two cents worth.

Wayne - 11/16/07 - 14:03

and we know how much you love to throw your pennies around! see ya tonight

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/16/07 - 14:49

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'?

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

Safety Signs

11/15/07 179 W - + 17 - 14

Saw an interesting sign at a construction site in Charleston. Six-foot thing. Color printing. Glossy. Facing Meeting Street. Listed the top ten safety practices of the construction company. Is such messaging used in the fire service? Should it be used? Everyone's seen those signs at industrial sites. Number of days without an accident. Safety first. Etcetera. Heck, they even appeared on railroad cars at one time, if memory serves. (And, locally, at least on one piece of fire apparatus. You can't quite [see it in this picture](#), but an early engine of the Apex Rural Fire Department bore the reminder "THINK" across the top of the cab.) Imagine, say, a sign inside the doors of apparatus bays. "Remember to buckle up!" Would such communication be effective? Will it become necessary, as the dream beats harder for the profession to embrace a "safety culture?" Or such. Wonder what the customers (the public) would think? Perhaps there'd be a negative effect. Here comes someone to keep you safe, but they themselves have to be reminded to stay safe. Hmmmmm.

Hmmm. We can generate all sorts of comments about numbering schemes, \$80k brush trucks, old fire trucks for sale, and WakeMed's shiny new helicopter, but nothing about safety?

I'll bite. I have seen several pictures of the old Apex pumper with 'THINK' emblazoned on the roof. It reminds me of the old "WATCH THAT CHILD" bumper stickers that used to appear on school buses and police cars every new school year.

So could you put 'THINK' on an emergency vehicle nowadays? How much easier would our professional lives be if people just took the time to THINK? After all, I cannot remember too many calls that I responded to because someone did something smart. Things like driving while lost in cell phone conversation, smoking, just not taking care of ourselves in general, and some of the other stupid sh** we as people do (and yes, in my 49 years I, too, have done some pretty stupid sh**) but we ought to know better. But then, would be be offending the public by pointing out something they should already know? Could we really get away with putting THINK on a fire truck or ambulance these days?

I don't know, how about putting THINK on the dashboard of your fire truck or ambulance? Maybe that would stir up those brain cells from time to time. Do you THINK you really need to be driving that fire truck or ambulance down Millbrook Road at 65 mph? And don't look at me like that because I have seen it done. Do you THINK you maybe ought not to be standing up in the back of a moving ambulance? Do you THINK that maybe you really don't need to go into that building because it really is untenable? I could go on, but it is early.

And what message could we be sending to the public with THINK? Maybe THINK before leaving your house with something left on the stove. Or THINK about changing the batteries in the smoke detector. Or THINK about actually putting down that cell phone for just a few minutes (you are NOT that important). Or THINK about putting your kids in a car seat.

What a concept.

And if we did THINK, what other messages could you put out there that somebody needs to read? How about "RESPONSIBILITY"? Like the RESPONSIBILITY we have to each other to stay safe and to make sure that our co-workers are doing safe, and having the RESPONSIBILITY to call them on it when they are not.

OK, enough rational thought for now. Ebay is waiting. Ya'll go on with it.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/16/07 - 11:35

Harry Carter rails against ignorance in his latest commentary, which includes comments about some unsafe live-burn training in NC. His label of "dumb-a@@ early warning system" in context of himself is classic. <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article..>

Legeros - 11/18/07 - 10:11

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'?

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

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 Engine 5

11/15/07 46 W, 1 I - + 18 - 10

Here's another treat from the Harkey archives, old Engine 5 prior to its accident. The 1986 Pemfab/EEI pumper, one of two bought by the city, overturned on South Wilmington street on February 25, 1990. The \$139,000 apparatus was rebuilt by Pierce and resumed service as Engine 15 on December 14, 1990.



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](#))

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.

Raleigh Fire Department Yearbook

11/16/07 188 W, 2 I - + 21 - 14

Production has started on a new Raleigh Fire Department yearbook. To be published in the spring of 2008, the hardbound volume will measure 9 by 12 inches and feature all color pages. The cost is \$50.00 and the publisher is [M.T. Publishing](#). For information on ordering and more details about the book, view [this PDF-format flyer](#).

Please note that active personnel should NOT place mail or phone orders at this time. Specific instructions on ordering have been distributed to all department members. The deadline for all orders is January 15. The book can be ordered by anyone with an interest in the Raleigh Fire Department.

Photos are also wanted, notably unique, interesting, odd, or funny images to supplement selections from the extensive archives of photographer Lee Wilson and historian Mike Legeros. A book order is not required to submit materials. All submissions will be reviewed and included based on content and space availability. Contact [contact Mike Legeros](#) for more information including technical requirements.

This is the third commemorative edition produced by the Raleigh Fire Department. [Two prior yearbooks](#) were published in 1984 and 2002. Click below to [view the flyer](#).



RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT
2007 Yearbook

Attention: All Active Members, Retired Members, and Friends of the Raleigh Fire Department

The Raleigh Fire Department and M.T. Publishing Company have joined together to produce a new and updated yearbook. All 2007 members only. Attention: The deadline for the book is the summer of 2007. All orders must be placed by the summer of 2007. The cost of the book is \$50.00. The book will be published in the spring of 2008. The book will be published in the spring of 2008. The book will be published in the spring of 2008.

FEATURES

- Hardcover
- 9" x 12"
- Superior Photo Reproduction
- All Color Pages
- Acid-Free Paper
- Quality Printing-Binding

DEADLINE FOR BOOK ORDERS JANUARY 15, 2008

WANTED: PHOTOS

Photos and unique interesting odd or funny photos of the Raleigh Fire Department. Photos of the Raleigh Fire Department.



DEADLINE FOR ORDERS JANUARY 15TH

A QUALITY BOOK

M.T. Publishing is proud to announce the production of a new and updated yearbook. All 2007 members only. Attention: The deadline for the book is the summer of 2007. All orders must be placed by the summer of 2007. The cost of the book is \$50.00. The book will be published in the spring of 2008. The book will be published in the spring of 2008. The book will be published in the spring of 2008.

RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

Member Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Phone	Work	Home	Mobile	
Member ID	Order #	Order Date	Order Status	Order Total
Member Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Phone	Work	Home	Mobile	
Member ID	Order #	Order Date	Order Status	Order Total

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS JANUARY 15TH

Update. The book is now available for pre-ordering online, at <http://www.mtpublishing.com/products.asp...> Scroll down to select either the standard edition or the deluxe leather edition. Active personnel should NOT place online orders, however. Follow the specific instructions that have been distributed to all personnel.

Legeros - 12/01/07 - 17:56

Wake Forest Fire Impact Fees

11/18/07 55 W, 1 I - + 18 - 13

The *Wake Weekly* this week wrote about the [fire impact fees under consideration in Wake Forest](#). The fire department, they note, has an aggressive \$11.5 million plan for the next decade, including four new fire stations and four new pieces of apparatus, including a quint. [WRAL also reported on the story](#).



Good, I hope it happens for you guys....

Silver - 11/18/07 - 19:19

Proactive steps....rare in this county, but respected.

JBoggs - 11/19/07 - 23:23

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'?

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

How It's Made, Leather Helmet

11/19/07 27 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

[This YouTube video](#) is making the rounds, five-minutes from the Discovery Channel on how a leather fire helmet is made (by hand).



Back in like 2000 or so, I was up visiting family in NJ. Decided to take a ride down the road (about 25 minutes) to the Cairns main office. I asked for a tour and was shown where they make the leathers. Simply amazing....

Silver - 11/19/07 - 11:07

That Carnes plant is closing shop. They are moving their leather helmet making to their plant in Jacksonville,NC. I believe Jacksonville is where the plant is, anyways if not it is near there.

Mike - 11/19/07 - 13:04

Wow, didn't know that.

Silver - 11/19/07 - 13:40

I talked with a friend from Jacksonville the other day and he said their is an MSA place in Jacksonville. One of those patches in the city that is in the county but anyways he said he saw were the make the helmets and said its pretty cool.

car3550 - 11/19/07 - 15:19

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'?

Fire Academy Photos

11/23/07 83 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

For your holiday weekend enjoyment, some 20+ years of [Raleigh Fire Academy group photos](#) have been added to the RFD history site. Most were scanned from plaques at the Keeter Training Center, thus the lower image quality. [Mail Mike](#) if you have copies of the original images. Ditto if photos exist for the years that are missing photos. Help is also appreciated identifying locations and photographers. And Yours Truly is pictured in Academy #13, fifth from the left in the back row.



Hey Mike... – we were all so much “thinner” then and many had more hair too... I think the guy two spaces in front of you nearly broke the camera that day...

A. Rich - 11/23/07 - 16:12

Those pictured academies span 29 years and some 520+ firefighters. Scanning the names, there were quite a few folks named Smith (10), Jones (9), and Johnson (7). The most popular first names were William (19), David (18), and Michael (18). And 44 people whose names include “Junior.”

Legeros - 11/23/07 - 17:33

Added a pair of pics, from 1982 (incomplete) and 1981.

Legeros - 12/09/07 - 10:31

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

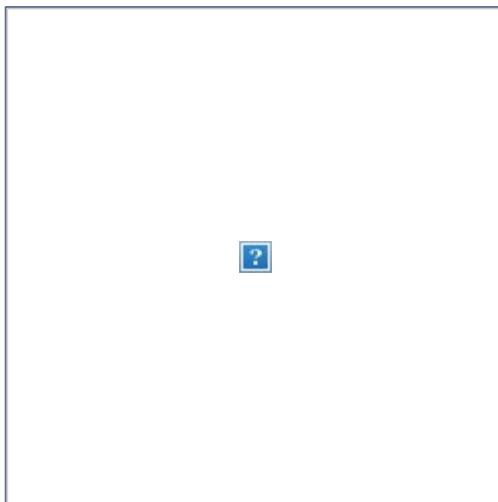
/ [Textile](#)

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.

Wake Forest Fire on Front Page

11/23/07 61 W, 1 I - + 19 - 17

As noted by a reader, this week's *Wake Weekly* has a heck of an [action photo on the front page](#). That's Wake Forest Fire Department Captain Eric Moen after having kicked in the front door of a burning mobile home on East Pine Street on Monday. Can't quite read the credit to identify the photographer.



It's actually Eric Mohn, go get em "A" shift

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/23/07 - 18:15

C'mon "E", you know better than to kick in a door. My guess is the news, as usual, attempting to put more of a spin on the story. I see an ax in your hand, I know that's what you used!!!

I'd also like to inform our local media that we enter homes (even vacant ones), when possible, to ensure NOBODY is inside. I love the drama; "to save it from complete destruction", followed with "the home has been vacant for years".

On a separate note, breaking news story out of Wake Forest; the Wake Weekly has reported a complete sell out of its' newspaper to an anonymous off duty fire Captain....hahahaha, just kidding bro....

Silver - 11/23/07 - 21:06

No, I talked to him. He kicked it in. He said that the photographer near about beat the eng there.

Mike - 11/23/07 - 23:43

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Charleston Historic and Former Firehouses

11/25/07 125 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

Though it took a couple weeks to complete, here's a tour of [historic and former firehouses of Charleston](#). The research was conducted and all but one photo was taken during a recent visit. Ten engine houses and three watch towers are still standing. Many date from the mid- and early-19th Century. The page may get updated as other info surfaces. [Additional CFD history](#) is also available, and that page may also occasionally expand. Big thanks to historian and museum curator Grant Mishoe for ample assistance. The South Carolina Historical Society and the main branch of the Charleston County Public Library were also very helpful. Links to both are part of the above feature. Looking forward to my next visit.



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](#))

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.

Morrisville Fire Facilities

11/27/07 122 W - + 17 - 14

NBC17 reports that the [Morrisville Town Hall Extension is opening](#), and will house the fire department administrative offices. They are presently located at Station 1. Additional fire facility information is available from the town's [long-range financial plan](#). A replacement Station 1 is listed as starting and completing in 2009. The project is described in the latest town newsletter as an "alternate fire station to house equipment and personnel after relocation from station #1 related to locating away from the railroad and Morrisville Carpenter Road." There's also a northwest fire station planned, to serve the northwest section of town. That's listed as starting and completing in 2017. The long-range financial plan also lists fire apparatus replacements. Tanker and quint in FY2009, engine in FY2011, etc.

Not trying to start anything, but I figured by 2017 Morrisville would have been taken over by Cary.

firedriver - 11/27/07 - 22:30

Morrisville is a Municipality, how would that happen. Moron.

Rauer - 11/27/07 - 23:14

Geez, I make a simple statement and am now a moron?? I know Morrisville is a municipality as I have lived in the area for the last 35 years or so. I was just inferring that with all the growth in Cary, which has taken alot of M-ville's area, Cary EMS taking care of a majority of the EMS work there, and both dept.'s "sharing" a fire station(which seems to me would make it easy to "phase" one dept. out), that sooner or later the powers to be would merge the two municipalities. That's all.

firedriver - 11/27/07 - 23:57

[Play nice, please.]

Legeros - 11/28/07 - 08:19

I live in the area too, and I agree with "firedriver". When I saw the proposals for that far out, I thought the same exact thing and figured some type of thing would be worked out to merge the two. Guess I'm a moron too....

Silver - 11/28/07 - 14:06

It could be called Caryville Fire....haha

Roger - 11/28/07 - 15:09

I apologize for the moron remark, but yes I am sure that someday the rural department (i.e. Morrisville Station 3) will relocate somewhere in the park, possibly where there is already a sign off of Kit Creek. I would doubt the town of Morrisville would want to get rid of the department that covers the incorporated areas.

