

Legeros Fire Blog Archives - 2008 Postings Compiled, Part 2

July 2021

Greetings!

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

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

Civil Air Patrol

05/27/08 139 W, 1 I - + 12 - 14

Today's *News & Observer* has a [nice article about our local Civil Air Patrol squadron](#). The United States Air Force Auxiliary started a week before we entered into World War II, in December 1941. It became the official civilian auxiliary of the USAF in 1948. There are about 100 volunteers in Raleigh's squadron, the article notes. During the summer, CAP pilots watch Falls Lake, Jordan Lake, and Lake Wheeler, for distressed boaters each weekend. They also perform most of Wake County's search and rescue missions. The article provides a pair of links, to the [CAP site](#) and the [CAP history site](#). Good stuff, and good memories of three decades prior, as a teen cadet in the [Minnesota Wing](#). Meetings, study guides, standing at attention, and at least one overnight search and rescue drill in the winter wilderness. It was cold.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS 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.

Transformer Fire

05/30/08 46 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Here's an uncommon sight, CFR 3 on Aviation Parkway for a transformer fire at the corner of National Guard Drive. Lights out all around the airport, and probably tied to the shopping center street lights that blinked out at Brier Creek some twenty minutes earlier.



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Plane Crash on I-85

05/30/08 67 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

Speaking of uncommon sights, imagine the surprised drivers on Interstate 85 in Durham County this evening. This 1947 Piper crashed on the shoulder about 7 p.m. near Red Mill Road. One injury, airlifted to UNC. The aircraft was reportedly attempting a landing at the nearby Lake Ridge Aero Park, when it clipped a tree and crashed. [WRAL has the story](#), and this and other photos:



N&O has more details, victim is a sheriff's deputy, extrication took about 45 minutes. <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/story/1..>

Legeros - 05/30/08 - 23:12

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

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/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Fire Commission Special* « **Plane Crash on I-85** » **Diesel Prices Straini...**
Meeting, Wednesday, June 4

Fire Commission Special Meeting, Wednesday, June 4

05/30/08 75 W, 1 I - + 16 - 15

The Fire Commission has scheduled a special-called meeting for Wednesday, June 4, at 6:30 p.m., at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Commons Building at [4011 Carya Drive](#). The purpose of the work session is for the Fire Commission to receive and consider feedback from the Budget Committee on the County Manager's recommended [FY09 fire tax budget](#) . Note the earlier time than regular WCFC meetings.

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Diesel Prices Straining Emergency Responders' Budgets

05/30/08 34 W - + 14 - 12

[NBC 17 broadcast this story](#) about the rising cost of fuel and its impact on fire and EMS budgets. The segment features Bay Leaf Fire and Six Forks EMS.

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Downtown High-Rises Pose Challenges for Firefighters

05/30/08 43 W - + 15 - 10

[WRAL broadcast this story](#) about the Raleigh Fire Department's new high-rise procedure, which they report will be adopted in July. They'll be training this summer in some of the vacant dorms at NC State, the segment notes.

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Wendell's New Rescue

05/31/08 45 W, 1 I - + 18 - 9

...as [photographed by Lee](#). Delivered Thursday, a 2008 Spartan Metro Star/Hackney rescue truck. Lettering and equipment installation pending. Should be in service at Station 1 within a week or two. Old Truck 11 going to Castalia Fire Department in Nash County. Click to enlarge:



What will be its' radio designation?

Silver - 05/31/08 - 16:52

Rescue 110

lee - 05/31/08 - 17:12

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Summer Reading?

05/31/08 71 W, 1 I - + 20 - 7

Great photo illustration on the cover of this week's [New York Times Sunday Book Review](#). What's everyone reading these days, for class or leisure? On the blogger's bedside table is the classic *Fire Engines, Firefighters* by Paul C. Ditzel (for research), *A Sea of Words, Third Edition: A Lexicon and Companion to the Complete Seafaring Tales of Patrick O'Brian*, and novelist Michael Chabon's collections of essays *Maps and Legends*.



I don't have a bedside table but on my falling apart desk I have.... 3 issues of muscle and fitness, Hydraulics for firefighting and we were soldiers once....and young.

Kermit - 05/31/08 - 11:13

not on my bedside nightstand... but on my desk is a copy of the Routley Report. I'm on my 3rd reading I think...

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 05/31/08 - 12:17

I ain't scared to say it.....Maxim!

Beach ([Email](#)) - 05/31/08 - 14:01

John Maxwell's "The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership"

FYI - 06/01/08 - 12:02

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The Jambulance

05/31/08 22 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

Seen at today's Falls Fire Department Public Safety Day. Side lettering says "Performance DJ - The Jambulance." Can't touch this.



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Big Truck + Small Child

05/31/08 26 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

How to enlarge the size of your apparatus? Add one small child, and the truck will grow in size before your eyes:



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Old Charlotte Engine For Sale

05/31/08 43 W, 1 I - + 16 - 8

This Seagrave 70th Anniversary Series pumper is sitting in 5100 block of Tryon Road. It's an ex-Charlotte engine, lettered for C.F.D. Engine 2 and bearing a plaque naming city officials dated 1962. No other information known. Click to enlarge:



More pics and info:

<http://firenews.net/index.php/editor/blo..>

harkey (Email) (Web Site) - 06/03/08 - 22:25

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Secrets of Night Photography

06/01/08 181 W, 1 I - + 14 - 11

When shooting at night, light is almost always a problem. But light towers and halogens help tremendously, especially with a camera capable of 1600 ISO (or higher). Motion is the next problem, both camera and subject. Lock your arms, and press the camera hard against your face. Tripods or monopods work as well, but they can encumber a person in a situation where ease of movement is essential. But still subjects? Crews stay in motion at a fire, even when they're idle. They're conditioned to be conscious of "standing around." Chief officers are considerably more stationary, and they conveniently wear brighter apparel. Non-animated objects are also easy to shoot, such as apparatus, equipment, or, say, a big fat supply line. Thus the reason night fires by Legeros have fewer personnel pictures than you may expect. Even after hundreds of shot, so many are blurry and get deleted. But what about using a flash, you ask? No thanks. Ambient light is preferred. Too many reflective surfaces, too much contrast with a flash. Memo to self: investigate effective flash use.



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