Rauer - 11/28/07 - 16:02

The funny thing about that station is it is setting Mo'ville up for a turf war. Where the station is proposed is in the RTP "area" which is not incorporated nor can it be per North Carolina General Statute. Cary has plans to build a station on O'Kelly Chapel Rd starting in 2008. With that said, CFD #8 will be the closest station to the RTP area that Mo'ville currently covers. The RTP area is under contract to Mo'ville through the Wake County FR Division. If CFD builds #8 and it is closest, it would only make sense to give the contract to CFD to cover the area. If not, then the tax payers in the RTP are paying a fee for less (farther away, less staffed) of a service. Besides, one 2 piece Cary station can respond with almost the manpower of all of the on duty Mo'ville staff. When you add the rest of the CFD assignment you get over double the full shift of Mo'ville. As it stands, CFD #7 is sure to be the second closest which can give CFD a full response of 2 engines, a truck and a ladder all of which are closer than the Mo'ville response. So call me silly but why would they want to build a station out there? Work on safe staffing before more stations? (Safe staffing is not 3 on an engine or a ladder coming through Cary from Apex to get to Mo'ville. Fully staff what you have!)

see it this way - 11/29/07 - 18:04

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'?

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

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.

The 7 Bad E-Mail Habits that Make People Want to Kill You

11/27/07 59 W - + 21 - 12

Found in the blog world earlier this month, [The 7 Bad E-Mail Habits that Make People Want to Kill You](#). They are: hanging questions, buried requests, wrong medium, trying to be clever, sending urgent requests through e-mail, bulky paragraphs, and playing e-mail tag. Equally interesting are the reader comments.

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'?

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

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.

New Bern's Great Fire of 1922

11/28/07 122 W, 2 I - + 18 - 12

Saturday is the 85th anniversary of New Bern's great fire of 1922, [this Sun Journal article](#) notes. Burning a quarter of the city, it displaced 3,200 people and rendered \$2.5 million damage. The fire is also the topic of a two-hour lecture and slide show tomorrow at the [New Bern Fireman's Museum](#), by historian and author Bill Hand. Information about the fire is also available on the web from the New Bern-Craven County Public Library, in the form of a [54-page PDF document](#). Be forewarned, the PDF file takes a little while to load. And here's some [historical information about the New Bern Fire Department](#), notably old engine houses as explored by Yours Truly.



we are looking for any and all information regarding this event. Please post any details that you have

Lori Anne ([Email](#)) - 12/09/09 - 17:43

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](#))

New EMS Numbering

11/28/07 161 W - + 18 - 14

The new Wake County EMS System unit number took effect today. Below is who's who. Note the new designators Chief, District, and Unit.

Wake County EMS

Ambulances: EMS 1 through EMS 39, including Holly Springs ambulance now EMS 17

District Chiefs: District 1, District 2, District 3

Admin Chiefs: Chief 100 through Chief 109

Operations Chiefs: Chief 200, Chief 201

Special Event Chief: Chief 202

Medical Director Staff: MD-1, MD-2, MD-20

Apex EMS

Ambulances: EMS 41 through EMS 49

Admin Chiefs/Officers: Chief 400 through Chief 409

Non-System Supervisor: Unit 410

Cary EMS

Ambulances: EMS 51 through EMS 59

District Chiefs: District 5

Admin Chiefs/Officers: Chief 500 through Chief 509

Eastern Wake EMS

Ambulances: EMS 61 through EMS 69

Admin Chiefs/Officers: Chief 600 through Chief 609

District Chiefs: District 6

Garner EMS

Ambulances: EMS 81 through EMS 89

Admin Chiefs/Officers: Chief 800 through Chief 809

Non-System Supervisor: Unit 810

Rolesville EMS

Ambulances: EMS 151 through EMS 159

Admin Chiefs/Officers: Chief 1500 through Chief 1509

Non-System Supervisor: Unit 1510

Six Forks EMS

Ambulances: EMS 121 through EMS 129

Admin Chiefs/Officers: Chief 1200 through Chief 1209

Non-System Supervisor: Unit 1210

Agencies 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14 reserved for future assignment

I think 1471 is now EMS 6

harkey ([Email](#)) - 11/29/07 - 00:23

Holly Springs' unit is EMS17. There were some CAD issues and prior unit billing history issues, so they went with EMS17.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/29/07 - 00:31

Thanks for the clarification. OK fire service, it's your turn.....

harkey ([Email](#)) - 11/29/07 - 09:14

Can someone clarify what a "Non-System Supervisor" is?

A fire guy - 11/29/07 - 10:00

System Supervisors are those that are dispatched through CAD and are listed as specific resources. These are the ones with the induced hypothermia stuff and more.

The "non-system supervisors" are not dispatched, but frequently "check-in" The only one I know of right now is Six Forks' unit, which was 1280, but is now 1210.

To be approved as a "system supervisor", I would think that it would have to go through the deployment committee, be blessed, recommended, etc. I am not sure what that process would be.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/29/07 - 11:07

Garner rescue units?

BEdriver243 - 11/29/07 - 11:11

It will all be one system one day, seems like that today

martin - 11/29/07 - 11:13

The only 5 recognized system supervisors in Wake County are E580, EMS203, EMS204, EMS205 and EW602 (old unit numbers of course!) They are the only ones recommended by CAD and cannot be substituted for any other EMS agency supervisor (ex 861, 1261 etc etc)

Raleigh 911 - 11/30/07 - 15:24

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'?

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

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.

Carrboro Apartment Fires

11/29/07 44 W - + 16 - 11

The Carrboro Fire Department has fought seven apartment fires since Sunday, notes [this WRAL story](#). Wednesday's was the largest, damaging 15 units and displacing 26 residences. Units from CFD, Chapel Hill, North Chatham, and New Hope responded, and three firefighters suffered minor injuries.

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh Fire Alarms

11/29/07 39 W - + 16 - 11

The Raleigh Fire Department has changed its response to fire alarms, as you may have heard on your scanner. One engine and one ladder are now dispatched. As before, only the initial engine responds emergency traffic.

Has the high response changed as well?

BEdriver243 - 11/29/07 - 11:14

very similar to the medical squad car scenario. not sending enough equipment, appears that your (raleigh) department is going this route.

carter - 11/29/07 - 11:15

Compare the Two Blogs: Winston Salem squad car program and Raleigh fire alarms, explain the difference to me Raleigh folks

Carter - 11/29/07 - 11:17

You did notice, we are still sending TWO (2) FIRE APPARATUS, FULLY STAFFED, to fire alarms, right? It's not like we said; "Ok, on a fire alarm, two guys hop in a mini pumper, leaving the engine staffed with 1 or 2 (which is obviously fine in your eyes). Another guy hop off the ladder company and get in a Crown Vic, then respond to the alarm".

Also, I do believe that either D.O.I. of O.S.F.M. (someone who knows 100% correct me please) changed the recommended responses to fire alarms. Like I said earlier, it's a game of numbers. We have the numbers in this county to support what we're doing with our EMS program and how successful it is. One of the above mentioned state organizations saw the stats, in turn, realizing that most fire alarms are repeat and/or false alarms. Therefore, the response recommendations to said alarms was reduced.

Now, "Carter", let's get back to your comment that splitting crews and leaving understaffed units in service wasn't stupid. This also goes back to numbers. Have you ever researched NIOSH reports and how many of them recommend that staffing levels (being understaffed) might have contributed to the death of a brother or sister? Probably not, BUT I HAVE. Let me put it to you in the simplest possible way:

UNDERSTAFFED = UNSAFE

Silver - 11/29/07 - 12:11

Silver, yes you are right. It is also my understanding that ISO has relaxed its requirements on what is needed for a fire alarm response, hence the change by RFD. From what I was told, the ISO took into account that in excess of 90% of fire alarms are either false or repeat alarms. And when they asked departments why they were sending full alarms to fire alarms, most answered by saying it was due to the requirements of ISO purposes only. So this does not appear to be related at all to the squad car scenario as someone incorrectly presumed.

RFD574 - 11/29/07 - 13:19

I think the comments comparing the two were smarta\$\$ comments by someone trying to justify the car concept.

Silver - 11/29/07 - 13:23

These are two totally different situations. Carter, you're comparing apples to oranges here. As already stated, most fire alarms are false. You're still getting the minimum number of personnel to investigate the situation and to cover the very basic fireground operations while waiting for the remainder of the box to arrive if you end up finding something. Carter, if I may ask, what department do you work at?

Rides an Engine Now - 11/29/07 - 17:01

Quoted: "most fire alarms are false." Should you have that mindframe?

carter - 11/29/07 - 17:40

out of county

carter - 11/29/07 - 17:46

I think sending one engine and one ladder to all fire alarms is asking for BIG trouble. I don't care what percentage of fire alarms are false, a fire alarm is the report of a fire in a building and should be treated as such.

The thought that after all this time begging people to heed a fire alarm when it activates and not to write it off as a false call, and here we go and do exactly the same thing.....what are we thinking????

firedriver - 11/29/07 - 20:36

That's what I figured (to Carter's answer)....is it Scott?

Silver - 11/29/07 - 23:16

We respond 1 Engine & 1 Ladder to every fire alarm; even the high-rises in Uptown. A battalion chief is added to the box if it is a high risk property. We have been responding this way for about the last four years due to the high number alarm activations, and the high number of them being false or accidental activations. We treat every alarm as a true emergency and investigate the source. All personnel have PPE on the necessary tools (irons, can, hook, TIC, standpipe kit in the high-rises).

If an alarm is received from the alarm company **and** there is a call from the premises advising there is a fire, smoke in the building, or odor of electrical or smoke, the box gets filled out with our standard response to a structural fire, which is 3 engines, 1 ladder, and 1 BC. The box can also be filled at the discretion of the company officer or BC if additional info is received. Have we been sent to alarms with our response and found fires? Yes we have, and we have the box filled for a working fire. Just today we had one of these situations. We still have enough personnel on scene to start operations and get the ball rolling until reinforcements arrive. In most parts of the city, the companies are not spread out as much as Raleigh, so the next due companies aren't too far out.

A lot of major cities respond in this manner or even just a single engine company. To list a few: DCFD, Houston, Phoenix. This decision also helped keep companies in-service to protect their 1st due area instead of having a box alarm going to a false automatic alarm.

Rides An Engine Now - 11/30/07 - 20:05

Carter, I feel like if you want to throw stones, at least provide us with a little more than "out of county" to justify these stones. So I'm not a hypocrite, I work for the Charlotte Fire Department for 3 years, and was born and raised in Wake County with 5 years in Wake County fire service.

Rides An Engine Now - 11/30/07 - 20:14

Lee is this you that now rides and an eng? If so email me brother.

Mike ([Email](#)) - 11/30/07 - 22:49

Oh yeah, here you go Carter; 10 years paid (8 in Raleigh, 2 in Durham), and 12 years as a vollie.

Silver - 12/01/07 - 09:26

For those that do not know, OSFM has changed it's requirements and the City is still above the minimum. The state requires a one engine company response with 4 personnel.

[righton] - 12/01/07 - 15:16

Yes, OSFM has changed its requirements, but ISO is who gives Raleigh its rating. Has ISO changed its position on F/A's?

A few years back(maybe the late 90's), Raleigh cut back to one engine on routine alarms like 509 Glenwwood, 116 St Mary's, etc. As I understand it (and I could be wrong) the ISO office is or was near one of these addresses and after seeing one engine respond the the bldg across the street several times, they advised RFD that we had to send the appropriate equipment to an alarm and one engine was not going to cut it, so we went back to 2 & 1 and a BC.

firedriver - 12/01/07 - 18:01

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Company Level Accountability

11/30/07 63 W, 1 I - + 19 - 11

The Raleigh Fire Department is enhancing its company-level accountability with Velcro-mounted reflective markers that are attached to self-contained breathing apparatus. One marker is attached to the rear, and is visible from behind the person. The second marker is attached to a shoulder strap and is visible from the front of the person. Pretty cool.



Houston FD has been doing this for quite awhile.

Mike - 11/30/07 - 22:47

To be followed soon with helmet front pieces. No more patent leather, hooray!!!!

Silver - 12/01/07 - 09:23

This is a really good idea, congrats to RFD on the helmet front pieces your soon to be getting.

Andrew - 12/01/07 - 15:38

I like the markers on the pack alot. What are the helmet markers going to look like? Any links or descriptions?

Engineer ([Email](#)) - 12/02/07 - 09:08

It'll go like this; colored front pieces (red, black or green) for the ladders, engines and rescues (respectively). A number will be in the middle with "ENGINE", "LADDER" or "RESCUE" across the top with "RALEIGH" along the bottom.

Silver - 12/02/07 - 22:20

so the front stays with the company if you are transferred?

or more like the FDNY style with changeable inserts?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/02/07 - 23:01

I thought rescue's were designated by a blue front.

Andrew - 12/02/07 - 23:03

Sounds like a good looking helmet front, and helps build a little more company pride. Too bad everyone keeps getting moved around so often

now.

Engineer - 12/02/07 - 23:27

Shev, I wasn't asked for input. Personally, I feel like interchangeable numbers (velcro or pinned) would've been easiest, especially for when you're detailed. When you get transferred you have to leave the old one for the incoming member. I ordered my own identical front piece, so I can keep it as I move around in my career.

Well, you'd think blue would've been the color, as most other departments use blue as well (and Raleigh personnel assigned to "RESCUE" in the old days wore blue helmets). However, it's my understanding that the people (uniform committee) who picked green thought there might be some confusion with EMS if they used blue, I guess because EMS has blue trucks? (do they have blue helmets?).

Either way, I'm glad we're focusing a little more on companies, versus stations or individuals.

Silver - 12/03/07 - 13:15

yeah come to think of it EMS does have blue helmets... hmm... cool

ahhh company level pride, there's a novel concept

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/03/07 - 22:46

WC EMS and SF EMS have blue helmets, and the EMS drivers at Holly Springs have the blue 880s. At present WC EMS has Reflexite helmet fronts with "EMS #" on the front, but that may be changing, since the Reflexite doesn't seem to hold up. I don't know about the rest of the contract agencies in Wake.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/04/07 - 10:36

I wonder how long before everyone else in the county follows suit?

Mike - 12/04/07 - 23:42

You would be crazy not to... seems like a good way to cheaply and effectively know which company you have where at a glance. A start has been made with some companies around the county with Unit numbers on reflective stickers on the backs of helmets...

another good way is on the globe x-treme to put the names on the flaps that are below the SCBA. I believe the new county morning pride spec will be the same way.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/05/07 - 00:07

Are those SCBA labels homemade or purchased?

FF - 12/05/07 - 20:22

Purchased

Silver - 12/05/07 - 21:52

Found them. It would be great to have it County wide

http://www.gloveholders.com/fire_departm..

FF - 12/06/07 - 23:53

That would make a lot of sense. Have four different companies on a scene all properly labeled as "E-1". I couldn't resist.

Lt203 - 12/07/07 - 00:35

Let's not try to resurrect THAT horse again...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/07/07 - 09:49

Amen DJ!

jetexas - 12/07/07 - 11:42

Round and round we go....although the ride was fun, I'm starting to get dizzy now.

Silver - 12/07/07 - 12:29

OK...

(appling electrodes)

Monitor is ON...printing strip...

Yes...ASYSTOLE!!!

This horse is D E A D...

DOA, DRT, FUBAR, AART (already at room temperature).

C'mon guys...let's find something else to beat to death...over and over....

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/07/07 - 14:34

Sorry guys. The temptation there was just more than I could resist. Another example of a potential coordinated effort for firefighter safety thwarted by a lack of a coordinated effort. Not another word. Engine 1 in service.

Lt203 - 12/08/07 - 00:59

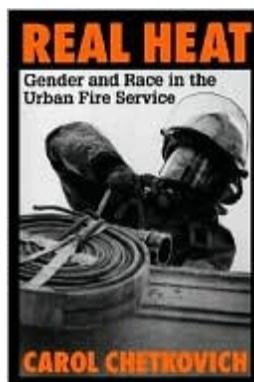
[Closing thread... Send me mail if you have questions, concerns, or comments.]

Legeros - 12/08/07 - 06:48

Real Heat: Race and Gender in the Urban Fire Service

11/30/07 186 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Book review. Carol Chethovich's *Real Heat: Race and Gender in the Urban Fire Service* is a fascinating [ethnography](#) of an urban fire department¹ in the early 1990s. The author, who based the book on her dissertation, follows the careers of Oakland Fire Department recruits over the course of their 18 month probation. She recounts their many challenges and not only related to race and gender, but also the physical and social demands that they face. Her comparison of the fire service to other professions provides some intriguing insights. She relates the traditional treatment of "probies," for example, to the apprenticeship process in other jobs. One of her more compelling conclusions is that the experience of a recruit's first station assignment can determine the success of that firefighter's career. Though not light reading, it's not terribly heavy, either. Tons of interesting end notes, too. Definitely recommended reading, and perhaps mandatory for anyone entering the profession. [Bought my copy on Amazon.com](#).



¹How big of an urban fire department? Oakland had 23 stations with 23 engines, 7 ladders, and 466 uniformed members in 1992.

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'?

Raleigh and Growth

12/02/07 71 W - + 15 - 14

Today's *News & Observer* features features on planning for the future in the Capital City, asking the question [what is Raleigh's future?](#) and [what will Raleigh look like 2030](#). There's also a [nifty interactive graphic](#) demonstrating Raleigh's projected 70 percent (!) population growth in each of the city's 10 planning districts, and some [videos on the subject of planning](#). So what the Raleigh Fire Department, Wake EMS, and neighboring agencies look like in 2030?

Imagining an 70-percent expansion of RFD by 2030— population growth and fire protection expansion are probably not 1:1 correlations, mind you. I am not a planner nor do I play one on television— the numbers yield 46 (!) stations, 47 engines, 12 ladders, 5 rescues, 7 battalions, 858 operations positions, 889 total positions, and a budget of \$65,226,606. Okay, let's try to get more realistic. Comparing RFD in 1980 to 2007— 27 years instead of 23— and using **those** percentages to calculate RFD growth from 2007 to 2030 yields these numbers: 48 stations, 49 engines, 8 ladders, 4.5 rescues, 8 battalions, 770 authorized positions, and a budget of \$126,415,635. The problem with comparing the past 27 years is that the numbers reflect a response to enormous geographic growth. Will the city expand its borders as vastly as they did in the late 20th Century? Basing future-based percentages on geographic growth might be interesting, as well as comparing past call volume increases. Hey, who doesn't have time on their hands on a Sunday morning?

Legeros - 12/02/07 - 08:06

...but numbers are easy. Let's put our imaginations to work. What will the fire service itself look like in 23 years?

How about PPE with wireless telemetry? Imagine a "medical safety officer" tracking the vital signs of all personnel at a fire. Think James Cameron's "Aliens," with the MSO sitting at a mobile monitoring console. Heck, what about PASS-type devices, that strobe or squeal if a person's vital signs start toward the red?

Thermal imaging cameras will get better, and smaller, and certainly cheaper. Equip with wireless networking and imagine an incident commander with the capability to switch between multiple thermal imaging camera views in his vehicle.

How about home smoke detectors equipped with wireless networking? Imagine a fire department or municipality providing a "free" monitoring network. Burn some toast, the detector goes off, and you receive an instant communication. Hello, do you have a fire? If you don't answer within, say, 30 seconds, the fire department is notified. Or maybe if the detector is still going off, and is registering increasing heat levels, etc.

The above model can also apply to medical monitoring, and not just for elderly citizens. If a device detects disrupted vital signs, the person receives an instant communication. Hello, have you fallen and can't get up?

What will apparatus look like in 23 years? Probably about the same as today, or maybe a bit more European-looking. Maybe more enclosed. Enhancements for safer operation will be present. Cameras viewing the rear, or blind spots. Maybe even devices that detect objects in the path of the apparatus. Warnings if the apparatus is being operated in an unsafe fashion.

For navigation, GPS and mapping will be ubiquitous. Every vehicle will have low-priced, high-featured tools that tell you where to turn, and which street to take. Perhaps voice-recognition will have reached a stage where spoken commands are common.

Computer-based information will also be ever-present. Imagine a database, or series of databases, on every building. Construction, occupancy, size, dimensions, hazards. Plus interior, exterior, and floor plan images. The database is accessed through any number of wireless networked devices, including small electronic book readers that a company officer carries on their person.

Fires will still be fought with the wet stuff, though with pervasive use of compressed foam or other wetting agents. Could entire water systems be effectively equipped with "better than water?"

The demographics of the fire service will continue to broaden, with more diversity in race, gender, background, and educational experience. College degrees may become the coin of the realm for leadership positions. Perhaps career development tracts will be expanded beyond the traditional firefighter to lieutenant to captain to low chief to high chief.

Will "mechanical men" make an appearance? Japanese fire departments use robots for high-hazard environments. These are rolling devices. Walking robots would be next.

Pretty bright future, I think. Going to have to wear shades.

Legeros - 12/02/07 - 11:58

Wireless telemetry technology is already here- we have Bluetooth. Think about the hand grips on a treadmill that monitor your HR. I think it would be a not-so-far-leap to have integrated PPE and SCBA that would allow HR, BP, and ETCO2 monitoring. Integrate BP cuffs into the arms of turnout coats, integrate ETCO2 devices into the SCBA mask, and detection points in the sleeves for HR monitoring, along with a Bluetooth transmitter on the SCBA.

As to thermal imaging in a more portable form, this would be no more than an adaptation of the technology that the military pilots (particularly the army's and Marines' attack helicopter pilots) use. And again, add a Bluetooth transmitter to the thermal imager, and now the IC can monitor what is happening in 'real time'. Of course, this would effectively end the use of Tahoes and such for IC vehicles. Even the BC would have to be equipped with a van and a driver. On arrival, he would go back to his console. Run an acquisition for the transmitters on scene and then watch it all on the screens in front of him. Instead of a van, maybe some sort of medium duty chassis with a module on back that includes a cuppola, much like the railroad cabooses had- only a bubble top to allow all around visibility.

Government monitored smoke detectors in my residence? No. Sounds like Big Brother. If I pay for the monitoring through a third party, fine. But I do not want the government having 'sensor' access to my home. Not no, but he** no. What would be next? As to medical monitoring, it is already here, sort of. Some patients have cardiac monitors that provide warning to a reception point if their heart rate/rhythm goes awry. I can see it for high-risk patients, but not for the general public. I can think of several reasons my heart rate and blood pressure might go up at home, and I may not want the local dispatch point to know about it.

I think that in 23 years there will be more emphasis on visibility (chevrons and side patterns), more enclosure, improved restraint systems. I would like to see some sort of device that takes over FM/AM broadcast and cell phones within specific ranges to warn of our approach. I also see routine use of 'black boxes' that provide feedback on how the vehicle and the driver are doing. FirstHealth of the Carolinas had deployed those units on their ambulances and they provide pretty good feedback. They are a great training tool. And they helped settle a warranty dispute in their favor involving a 2 mph collision that resulted in \$4,000 in damages. And I think you will see more use of video cameras for backing, lane changes, turning, and to serve as a record for what is ahead.

Most of the navigation stuff is already here, but I am not sure how much integration of all of it there is. We are going to have AVL for EMS soon, along with navigation. What I would like to see is an integration of the tax office's records (property photos) with the CAD software, and add to it some sort of preplanning software that allows for information on larger occupancies. Of course, I would also like to see more preplanning by EMS, which is hard to do given our ever increasing call volumes. I think the biggest hold ups to this are hardware costs and software propeties.

As to the computer based databases, I think we already have a lot of this information, we just cannot coordinate the various agencies like the tax office, the inspections department, planning offices, etc.

I think you are going to see the day, maybe not in my lifetime, that entry level firefighters and paramedics are going to be required to have a minimum of an Associate Degree. Maybe there will even be a 'hybrid' between an AAS and a BS, sort of an "expanded AAS". I can see where an EMS District Chief or an FD Captain or Battalion Chief will be required to have a Bachelor's Degree. And I don't see that as a strictly local requirement.

On the training front, I would like to see the state get out of the business of certifying anyone. EMS has the National Registry. Let's do away with state certification of EMTs, EMT-Is, and paramedics and just go with the Registry. And I would really like to see the same sort of thing for the fire service. Imagine that- a single nationwide standard for firefighter, apparatus operator, company officer, etc. And I would like to see an expansion of programs like the Executive Fire Officer so that it is more accessible, yet required for executive level chief officers.

DJ (Email) - 12/02/07 - 13:08

Heads up display of floor plans in your scba, if you get lost press a button and the floor map pops up and shows you the way to closest exit, while also sending a signal to the batt chief that shows exactly where you are in the building...

SCBA - 12/02/07 - 17:00

Mike, I think that your growth projections will need to take into account limitations to the physical expansion of the City of Raleigh that exist today versus in 1980. You now have other municipalities that have landlocked borders on several fronts and established watersheds on at least two sides (Falls and Swift Creek) that will restrict municipal growth in those directions. What you will see by 2030 is a significant increase in population density in existing parts of the city. The interesting thing will be to see how the FD model responds to increases in call volumes due to density growth and not through geographic expansion. More stations between current stations? More double engine stations? Higher utilization of the existing resources? My guess is the latter of the three. It is safe to assume that before 2030, you will see the end of the 24-hour shift, something already in the past in many large, high-density cities.

I think all the technology suggestions mentioned are great. We just can't lose sight that experience puts out fires and common sense keeps us safe. If we get so dependent upon technology that we can't find our way out of a building without it, we'll be going to a lot more funerals.

Olson - 12/02/07 - 23:43

And that technology dependence is also apparent in EMS, since a lot of folks (EMTs up through paramedic) seem to have forgotten how to take a blood pressure or a pulse rate without a defibrillator/monitor or a pulse oximeter.

Treat the patient- not the machine.

Know your way in and know your way out.

Watch out for your buddy- if he looks like he needs a break, then insist that he take a break, even if that means YOU take a break. Chest compressions on firefighters are not fun- been there, done that.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/03/07 - 14:12

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Receives CALEA Award

12/02/07 70 W - + 16 - 14

News release. On November 18, the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center received accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA accreditation requires compliance with more than 200 internationally recognized multi-part standards. The accreditation process involved a four-day onsite inspection by CALEA staff who conducted a review of files as well as direct observation of employees and facilities. [Read the entire news release.](#) Congrats!

Great job! Congratulations to eveyone @ RWECC, this is a tremdous award for you.

Everyone that serves and protects Wake County and the City of Raleigh should feel lucky to have your Emergency Center receive this award!

jetexas - 12/03/07 - 13:18

Guess CALEA has never been on a Tac channel during a thunderstorm. Great job. Now get the City to let them hire more people

CmdDivA - 12/03/07 - 22:27

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'?

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

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.

Christmas Tree Fire Video

12/02/07 35 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

It's that time of year again for linking to the [USFA's footage of a dry scotch pine tree fire](#). Less than a minute to flashover under laboratory conditions. Water those trees!



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'?

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

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.

This Evening's Fire

12/05/07 57 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

Three alarms at [6904 River Run Road](#), off Barton's Landing Road, off Ray Road. Engine 18 reporting major working fire on arrival. Two-story, wood-frame, garden-style apartment building with 16 units and 8,704 square-feet. Alarm time approximately 6:55 p.m. Photo posted from Legeros. Photos from Wilson forthcoming. Both arrived at the same time.



Does anyone have the run down of the 3 alarm units dispatched? And did the closest units respond?
Just curious..... I tuned in pretty late into the incident.

jetexas - 12/05/07 - 22:36

1st Alm: E18,16,17,L16,R14,BATT4/BATT1

2nd Alm: E23,15,4,9,L23,C198,AIR8,C5

3rd Alm: E6,14,24,L11,R19,Field Com 1

No closest unit dispatch, would have been BL #3. Didn't even send BL's Air Truck.

Good job to the companies on scene.

ScannerJockey - 12/05/07 - 23:23

Seems to me both Bay Leaf and Durham Highway should have been sent on the second alarm, hell it is basically a straight shot for both of them. Any move ups by county units?

Closestunit - 12/05/07 - 23:48

no county move ups. several city moves ups: E13 E3, and so on.

jones1 - 12/06/07 - 08:19

E3 to S24

E13 to S18

L26 to S16

SJ - 12/06/07 - 12:46

[Sign name to throw stones. Or rephrase as positive or constructive comment.]

L - 12/06/07 - 13:15

Why was the county departments not activated on this incident? Closet unit dispatch was not utilized, why not?

NEff109 - 12/06/07 - 16:23

I think before you can make a good argument for county departments you have to look at who is staffed and who isn't. Yes Durham Highway is staffed 24/7, but Bayleaf station 3 if only staffed till 6? Staffed units I think should be utilized but if you can't guarantee that your rig is staffed they aren't going to call for you.

Falls202 - 12/06/07 - 16:52

A good way to maybe bring the county resources into this incident if they were not dispatched to the scene could have been to move Bay Leaf up to 18 and Durham Highway to 24 and keep ladder 26 going to 16 this keeps more city units in service in their first due while still filling the stations that needed to be filled.

Closestunit - 12/06/07 - 17:14

Why would you not want a response from the closest units regardless of staffing. In a large fire, manpower is necessary to ensure safe long term operations. The response time of a non-staffed station is (usually) still well within ISO guidelines. Deplete the stations in the city because a county non-staffed station might take a few minutes more to get there??

Confused - 12/06/07 - 17:32

Closest unit only applies to the first due engs.

Mike - 12/06/07 - 17:39

I agree Confused. Back filling stations with "non-staffed" unit would make more sense anyway. It's not an emergency response where a few minutes could make a difference, but those resources have to be requested, they don't just magically show up.

SJ - 12/06/07 - 17:40

this poor horse.... we've killed it and brought it back to life more times than in a zombie movie.

Plain and simple. Closest station is based on FIRST DUE, and engines only when dealing with city into county and county into city.

It is up to the I/C to call for specifics if they want them past that. The same would make sense when backfilling a station. Heck there have been numerous Raleigh FD units filling in in Cary recently, they got what was called for specifically.

The other item that has already been brought up is staffing. Why in the world would I (as and I/C) want to call for a truck that I have no idea in the world will get out the door to my call if I can call for a truck that I at least know will get on the road within 1 minute? Also if these trucks were staffed and the radios were working why not call the I/C or even one of the other chiefs and see if you could offer aid? I know it's been done in certain areas, and has been encouraged by numerous battaion chiefs in the RFD. They're human and can forget about the county guys!

Until we change policy within the county that only staffed units are "in service" the closest station theory cannot work. You want to get 4 trucks out the door of your station, then put the staffing to get them out (and in accordance with NFPA 1710/1720). Your department dispatches 5 trucks to an automatic alarm and 2 get out the door, who are you hurting? Take those units out of service and only mark them in when they are staffed with a qualified (note, not certified) crew.

I have heard the county has dedicated to staffing one engine per department (and further per station) in the future, it may go to eliminate some of these problems.

all things aside kudos to the brothers and sisters from the RFD for their efforts. Good job!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/06/07 - 19:10

Whether a unit is closer than another unit to an alarm is pretty much irrelevant. What matters is quickest unit dispatch. Who cares if a county unit is closer if it takes them an extra two minutes to get out of the door because they have to wait for more personnel? It's true that sometimes units that are requested on a second or third alarm are needed for long term operations. But what about when a second alarm is requested for a firefighter, or numerous civilians trapped? Are we going to have two different run cards; one for when units are immediately

needed and one for when they are not?

Rookienc - 12/06/07 - 19:45

How is it irrelevant? Isn't it still a call? Are you saying closest/quickest is only good for structure fires? I feel for that poor guy having a code behind a county station while the city screams in from 4 minutes away, or vice versa.

Once again.. IF they can get out the door, and with what type of training/competence are they going to have on arrival? If you are calling a city unit you know their staffing and experience level. With calling for a normally unstaffed county county then you have no idea what you are getting.

Until that changes closest, quickest, most rapid, it doesn't matter, there will still be a doubt in that I/C's mind.

There's a big difference, not saying that city or county stations, trucks, or people are better. But at least you know 100% what you are getting. Until the county can assure every department in it is up to a similar level then there will be doubt and rational reasoning for why cities call their own.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/06/07 - 21:12

I thought each VFD here in (2007) had a crew/team on duty and are required to stay at the station to provide a quick and timely response. ie Durham Highway...Guess that's not the case. My mistake!

Not going to bore everybody with how things are done here in my city in Texas.

I wasn't trying to wake the dead horse....I understand he died a long time ago.

I was just simply asking how and what resources were used in this incident.

No, I don't have a dog in this fight but let me say this... you guys have a lot to be thankful of.

Ya'll have soooo many more resources than we have down here, I hope they are being used to their max.

jetexas - 12/06/07 - 23:00

while most depts do, not every station does. Some have full time staffing, some have duty crews, some sit empty in the evenings. But with all units being marked "in service" in CAD you cannot tell at a glance which station is staffed or not. Durham Highway does have career staffing, supplemented by volunteers at night, so yes, calling for one of their companies would have been a good call. Like you said we are very lucky in Wake County, but we are still behind the 8 ball in regards to a lot of things. We have some great equipment and some direction, now we need to put bodies in seats and begin to run like the capital county should. It's time to step up the game if we want to work seamlessly between the county and the cities. There is no reason for one county department to have career staffing 24/7 while another sits empty from 5PM-7AM M-F and on the weekends. All citizens in non-municipal areas pay the exact same tax to the county and deserve to have the exact same level of protection.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/06/07 - 23:11

Point well taken 7021. I agree with you, there should be the same level of protection and MANPOWER provided to all citizens in the city and county. Maybe we'll get there someday, hopefully sooner than later.

jetexas - 12/07/07 - 11:40

Round and round we go.....

Silver - 12/07/07 - 12:27

Until the county comes up with a standard certification level/staffing level for anyone to ride on a fire truck we won't see the city calling for county departments often. Like 7021 said, the city doesn't want to be calling for a unit and not knowing what they are getting on it. Hell no one wants to do that. I'd love to see the fire service evolve in Wake County so that it really doesn't matter what the side of your truck says, if that means a Holly Springs Unit is on the second alarm to downtown Raleigh then great. It would be great to see one CAD system not one for the county and one for the city if that was to happen we would truly have closest unit dispatch. Unfortunately at this time only some of the county departments are at a constant staffing level that makes them reliable...

Snell ([Email](#)) - 12/07/07 - 13:48

OK...

(appling electrodes)

Monitor is ON...printing strip...

Yes...ASYSTOLE!!!

This horse is D E A D...

DOA, DRT, FUBAR, AART (already at room temperature).

C'mon guys...let's find something else to beat to death...over and over....

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/07/07 - 14:35

Bethesda E-421 moved up and stood by Sta 24 at the time of 3rd alarm dispatch

Kevin ([Email](#)) - 12/07/07 - 23:46

I need to agree with 7021's earlier statement if county units can't be staffed they should be put 10-7. This practice is used by some county depts. However these efforts are being thwarted by the county. They seem to think if you don't have the staffing then maybe you 30 yr old 2nd engine shouldn't be replaced. Maybe funding should be cut in half for that dept. Either way the ball still falls in the county's hands to properly staff stations county wide. Trying not to beat MR Ed anymore, but 2 guys can't respond an Engine, 2 Tankers, & a rescue. Sorry done beating the Horsey

FF480 - 12/08/07 - 00:59

You think funding should be cut in half. I have to agree with most of you when you say there is no point in dispatching an empty unit, but what was it that you needed at that fire; PERSONNEL. Not fifteen engines, 3 rescues, 3 trucks, and etc. PERSONNEL. Full time staffing should be mandatory at county departments, 24/7/365. My house in Rolesville and my Grandmother in Fairview is just as important as your stuff in the city.

Neff109 - 12/08/07 - 01:35

[Closing thread... Send me mail if you have questions, concerns, or comments.]

Legeros - 12/08/07 - 06:48

Charlotte Parking Deck Collapse

12/06/07 53 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

The [FireNews incident log](#) has information about the parking deck collapse in Charlotte. Scroll down to read the updates. The *Charlotte Observer* has a [story on their site](#). WSCOTV has a slideshow of images [with their story](#). News 14 also has [some images from the site](#), including the one below.



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'?

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

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.

Luminaries Discouraged

12/08/07 68 W - + 15 - 13

The Raleigh Fire Marshal's Office is discouraging the use of luminaries this holiday season, WRAL reports. The North Carolina Division of Forest Resources banned lighting any open flames more than 100 feet away from an occupied building on October 15. The restriction includes lighted candles inside paper bags. Local fire marshals must decide the legality of burning luminaries within 100 feet of occupied dwellings. [Read the entire WRAL story.](#)

even more dangerous are the fire pits and chimineas that every local garden and home center is promoting these days – in addition to the fire danger and air quality issues, there's also the possibility that homeowners' insurance may not cover damages if the homeowner was careless and did not take proper precautions regarding setback, location of device, etc – and often, all it takes is one spark on a folded up blanket that was used in front of the fire to start a cabin or home fire (personal experience – age 7 camp)

corner hydrant - 12/10/07 - 18:52

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](#))

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.

Holiday Lights

12/09/07 33 W, 1 I - + 17 - 15

'Tis the season for holidays lights. Below is Raleigh Station 19 on Spring Forest Road. More to be photographed, time and proximity permitting. Ho ho ho.



Now it's Ha ha ha!

Wakeemfire33 - 12/09/07 - 17:18

By who's frickin' order? Asheville? Thanks....HOHOHO!!! Merry Christmas everyone!!!

Silver - 12/09/07 - 23:07

That is what I'm saying. HO HO HO Merry Christmas, Stations looks good!

Neff109 - 12/09/07 - 23:21

New Hope's station 1 is still work in progress.

NH100 ([Email](#)) - 12/10/07 - 01:05

Durham Highway has somewhat of an extragavent display...

DHFD - 12/15/07 - 00:46

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.

Durham Launches Toys-4-Rides

12/09/07 56 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

News release. The Durham Fire Department is giving free rides on fire engines in exchange for new, unwrapped toys. Those wishing to participate in the Toys-R-Rides program are asked to bring their gifts to Station 2 at 1001 Ninth Street on Saturday, December 15 and Sunday, December 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. [More information.](#)



It is actually next Saturday and Sunday not Friday.

Ladder Company 2 - 12/10/07 - 22:16

Thanks. Can't read calendar. Corrected post.

Legeros - 12/10/07 - 22:17

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Kid Pushes Button, Floods Hangar with Foam

12/10/07 42 W, 1 I - + 11 - 15

Here's some [amusing video from Philly](#). Family day at an airport. Foam suppression system in hangar. Button marked "do not press except in emergency." You can guess the rest.



...my mother still tells the story of a certain little boy and his littler sister at their grandfather's retirement home in Golden Valley, MN. The former lifted the latter so she could pull a certain red lever. Excitement followed.

Legeros - 12/10/07 - 19:34

First job at Hardee's on Old Wake Forest Rd (right there where Noble Rd comes in- it ain't there no more). Really nice looking girl working as a cashier. Certain worker bee wanted to impress her with his rowdiness. Long story made short- she said "I bet you won't pull that pin over there". Oddly enough my hamburger career came to an end shortly after.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/11/07 - 08:52

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

FireNews and NCSFA Develop Sprinkler Site

12/12/07 78 W - + 12 - 13

New Release. FireNews.net and the North Carolina State Firemen's Association have developed a web page of resources decided to the efforts to require residential sprinkler systems in North Carolina. Located at <http://www.ncsfa.com/sprinkler>, the page includes links to the position papers of the NCAFC, NCSFA, and NCFMA. Other linked resources include reference sites and historical data. Links are also included to the media coverage of the issue.

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'?

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

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.

Yesterday's Fire

12/12/07 132 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

Engine 8 reported a working fire on arrival at [1508 Collegeview Avenue](#). Two-story, six-unit, [brick apartment building](#) with fully-involved first-floor unit on right side. Fire was venting out the rear door and window of apartment, blocking the rear egress of the ground floor and second floor apartments. Three occupants jumped from the second floor. One transported with minor injuries. One engine and one ladder special-called for relief. Five families displaced. Alarm time approximately 1:01 p.m. Marked under control at 1:26 p.m. Engine 8 cleared approximately 5:26 p.m. Units included E8, E20, E5 (RIT), E1 (safety), E27 (relief), L20, L1 (relief), R14, B3 (command), B4, C5, C2, C10, C198, FC1, EMS1, EMS13, EMS31, EMS T1, EMS D1, EMS C200. Details and photo below from Lee Wilson. Photos posted.



Updated with a little more info.

Legeros - 12/13/07 - 07:57

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.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/14/07 - 11:38

Wake EMS will begin a small field trial next week of leather shields to replace the worn Reflexite models. They won't be unit specific – looking at a LA County magnetic label model for that. I've gotten samples from Paul Conway and from D.E. Williams and like the looks of the Williams shield (suprisingly enough – I've always bought Conway personally). By the way, we're going with yellow to contrast against the blue helmets. The D.E. Williams website also has the unit labels

Olson - 12/14/07 - 18:10

The accountability labels can be seen at <http://www.dewilliamsshields.com/account..>

Olson - 12/14/07 - 18:10

Here's a home-brewed cheat sheet showing both helmet and shield colors, and what they mean. PDF format.

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/h..>

Legeros - 12/14/07 - 18:14

The new shields do look good. Thanks for the cheat sheet also!!!

Nienow ([Email](#)) - 12/14/07 - 21:46

Hey Olson, figures we go with green rather than the traditional blue for our rescue companies because you guys use blue helmets, and then you guys go yellow!! Hahahahaha, love the communication.....

Silver - 12/14/07 - 22:51

Here is a question for someone in the know. A Cary Captain proposed the same thing a year or so back. He was met with resistance when the question was raised, "what happens when you are detailed to another station"? The response was a pinned or velcro front that could be swapped when you move, (pretty easy huh). The movement was squashed by a vote by "those who wanted their id numbers", bla bla bla, whatever.... So, the question for Raleigh. With Raleigh wearing sewn company ID numbers, what will they do when they are detailed, and if they don't do anything will it derail the logic behind the "accountability concept" and run the risk of confusion. Example, when someone from E8 is riding E14 and their helmet says E8, but E8 isn't even at the fire. But then E8 comes to the fire on the second alarm and the person from E8, assigned to E14 is the one missing, so they start counting E8 helmets and find all four E8 helmets when they should be looking for an E14 helmet. I have now confused myself? See where this may go? Any inside or policy info from Raleigh.

Accountability Question - 12/15/07 - 12:16

First, our initial company level accountability falls on the PASSPORT system. Wherever your PAT is, that better be the unit you're riding. Every morning when you relieve someone else, it's your responsibility to switch the PAT. I've seen some departments that wait until a fire or major incident to remove their PAT and place it on the PASSPORT. This isn't the way the system was designed. It was designed to be in place the entire time a member is on duty.

Next, the airpack you wear has two bands, one on the front and the other on the back. They both have the company/unit that the SCBA came off of. So, in a sense, don't even look at the helmet but the SCBA or PASSPORT to see what company that member is with. So, on the example of your E-8 member detailed to 14, if he/she is at an incident, wearing a SCOTT with 14's on it, then they're riding 14, no matter what the helmet says.

Are there other alternatives? Yup, such as the pinned inserts, velcro inserts or magnets. Will this work? Sure it will. Hope this helps....

Silver - 12/15/07 - 13:10

Wow! That took some time! First off some guys at work have asked that same question and the answer is yes sometimes your helmet front will not match the crew you are detailed out to. The powers to be did not want the passport style fronts! And it was also said staffing issues of detailing out will decrease as a goal. The helmet fronts are not a replacement of our accountability system so the passports will still be the primary tracking system! The accountability officers do a great job and as long as the crews put their pats on the passport it is not an issue! The fronts identify who and what app/ crew you are facing as an accountability officer or a IC. SO there is no place for this to go! If you use the passport system and someone is missing the damn helmet font doesn't matter! I'll make it simple for you! If I am the company officer and one of my crew is missing I will follow the procedures we have and let the IC know we are missing Firefighter "DOE". They put our names on the back of our helmets so you just look for the name not the front!!!!!!! I think the fronts are great! If you don't work in the city don't worry about what or why we do something different than you! Obviously some firefighters don't like to sign their names on blogs, so we cannot question why they do what they do! Anyway I hope all of the brothers and sisters on this blog and on the streets as vollies or paid, " have a great Christmas and happy new year" be safe traveling to see family and on you tours!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jason Lane - 12/15/07 - 13:20

Jeff, thanks! some of us type faster than others!

Jason Lane - 12/15/07 - 13:23

Heck if nothing else it instills some company pride, something that RFD has seemed to be doing pretty well here lately. morale seems to be up and things seem to be going great. Kudos to you guys

I understand the accountability issue though and as for changing out velcro passports every time you are detailed I think that's a bit over the top. Obviously I'm all for having a company number on the helmet, or wherever. And as stated it's more of a quick ID thing, not a catch all system. It still boils down to the passport system. And with the SCBA tags RFD seems to be going down a good path with being able to know who's who. The new morning pride with the names on the tails is also a good thing!!!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/15/07 - 13:46

Detailed to another company? Take a small piece of paper, write the company number on it with a magic marker and rubber band it to the shield. Basic and cheap, yet effective.

Rides An Engine - 12/15/07 - 18:35

Just the fronts will be yellow – not the helmets. We've been issuing blue helmets for several years now. At the time we started, no one else was.

Olson - 12/16/07 - 23:10

Yeah, I know. I guess they figured you guys would've stuck with blue fronts which is why they stayed away from them. No big whoop....

Silver - 12/17/07 - 17:29

Here's a picture from Lee of the green shields: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/2..>

Legeros - 12/19/07 - 08:34

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'?

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

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.

Wake Tech Public Safety Center

12/14/07 59 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

This morning's *News & Observer* notes that the Wake Technical Community College's new Public Safety Center at [321 Chapanoke Road](#) opens next month. The center will train law enforcement officers, firefighters, corrections officers, and emergency medical service providers. [Read the entire article](#). Bad building photo below, from real estate records:



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](#))

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

Raleigh Fire Station Google Map

12/14/07 56 W, 1 I - + 18 - 9

The [Raleigh Fire Department's web site's](#) fire station location page has added links to a [Google map of city fire stations](#) that they've created. Very cool. Click the Satellite button and zoom for [aerial photos](#). For expanded information on each station, see [Mike's station site](#).



<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF&ms..>

hopefully the link will work

WC Stations - 12/15/07 - 15:52

I was wondering, maybe we could put a map together for fire calls? Maybe public or private to include structure fires, MVAs, etc.

Adam - 12/15/07 - 19:08

Mike, you guy's did a great job putting this together. "It'a AWSOME BABY with a capital A"

One question though...is it possible to add the county and city EMS units to these maps?

Like where is EMS 16 is stationed or EMS 81 or EMS 122 etc.....

jetexas - 12/16/07 - 00:17

For everyone's information, I had no involvement in the creation of either Google map.

Legeros - 12/16/07 - 06:08

I did the WC Stations map, don't know who did the RFD map. I would like to update it with what equipment is in each station, but got tired of typing and clicking. Maybe later. The one I did is supposed to be "accessible by others" so other people can add data.

AB - 12/16/07 - 08:24

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'?

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

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.

Helmets and Shields

12/14/07 76 W, 2 I - + 12 - 14

Here's a [home-brewed cheat sheet](#)  showing both helmet and new helmet shield colors in the Raleigh Fire Department. The document is PDF format. The helmet graphic was created from a random photo found on Google, using the following steps after opening the photo in a graphics editor: find edges, invert, remove colors, bump up contrast, hand-edit/erase lines/dots, fill color, save and done. Your mileage may vary.

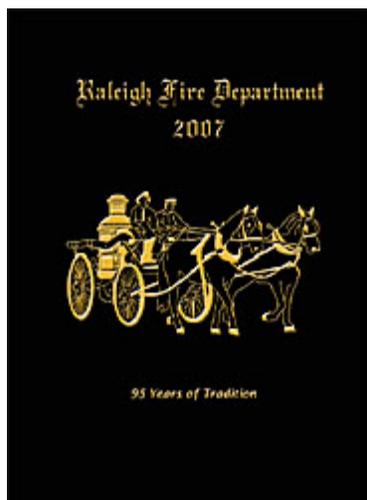


[Post comments to earlier thread.](#)

Raleigh Fire Department Yearbook

12/14/07 161 W, 2 I - + 15 - 13

Production is underway on a new Raleigh Fire Department yearbook. A committee has been working since September to coordinate portraits of active and retired personnel. They also have been compiling current and historical images for inclusion in the volume.



To be published in the spring, the hardbound book will measure 9 by 12 inches and feature all color pages. The cost is \$50.00 and it can be ordered by anyone with an interest in the Raleigh Fire Department.

To order online, [visit the publisher's web site](#). To order by mail, [view this PDF-format flyer](#) . The deadline for placing orders is January 15. .

Contributor photos are also wanted, notably unique, interesting, odd, or funny images to supplement selections from the extensive archives of photographer Lee Wilson and historian Mike Legeros.

A book order is not required to submit materials. All submissions will be reviewed and included based on content and space availability. Please [contact Mike Legeros](#) for more information including technical requirements.

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

Remember personal info?

- Yes
- No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Little Known Facts

12/16/07 88 W - + 13 - 13

Here's a [compelling commentary from Azarang "Ozzie" Mirkhah](#) on Firehouse.com, subtitled "Fires in the U.S. are more costly than the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan." He compares both the cost in dollars and lives and concludes we're spending over twice as much at home on fire losses and loosing as many as four times as many lives as service personnel. Interesting. And on a related note, here's the [National Safety Council site](#) with statistics on other ways people die in the United States.

It's a lot more fun to run up and down the road in a big red (or lime or white or green or black or yellow or...) fire truck, Q2B and Powercall wailing than it is enforcing fire safety codes. When you are doing fire safety education you don't get to put on a great big, funny looking plastic (or leather or Kevlar) helmet, SCBA, and tear sh** up with various tools, spray water, and be a 'hero'. It's a lot more fun to talk about helmet fronts than it is to talk about the importance of home smoke detectors and home sprinkler systems. And adequate building separation. And proper building materials. And...

If you look at what we spend on fire protection in America (yeah, I know we need staffing- but we still spend A LOT of money on it as it is), we should have had the problem licked by now. Or could it be that while we spend a lot of money on 'feel good' items, like fire trucks, we have not done enough on the front end to keep it from happening. I don't know, so can someone tell me how many fire safety inspectors we have in Wake County as compared to the population?

During the 70s and 80s, stuff just did not burn much around here, except for tobacco barns, mobile homes, and old houses. Most everything else was new stuff that did not burn. Now here we are in 2007, and every time you turn around we are burning apartment buildings, town houses, and if you have a single house to catch fire, the neighbors are damage as well.

Most big fires, although it seems that there is always some negligence on someone's part, are still referred to as 'accidents'. This implies that these were just unforeseen events that no one could have prevented. And that's a load of crap.

Besides, how many headlines could Hillary, Obama, John, Rudy, Mitt, or any of the rest of them generate by condemning the lack of progress on the war on unnecessary deaths from (insert cause here)?

DJ (Email) - 12/16/07 - 11:17

Another interesting story on firehouse.com is about a program targeting low-literacy citizens for fire safety, <http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News..>

Legeros - 12/16/07 - 12:15

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

Watch Room Improvements at Station 8

12/16/07 105 W, 1 I - + 17 - 15

Two new desks and a counter have been added to the watch room at [Raleigh Fire Station 8](#). They replaced a pair of older desks believed to be have been originally installed with the station. The city provided the materials, including a counter top originally purchased for Station 3. "A" shift provided the labor, with First Class Firefighter Kyle English as "construction supervisor." The installation took about three days, performed over a couple cycles in September. The result is a larger and more efficient workspace for personnel. It is also designed to accommodate installation of additional computing equipment. Click to enlarge photo:



Very nice, It is good to see Firefighters taking pride in thier station.

A Wilson ([Email](#)) - 12/29/07 - 10:33

Pride in a station? What a concept.

EMS Guest 1 - 12/29/07 - 13:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

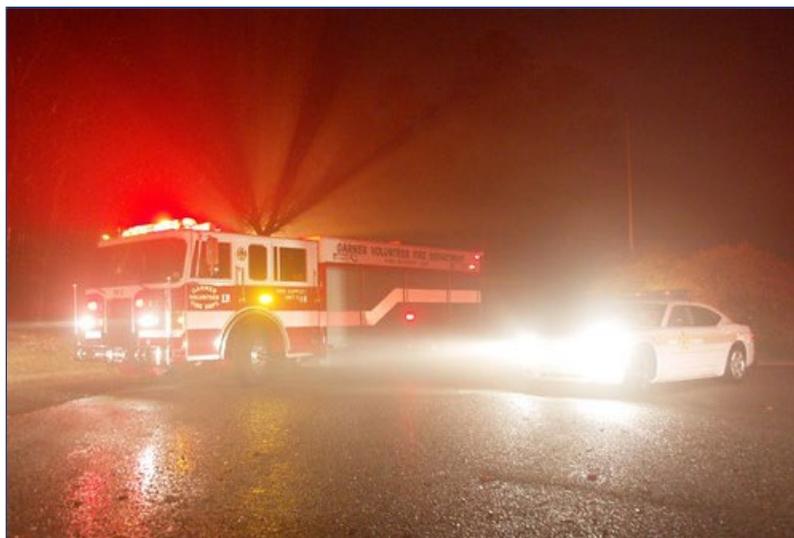
Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Light, Dark, Smoke

12/17/07 27 W, 1 I - + 10 - 17

[Lee Wilson's photos](#) from Sunday's structure fire in Garner feature several stunning lighting effects, such this one. Rescue plus deputy's car. Click to enlarge:



those are some awesome pics!!!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/17/07 - 19:54

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'?

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

This Evening's Fire

12/17/07 84 W, 1 I - + 18 - 12

Furniture store at [8740 Glenwood Avenue](#). Engine 23 first fire unit on scene at one-story, 5,000 square-foot structure with fire showing from roof. Defensive operations, with heavy fire throughout building. Two additional engines called for suppression. Raleigh and Durham Highway units included E23, E24, E16, E17, E14, E4, E9, P1, P4, L23, R14, B4, B3, C5, C2, C198, A8. Six Forks EMS and Wake EMS also on scene. Alarm time approximately 7:00 p.m. Control time approximately 8:15 p.m.



Judging by the pictures, it definitely appears to be a job well-done. I was listening online and never heard command call for the master stream out the aerial and from the looks of it I assume it never happened. It's nice to see a company who isn't afraid to make a call, stand by their decision, and get the job done! Awesome job, guys! Proof that an aggressive attack can still be made even under defensive operations without the use of an aerial master stream.

Henry P. - 12/17/07 - 23:42

Good job bro's.... "risk vs reward" on this one, good call.

Silver - 12/18/07 - 01:31

Thank God it didn't turn out like the furniture store fire in Charleston, SC over the summer...

Trev ([Email](#)) - 12/18/07 - 11:10

"Risk vs. Reward" is right. Understand latter size-up post smoke removal revealed the roof metal structure was pretty compromised by the heat exposure. Good call on the strategy guys.

Olson - 12/18/07 - 12:12

Pictures: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/20..>

Legeros - 12/19/07 - 20:18

Perfect opportunity to use smooth bores, anyone know if they were put in service?

Silver - 12/19/07 - 21:21

Rhetorical question?

Silver - 12/20/07 - 18:07

Just a question out of curiosity, but would the use of smooth bore nozzles actually have a benefit over the nozzles this company officer decided to use e.g. would the fire have been put out faster? Or should the s.b nozzles have been used just to be used i.e. the larger depts. use them so we should also?

Henry P. - 12/20/07 - 20:04

7Driver, this is your specialty. After reading many editorials from you about this very topic on "the watchdesk", I think you can help educate Henry a little.

Henry P., it has nothing to do with the size of your department. My friend, for a lack of better words, that's ignorance and/or lack of training. With a smoothbore, you would have had better reach and penetration, as well as a steady "column" of water, versus a bunch of water droplets. Also, let's not forget an increase in GPM's with lower operating pressures.

Silver - 12/20/07 - 20:47

Well said Brother Silver...Smooth Bore for reach and penetration Low PSI Higher GPM Vs. Fog Nozzle Higher PSI and Lower GPM and not to mention a broken stream being devoured by the heat.....

[jdkay] - 12/20/07 - 21:04

Both smoothbore (SB) and fog nozzles have their place in this world. Personally, I am partial to SB nozzles. They allow higher GPM flows, greater reach and penetration, less disturbance of the thermal layer, and lower nozzle pressures allowing for less reaction forces being put on the nozzleman and backup man. Lower nozzle pressure also allows for lower pump discharge pressures. I was not at the fire, so I do not want to speculate, but tried and true practices have shown that a SB is well suited for defensive fires, as well as aggressive, interior firefighting. Defensive fires require higher GPMs to extinguish the fire due to the heavy fire conditions, and since a SB won't evaporate as quickly as the fog spray will, more water will reach the seat of the fire, thereby extinguishing the fire faster. Larger attack lines, such as a 2.5", are also well suited for defensive fires because they are capable of flowing much more water than a smaller 1.5" or 1.75" line.

Should we use tactics of a "larger" department (my guess would be you're talking about FDNY?) just because they do too? No, but we can learn from different methods across the country and apply what works for us here. It may be that if you combine portions of a tactic from Philly with portions from Denver, that you find a method that works well in your area. This is achieved by staying open minded, always learning and always training.

Rides An Engine - 12/20/07 - 21:09

Dang it Silver, you beat me to it! :)

Rides An Engine - 12/20/07 - 21:11

Quick on the draw, sonnnnnnn!!!!

Silver - 12/20/07 - 21:17

Ahhh, so what you're saying is that even though you previously said that they did a good job, they could've done better by pulling the proper line that is equipped with a s.b. nozzle (does Raleigh even have s.b. nozzles on any preconnects?) or even worse pull the line, delay getting water on the fire even more by stopping to swap out nozzles, just to use s.b. nozzles? Lower pressures? It was a defensive attack so there isn't any hose advancement. That point is null. More GPM? They only had 2" hose on the ground. If I'm not mistaking, you can't have a s.b. nozzle over half the diameter of the hose, right? 1" s.b. = 200gpm. Doesn't Raleigh have fog nozzles on the 2" lines capable of flowing 250gpm with the flick of the wrist? So that point is null. Steady column of water vs. water droplets? Only thing I can think of by that is you're saying the fire would have gone out faster with the s.b. nozzles. So, again, they did good but they could've done better. I, personally, am very impressed by their actions and didn't think this needed any mon. morning quarterbacking.

Henry P. - 12/20/07 - 23:06

I asked a question, that was all. After no answer was given, I asked if it was a rhetorical one. Mr. P, there are agencies in this nation that do this everyday, not just once in a while. Maybe you can learn from them, maybe not. Open your eyes, just a little. If bigger cities are using them, for fire attack in buildings that are hundreds of years old, there must be something good about them, don't you agree?

It all goes back to training. If your fire attack is delayed that much by switching tips, or nozzles, maybe it's time to train some more. No interior attack was made, ok, I understand that. But, by looking at the pictures, plenty of hoseline movement was, so don't you think lower pressures would help that?

C'mon, are you one of those that thinks the almighty fog nozzle is the know-all, be-all of the fire service? I can recommend two books to you,

Engine Operations by the late Andy Frederick and Officer's Handbook of Tactics by John Norman. Check 'em out, you can even borrow mine if you'd like.

The guys and girls did a great job, the fire went out and nobody got hurt. That doesn't mean that we can't learn from fires and see if there was something we could've done a little better.

Silver - 12/21/07 - 00:07

Even the best operations have room for improvement.

A few points:

~~"delay getting water on the fire even more by stopping to swap out nozzles"~~ In a defensive fire, the time it takes to change nozzles not going to make or break the operation. Like Silver said, it's time to train if you can't do it

~~"Lower pressures? It was a defensive attack so there isn't any hose advancement"~~ The fact remains that with lower nozzle pressures there will be less reaction force on the nozzleman & back-up man, which means they don't have to work as hard to operate the line.

~~"Doesn't Raleigh have fog nozzles on the 2" lines capable of flowing 250gpm with the flick of the wrist"~~ Fog nozzles need higher pressures to operate properly, which means more pump pressure and more reaction force at the nozzle. Lest we forget that it's a broken stream, which will be turned into steam before it hits the seat of the fire. In most cases of a defensive fire, the steam conversion will not be contained and assist in extinguishment. The solid stream of a SB will penetrate the fire more before it breaks up and turns to steam. A 2.5" line will allow you to significantly increase your flow while still being able to maneuver the line. Is it tough? Heck yeah, but nobody said this job was a cake walk.

Nobody questioned the operation, just asking if a tool was used. You asked about SB vs. fog. Facts were provided to you about why SB are superior to fog nozzles. Stay safe out there! Train hard!

Rides An Engine - 12/21/07 - 00:43

You said that "Doesn't Raleigh have fog nozzles on the 2" lines capable of flowing 250gpm with the flick of the wrist?". The answer of a fog nozzle changing gpm's with flick of the wrist is a yes and no answer. If that fog nozzle was set up to flow 200 gpm and you flicked that wrist of yours and changed it to 250 gpm, you would still not be flowing 250 gpm. This wouldn't be accomplished until the pump operator adjusted his discharge pressure for the added friction loss for that handline. Now with a fog if you were flowing 250 gpm you could switch down and flow less gpm's, but now you would have a lot of unnecessary pressure on that line unless you again have the pump operator lower your pressure.

Mike - 12/21/07 - 13:09

Silver, thanks for picking up my slack I'm just reading today.

In addition, half the diameter of the hose for the tip is only a recommendation, as is 50 psi for handlines. You can increase both diameter and tip pressure as needed up until you reach critical velocity.

Whats wrong with putting 3" on the ground if it doesnt have to be advanced? then you can up to the 1.25' tip and flow 325gpm.

and as far as lower nozzle pressure it not just about back pressure and firefighter fatigue but also you dont work your pump as hard which gives you more capability if you are near your maximum pump capacity.

7driver ([Email](#)) - 12/22/07 - 21:33

Incredible photo

Ginny ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/28/07 - 12:18

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

RAPS Race, 6:00 pm, Thursday, January 24, 2008

12/19/07 41 W - + 17 - 14

News release. The next Raleigh Area Public Safety (RAPS) kart race is scheduled for Thursday, January 24, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.. The location is again RushHour Karting in Garner. Visit the [RAPS web site](#) for more information. Varoom.

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'?

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

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.

Lightscoop

12/20/07 41 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

Saw [this neat gizmo](#) reviewed in the *New York Times*. Bounces your camera's pop-up flash and improves lighting. You have to increase your flash power, too. Cool [before and after pictures](#). Doesn't work on colored ceiling, high ceilings, or outdoors.



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'?

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

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.

GPS Navigator

12/20/07 357 W, 3 I - + 17 - 13

Bought a GPS navigator on Black Friday, day after Thanksgiving. [Garmin StreetPilot C330](#), sale priced \$128 at a big-box store. Regular price \$178, I think. Most of the chain s were selling GPS at rock-bottom prices that day. Considered a cheaper Tom-Tom, but the sales clerk said Garmin was better. A quick review of Consumer Reports confirmed that above model was recommended, as were other brands including Tom-Tom.

What's in the box: GPS navigator unit, suction cup mounting/power bracket, power cord to cigarette lighter, vinyl disk for suctioning to dash, instruction sheet, and CD of software. First-time initialization required confirmation of satellite locations. This took a couple minutes. Otherwise, the unit is ready right out of the box.



The thing is a blast. Three-dimensional map view of where you're rolling, including street names and even areas of blue (water) and green (parks). Zoom in or out for close or far view. The thing also computes your speed and direction. This model does NOT announce streets, however. That feature is called text-to-speech and is available on higher priced models. Language choices include British English, which is a bit more fun than American English. There's a volume knob on the side, and a power switch.



Powering the unit is a bit problematic. The car's cigarette lighter is wired to the ignition. The GPS unit is powered only when the ignition switch is turned. And every time the GPS unit is powered, it starts up. After a few days of fascination with the rolling map, the thing became a bit of a distraction. Unfortunately, it could not be permanently switched off.

Every time the car was started, the GPS unit restarted. Were the cigarette lighter not wired to the ignition, this would not be a problem. Resolved the issue by purchasing a 12-volt extension cord from Radio Shack. Includes a toggle switch on the male end. Thus, the GPS unit can only be powered on by choice. Make sense?



How well does it work for navigating to emergency scenes? That is, if time is of the essence, how does it fare when navigating to an specific address? More later.

Hey Mike nice review and good deal you got there, we use that same model on our Rescue's here in Dekalb, Yea I laughed too when I came to work one day and they were on the units. It was a quick fix for rapidly locating address' now we have GIS on our MDT's, anyway they worked ok for getting from point a to point b, however the only problems we encountered were it seemed like they had a hard time acquiring a satellite when we were traveling above 70mph on the hwy. in an area of highrises (downtown Atlanta) or heavy cloud cover, otherwise they were pretty descent.

[jdkay] - 12/20/07 - 20:32

There are a ton of sellers on e-bay that sell factory reconditioned ones with a full factory warranty. I picked up a C340 (says the street names

instead of "turn left in 500 ft"...for \$195. I use it on my motorcycle and it works well. We have laptops in the 1st out Engines at New Hope using MS Streets and Trips with GPS. It tracks your position, gives directions from current location, and you can add all kinds of data to the map/files. We use red pushpins for hydrant locations and flags for dry hydrants, it works great. Stop by on a A shift day if you want to see it. 200A

AB - 12/21/07 - 16:33

The technology keeps on coming.

For those that are following tech developments in the county, EMS, Sheriff, and CCBI have AVL in their vehicles now. The folks at RWECC can see the dots moving around on their maps. On or about January 11, CAD will stop using "closest station recommends" and start using "AVL closest vehicle recommends" to make dispatch decisions. This should cut down on a lot of the call swapping that is currently necessary to get the closest vehicle en route.

The next step, in perhaps a month or two, will be to bring in-vehicle navigation (IVN) on line. This program, called MARVLIS (Mobile Area Routing and Vehicle Location Information System), will display maps and directions from the vehicle's current location to the address of the call. No user input required – the vehicle computer receives the address from CAD, looks at the GPS to see where the unit is now, and generates the map. If you'd like to learn more about MARVLIS, check out <http://www.bcs-gis.com/subpage.aspx?page...>

The MARVLIS program has been around for a few years and was designed by the vendor in cooperation with MEDIC in Charlotte. When they put it on line, response time measurably improved as the need to fumble with map books was eliminated.

Happy New Year, everyone. Be safe out there.

Skip

CHIEF 100 ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/29/07 - 10:21

Related story on GPS maps not finding newer roads: <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/tuesda...> Locally, I have observed that my Garmin doesn't know the latest leg of I-540, from US.1 to US.64. Kinda fun to be "driving" where no roads exist.

Legeros - 01/15/08 - 05:54

Most mapping software is at least 2 years out of date..I have the same issue with mine.

AB - 01/15/08 - 09:03

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

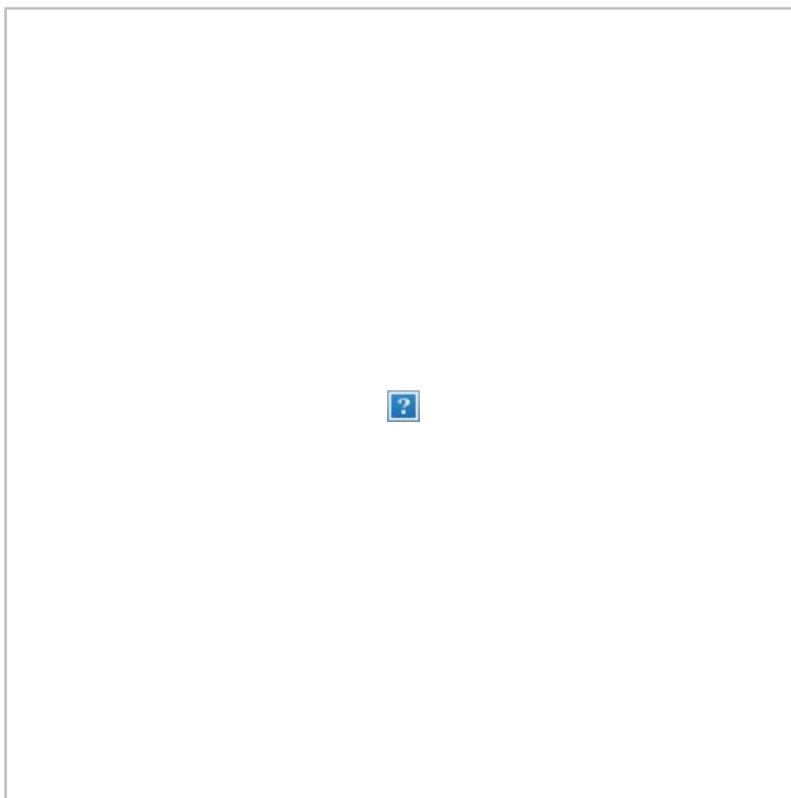
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Raleigh Rescue Company Histories

12/22/07 214 W, 1 I - + 21 - 11

Fresh from researching the old logs, here's some early history of Raleigh's rescue companies. Two Chevy/Murphy ambulances were delivered in late 1974. They were 1974 and 1975 model years. Upon their arrival, the Raleigh Fire Department expanded the number of staffed rescue units to two.



The 1974 model was placed in service as Rescue 9 on October 28, 1974. Rescue 9 was moved to Station 14 on July 24, 1978. Rescue 14 was moved to Station 6 on February 1, 1982. Rescue 6 was returned to Station 14 on July 17, 2004. The Chevy/Murphy was replaced in 1991 with a Chevy/Frontline, which was replaced in 2000 with a Freightliner/American LaFrance.

The 1975 model was placed in service as Rescue 1 in October 1974. Rescue 1 was moved to Station 3 by November 10, 1976. Rescue 3 was moved to Station 12 on July 24, 1978. Rescue 12 was moved to Station 7 on February 1, 1982. Rescue 7 was moved to Station 21 on October 14, 1998. Rescue 21 was moved to Station 19 on December 5, 1999. The Chevy/Murphy was replaced in 1991 as noted above.

The city's third staffed rescue company was placed in service at Station 7 on July 17, 2001. It operated a 1991 Chevy/Frontline, which was replaced with a 2002 International/SVI.

In prior decades, the fire department had a third rescue unit that was not staffed. The 1954 Reo Civil Defense unit was housed at Stations 1, 8, 10, 12 over the years, and removed from service in November, 1974.

[More information and photos](#) .

I wish they'd just named them Rescue 1 and 2, then added Rescue 3, and left them that way. Same with the ladders; Ladders 1 through 7. I think it would've aided in building tradition, as well as not having to remark equipment! Hahaha...we have equipment on our ladder that has been marked T-1 (when our existing rig was downtown), T-8, T-15 (old Seagrave), T-20 and L-20 (all on one tool).

Silver - 12/22/07 - 17:47

When you become Chief you can number them the way you want to.

firecapt - 12/22/07 - 18:36

Way to contribute to the blog. I hoped if someone were to talk smack, they'd at least have the courage to post their name.

Silver - 12/22/07 - 19:26

Great pic Mike!!!!

Duke3nc ([Email](#)) - 12/22/07 - 23:45

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh Truck Company Histories

12/23/07 414 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

Here's more research from the old logs. By 1962, Raleigh had four truck companies. T1, T5 (aerials), T6, T7 (service). By 1988, Raleigh had six truck companies. T1, T11, T16 (aerial), T8, T12, T15 (service).



Truck 1 (aerial) was placed in service after February 10, 1916 with a 1916 American LaFrance tiller. It subsequently operated a 1916/1939 American LaFrance tiller and a 1958 American LaFrance tiller. Truck 1 received a 1977 Mack/Baker platform in 1977. Truck 1 received a 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance tiller on March 16, 1987 (old T5). Truck 1 received a 1988 Pierce platform on September 21, 1988.

Truck 5 (aerial) was placed in service by October 5, 1961, with a 1961 American LaFrance ladder. Truck 5 received a 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance tiller by May 6, 1980. Truck 5 was removed from service on March 16, 1987. The apparatus was moved to Station 1. The truck company's beds were moved to Station 15.

Truck 6 (service/aerial?) was placed in service on June 27, 1949 with a 1922 American LaFrance service truck. After the 1922 ALF was moved to Station 7 in 1960, Truck 6 likely operated a 1939/1917 American LaFrance tiller. Still confirming this. Truck 6 was removed from service after February 14, 1962, perhaps due to the condition of the apparatus. Truck 6 was returned to service on February 8, 1965 with a 1964 GMC service truck. Truck 6 was moved to Station 16 on June 8, 1979.

Truck 7 (service) was placed in service on October 25, 1960 with a 1922 American LaFrance service truck. Truck 7 was removed from service from around April 8, 1962, perhaps due to the condition of the apparatus. Truck 7 was returned to service by June 15, 1963 with a 1963 Ford service truck. Truck 7 was removed from service on May 31, 1979, after an accident, until March 12, 1980. Truck 7 was moved to Station 12 on February 1, 1982.

Truck 8 (service/aerial) was placed in service after September 16, 1981 with a 1964 GMC service truck. Truck 8 received a 1977 Mack/Baker platform (old T1) on March 16, 1987. Truck 8 received the 1961 American LaFrance ladder in the fall of 1988, after it was refurbished.

Truck 11 (service/aerial) was placed in service by June 14, 1972 with a 1971 Chevy service truck. Truck 11 received a 1986 a Seagrave ladder in 1986.

Truck 12 (service) was placed in service on February 1, 1982 with a 1980 Ford. It was removed from service on September 20, 1988.

Truck 15 (service) was placed in service on March 16, 1987 with either a 1964 GMC or a 1971 Chevy. Have conflicting information.

Truck 16 (service/aerial) was placed in service on June 8, 1979 with a 1964 GMC service truck. Truck 16 received a 1961 American LaFrance ladder (old Truck 5) on September 16, 1981. By this time, the 1961 ALF had likely been changed from gasoline to a larger, noisier diesel engine. Truck 16 received a 1979/1958 Mack/American LaFrance tiller (old Truck 1) on September 21, 1988.

Make sense? There will be a pop quiz later.

Two additional facts found today. Truck 11 received its 1986 Seagrave aerial ladder by December 30, 1986. Truck 11 received its 1990 Spartan aerial ladder on August 24, 1990 at 1200 hours.

Legeros - 12/26/07 - 14:40

Miss those old service trucks. I remember one being in the spare bay at FS#19 in late 90/early 91 – believe it was the Ford. Where’s that museum we keep rambling about?

Olson - 12/27/07 - 12:06

The musuem is located on Forestville Road, also known as Station 28...haha

Curator - 12/27/07 - 13:10

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'?

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

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.

Happy Holidays!

12/24/07 31 W, 1 I - + 14 - 22

Best wishes for the season and the new year. Thanks for your support, faithful readers. Thanks, too, DJ, for starting this holiday thread.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

DJ

DJ - 12/24/07 - 15:20

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

AB - 12/24/07 - 15:20

And to all a Good Night!!

Silver - 12/24/07 - 17:58

Merry Christmas. Now somebody go put a light on that flag!

Henry P. - 12/24/07 - 20:27

...that's old Station 4 on Wake Forest Road, presently commercially-owned.

Legeros - 12/24/07 - 20:28

the warmest holiday greetings to all!

just keep in your thoughts our men and women overseas

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/25/07 - 00:07

Merry Christmas to all of the brothers and sisters!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I wish everyone a safe tour on duty and safe traveling over the holidays!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

God Bless you all!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jason

Jason Lane - 12/25/07 - 03:10

Merry Christmas to all and be safe this Holiday Season.....Jim

[jdkay] ([Email](#)) - 12/25/07 - 07:02

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'?

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

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.

Raleigh District Chief Histories

12/27/07 165 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

More findings from a week of holiday research, and a bit tougher nut to crack this time. Raleigh's Battalion Chief system was implemented on August 6, 1971. Two districts were created, and seven Chiefs were named. They were called District Chiefs, and six of the seven were assigned to Station 1 (Car 5) and Station 4 (Car 6). After July 13, 1975, Car 6 was moved to Station 6. The third district was created around January 1, 1977.



The third District Chief was placed in service at Station 4 (Car 4). Around July 24, 1978, Car 4 was moved to Station 9. The three cars were renumbered Car 51 (Car 4), Car 52 (Car 5), and Car 53 (Car 6) in April 1983. In late 1984 or early 1985, or even later, Car 53 was moved to Station 14. Still researching that. In 2001, Car 51 and Car 53 were moved to Station 15 and Station 17, respectively.

On January 10, 2004, the District Chiefs were renamed Battalion Chiefs, and a fourth district/battalion was created. The four chiefs were located at Station 15 (Bat 1), Station 12 (Bat 2), Station 1 (Bat 3), and Station 17 (Bat 4). On November 29, 2004, Battalion 3 moved to Station 8.

Stretching my memory, but when I moved to Raleigh in May of 1988, Car 51 was at station 9, Car 52 and Car 5 were both at station 1 and Car 53 was at Station 14, I think. There was no Car 54, and there was a mini pumper in that bay at Station 17.

Maybe that will help your time line.

Jon C - 12/28/07 - 22:15

Here's some more info – In 1988 there was no Car-5 (yet). The "Battalion Chief" (as it was originally called) was not implemented until around 1992 and was stationed at #1. The remainder of the info is correct: C51 at #9, C52 at #1, and C53 at #14. No Car 54 assigned, however in the late 1990's there was a reserve chief's vehicle labeled Car 54 (for inventory tracking), but not radio #'ed at ECC.

Thanks and Happy Holidays !

A.Rich - 12/29/07 - 09:17

Car 5 was returned to service as a "shift supervisor" in 1992, or perhaps December 1991. Still researching that. This person was called a Battalion Chief. They supervised the three District Chiefs, and were supervised by an Assistant Chief. In 2001, Car 5 was moved to Station 9. It occupied the space vacated by Car 51, which moved to Station 15 at the same time. On January 10, 2004, the Division Chief was renamed Battalion Chief, and District Chiefs were renamed Battalion Chiefs. On December 10, 2005, Car 5 was moved to Station 8.

Legeros - 12/29/07 - 10:40

One more piece of the puzzle. Car 53 was moved from Station 6 to Station 14 on January 1, 1988. Considerably later than suspected. Tracking this particular nugget required consulting both log books and retiree memories. Initial passes at the books for both the station and chief's car didn't yield obvious results. Asking around, one retiree remembered the time frame as 1985 or 1986. Another remembered the red car arriving after he'd been transferred from Station 14. Looking again at the station logs, the person wasn't transferred until early 1987. Also around that time, Station 18 opened. This was a possible data point. One reason for the chief to have been moved was an expanded district. With the station logs in hand, I paged forward into late 1987 and early 1988. Working backward, a late December entry answered the question. Effective January 1, 1988, Car 53 would be housed at Station 14. Mystery solved.

Legeros - 01/12/08 - 11:45

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'?

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

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.

District 1

12/28/07 41 W, 1 I - + 19 - 16

If you haven't seen it, or noticed it, here's what EMS District 1 looks like since the renumbering a few weeks ago. The "District 1" label color matches the chevrons in the rear of the unit.



saw district 2 the other day, the day-glo sign is on the rear side window on the left side of the star of life. you can't miss it that's for sure!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/31/07 - 23:47

District 3 is mounted the same way as District 2. It is easier to see installed higher on the side of the vehicle.

DJ - 01/01/08 - 00:54

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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Web Traffic

12/28/07 373 W - + 14 - 14

How did we do for web traffic this year? Looking at [Google Analytics](#), the top-level site ([legeros.com](#)) had 125,240 visitors¹ between July 1 and December 27². For the same period, 52,213 absolutely unique visitors were recorded. Those people averaged 5.25 pageviews, and averaged 2:59 minutes on the site.

The [Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting site](#) had 92,185 visitors between July 1 and December 27. For the same period, 25,080 absolutely unique visitors were recorded. Those people averaged 4.60 pageviews, and averaged 3:15 minutes on the site.

The [incident photos site](#) had 61,781 visitors between July 1 and December 27. For that period, 12,292 absolutely unique visitors were recorded. Those people averaged 3.00 pageviews, and averaged 2:58 minutes on the site.

This blog had 39,552 visitors between July 1 and December 27. For that period, 7,474 absolutely unique visitors were recorded. Those people averaged 2.48 pageviews, and average 1.58 minutes on the site.

Where were those people coming from?

The blog's 39,552 visitors originated in 49 countries/territories, with 39,291 from the United States, 34 from Canada, 24 from the UK, 14 from Aruba, and 11 from France. One of our regular readers works in Aruba from time to time.

The incident photo page's 61,781 visitors originated in 52 countries/territories, with 61,396 from the United States, 51 from Canada, 29 from the UK, 22 from France, 22 from Japan, 14 from Australia, 14 from Aruba, 13 from the Netherlands, and 11 from Germany.

The keywords that brought people to the incident photo pages included "raleigh fire department" (556 visits), "wake county fire departments" (459), "raleigh fire dept" (193), "tones for wake county fire pages" (!) (172), "cary fire station 5" (150), and "wake county fire shift calendar" (149).

The keywords that brought people to legeros.com included "toy fire trucks" (1,326 visits), "toy fire engines" (235), "ems codes" (185), "ems dispatch codes" (163), "two stepping" (107), "bad hemingway"³ (52), "sanborn maps of clayton, nc" (46), "fire buff" (38), "fire buffs" (30), "definition of mint condition" (29), "fire hose with raleigh threads" (28), "pierce enforcer" (22), "american lafrance eagle" (20), "nabs crackers" (13), "movies that changed my life" (12), "ectasy of gold"⁴ (11), and someone named "mike clumpner" (10). A total of 17,742 different keywords were utilized.

¹ Extrapolate to twelve months and we're talking 250K. Maybe it's time to add ads! Insert graphic of Daffy Duck with dollar signs in eyes.

² Google Analytics was installed in late April, thus the choice of a half-year reporting period.

³ See [The Old Man and C.](#)

⁴ Theme by composer Ennio Morricone. It appears in the movie *The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly*.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Apex wins Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG)

12/28/07 43 W - + 13 - 16

Looking at the [latest AFG awards](#), the Apex Fire Department has been granted \$61,875 for Operations and Safety. Another award close to home is Angier and Black River Fire Department. They've been granted \$155,325 for Operations and Safety.

Harnett County EMS also received a \$60k or so grant recently through the same program.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/28/07 - 18:12

Anyone from Apex know what the plans are for the grant?

Silver - 12/28/07 - 21:34

Hold for a bit ,I will let you know soon there silver, So when are you coming to pay a visit to Engine Company-7??? Be Safe.

TJKH - 12/29/07 - 22:00

Ward Diesel Filter system to put on all the apparatus. We decided to go with this vrs station mounted system for moving trucks around to different stations. They should be installed soon. Be Safe in the New Year

Apex Batt Chief - 12/29/07 - 22:32

Good investment, hopes it works out well for you guys, more so than the system installed at #3 did.

TJKH,if you're talking to me, I'd stop by but we both work "C". I still gotta get by and see Shev!

Silver - 12/30/07 - 13:05

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'?

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

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.

Fire Alarm > Working Fire

12/28/07 58 W - + 14 - 13

As observed this morning, a city fire alarm response upgraded to a working fire results in quite few tones. Second engine, third engine, rescue, bat chief, safety engine, div chief, air truck, and investigator. You might think it's a full haz-mat response, which we also observed this morning. Lots of tones today before lunch!

There is a definite risk in tapering the response assignment to the fire alarms, however calculated it may be. Statistically, most are false overall. I have found that in rural or residential areas, when responding to "residential fire alarm" activations, the origination of the alarm is more often an actual smoke condition and malfunctions are less frequent (unless there is an electrical storm). Commercial is the opposite. Keep your guard up when it's a residential fire alarm. Interesting discussion...(??)

A.Rich - 12/29/07 - 09:30

During 20 years of active fire service, I only went to one commercial alarm that turned out to be a real fire call. That was at the old Austin Foods in Cary, in the days of Yrac.

On the OTHER hand, I would agree with A. Rich, my experience with residential alarms is that there is usually something going on- usually something in the kitchen.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/29/07 - 13:47

Absolutley, especially here in K-town. Almost every residential FA we get is cooking related, and we usually spend a little time there. Most of our commercial FA's are false, with duct detectors as the most likely culprit. Commercial alarms with something to them are usually related to a HVAC issue (burnt up belt, ect.)

Hope everyone had a great Christmas

J.Boggs - 12/29/07 - 14:49

Complacency is our biggest enemy on the "bells" calls, "just another fire alarm". Get off the rig every time, with SCOTT's and tools like it's "game-time".

Silver - 12/30/07 - 12:56

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.

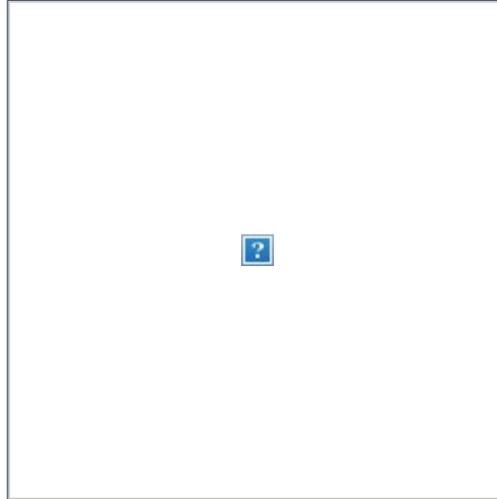
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Fire in Fayetteville

12/30/07 29 W, 1 I - + 18 - 17

The *Fayetteville Observer* site has some strong pics of a [floral shop on Fort Bragg Road](#) that burned last night. Andrew Craft took the picture below.



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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Vinyl Siding Concerns Block Knightdale Apartment Project

12/30/07 79 W - + 16 - 17

[This is a WRAL story](#) about Knightdale putting the kibosh on an apartment project because the developer was planning on using vinyl siding. As the story notes, the Town Council recent voted to amend its building codes, to ban the material in multi-family housing. The council's move was derived from findings by investigators after the Pine Knoll Towne fire in Raleigh on February 22. There are also a couple dozen comments by readers.

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](#))

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.

Raleigh Pre-Budget Public Hearing Set For January 8

12/30/07 96 W - + 15 - 13

The Raleigh City Council will hold a pre-budget public hearing on Tuesday, January 8, at 7 p.m. to receive public comment on the budget for the 2008-09 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2008. The public hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers in the Municipal Building. [Read the entire news release](#). Public safety (fire/police/communications) was budgeted \$134.6 million for the current fiscal year. That's 24.16% of the [fiscal year budget](#), and does not include capital improvements. Betcha water needs will be the highest priority this and probably future years.

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'?

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

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.

Thunder in Winter?

12/30/07 40 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Snow in ten days, or is it thirty? Make that *loud* thunder in winter. Pictured added for dramatic effect. From January 19, 2005, when about an inch of accumulation paralyzed the Capital City.



Ten

Car 9 - 12/30/07 - 16:31

Seeing that snowflakes are bigger than rain drops, if we were to get a foot of snow, how much would that help our drought situation?

I'm praying for a foot, but if it won't help the drought that much I'll pray for more.

Silver - 12/30/07 - 17:34

Snow, NOT ICE

Car 9 - 12/30/07 - 18:01

Quick Google search shows that consensus is about 6.5" of snow yields 1" of rain precipitation. But let's all hope that we don't test that theory any time soon... They're only calling for flurries on Wednesday morning. But of course, on January 19, 2005 they were only calling for a "dusting".

Olson - 12/30/07 - 19:41

Can't wait. out there on the beltline in the gridlock for hours!

Car 9 - 12/30/07 - 19:58

I was in NYC for my birthday on 1/19/05 and laughed hysterically when I saw that story on the news while relaxing at a Times Square lounge. Sorry to you guys that were in it, as I know you weren't laughing.

Silver - 12/30/07 - 20:25

A surprise snowfall sends fire units scrambling to multiple medical calls, vehicle accidents, and single-engine response fire alarms. Though only about an inch accumulates in the Capital City, melting snow on the roadways soon refreezes due to the low temperatures. Early-closing schools and businesses soon clog the slick streets with a record number of cars and buses. The resulting congestion stalls traffic and slows emergency

responses on both major thoroughfares and popular cross streets. Gridlock also hampers the efforts of crews clearing snow and applying sand. Tire chains are ordered onto fire apparatus about 2:30 p.m. Gridlock persists on major roads into the early evening and increasingly poor road conditions affect response times to some incidents. Dozens of abandoned cars litter roadways and firefighters assist some stranded motorists with finding shelter. Routine commutes take as long as ten hours for some drivers. Multiple-vehicle accidents occur throughout the afternoon, though no serious injuries are reported. The Raleigh Police Department responds to 422 vehicle accidents between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m., with another 60 reported accidents pending. By midnight, officers are taking information over the phone for minor wrecks. Units also respond to a working apartment fire at 1209 Holman Street around 8 p.m. Car 72 and Truck 1 are first on scene and report fire showing from a second floor window. Engine 1, Engine 13, Engine 2, Rescue 7, Battalion 3, and SR 5 also respond. Both the room and its contents are destroyed. By 10 p.m., approximately 350 school buses are still on the road. Another 3,000 children around the county re being sheltered at 56 schools for the night. Major arteries including both the Beltline and New Bern Avenue remain stalled into the late evening. By 11 p.m., Governor Mike Easley has declared a state of emergency for Wake County, allowing state government buildings to be opened as shelters. Other motorists sleep overnight in their cars. The fire department answers 152 calls between 0800 hours Wednesday and 0800 hours Thursday, nearly a 50% increase over the average volume of 82 calls per day. (January 19, 2005)

Legeros - 12/30/07 - 20:46

anyone have any interesting pictures from the gridlock events?

Car 9 - 12/30/07 - 21:59

Let's not forget the big snow storm of Feb 2001. Over 20" of snow in the Capital city in less than 24 hrs.

Jim Kay - 12/30/07 - 23:40

Jim, I was getting off duty in Durham that morning and was one of the 1st to make tracks down the Durham Freeway towards 40, a morning I'll never forget.

Silver - 12/31/07 - 00:12

wow '01, spent 4 days solid at the firehouse... I hope to never have to do that again

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/31/07 - 00:28

I was working in Chatham County, and left home in Smithfield a few hours early. The plows on I440 were following me. I spent three days at work. Lesson learned- IHC and Freightshaker chassis ambulances do NOT do well in snow.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/31/07 - 10:42

Are you guys sure that didn't happen in '00?

Henry P. - 12/31/07 - 10:42

From <http://raleighwx.easternuswx.com/raleigh..>

The 20 dates and their approximate snow accumulations at the airport, used for Raleigh were:

Feb 26-27 2004 6.5 inches

Jan 2-3 2002 10.8 inches

Jan 24-25 2000 20.3 inches

Feb 17-18 1989 6.2 inches

Jan 7 1988 7.3 inches

Feb 6 1984 6.9 inches

Mar 24 1983 7.3 inches

Jan 13-14 1982 6.0 inches

Mar 1-2 1980 11.1 inches

Feb 18 1979 10.4 inches

Jan 7-8 1973 6.4 inches

March 1 1969 9.3 inches

Feb 9 1967 9.1 inches

Jan 25-27 1966 9.7 inches

Feb 26 1963 6.9 inches

March 9-10 1960 7.0 inches

March 2-3 1960 7.1 inches

Dec 11 1958 9.1 inches

Jan 19 1955 9.0 inches

Jan 30-Feb 1 1948 7.8 inches

Legeros - 12/31/07 - 11:20

...as this historian observes time and again, we remember "what" much more clearly or easily than "when." Which makes sense. The passage of time is not perceived in the same immediate physical sense as other things we perceive. Well, unless you work in a clock store or...

Legeros - 12/31/07 - 11:28

Henry P, you're correct, it was 2000.

Silver - 12/31/07 - 17:52

Yea my bad,don't know why I put 2001.....What a night it was on EMS13 :)

Jim Kay - 12/31/07 - 19:15

...it took only three days.

Legeros - 01/02/08 - 21:24

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'?

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

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.

Fire Grenades and the Future of Firefighting?

12/31/07 87 W, 2 I - + 17 - 20

In days of old, [fire grenades](#) were thrown at the base of a small fire. These glass bottles first contained water or saltwater, and later were filled with chemicals such as carbon tetrachloride. [Dave Statter](#) surfaces the story of an [apartment fire in Port Jervis, NY](#), that was quickly controlled by the modern equivalent of a fire grenade. It's called the [Fit-5 Aerosol Knockdown Tool](#). Size of a lunchbox. Weighs about nine pounds. One color only. \$1,295.00, through the company store.



Now, imagine that such device is indeed a magic bullet. Suddenly, one person can effect an effective knockdown. So put one or more on every piece of apparatus. Over time, does somebody get the idea that fewer personnel are needed? Do magic bullets cause drops in stats, that cause administrators to note and get the same idea? Or maybe magic bullets instead evolve the response paradigm. A city with 10 fire stations and 10 engine companies evolves to, say, 20 "magic bullet units" and 5 engine companies. And you can take it from there. Decades ago, some fire departments utilized motorcycles with small chemical tanks. In Japan, big cities have motorcycle corps with either bike- or back-mounted extinguisher tanks. They're deployed in disasters, I believe. But if "magic bullets" could just as easily be carried on a bike, or small vehicle...?

Legeros - 12/31/07 - 14:49

And with enough "magic bullet" firefighting, the skills of personnel with surely be impacted. And even if their names aren't Shirley. So you would have even more drills on "old ways" firefighting. Or, heck, maybe tiered levels of fire responders.

Come to think of it, there are plenty of "old ways" long forgotten today. Such as pulling a building down with hooks and ladders.

Legeros - 12/31/07 - 15:10

And you, too, can own your very own "engine company in a box".

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ANTIQUE-RED-GLASS-GR..>

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/31/07 - 16:27

I think I've seen something similar to these advertised in one of the big fire service magazines.

Silver - 12/31/07 - 17:59

They are on ebay all the time. That's where i got mine.

DJ - 12/31/07 - 18:25

Mike, I think you forgot to take your meds again.

Mike - 12/31/07 - 21:35

Name: (real name)

Remember personal info?

preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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.

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.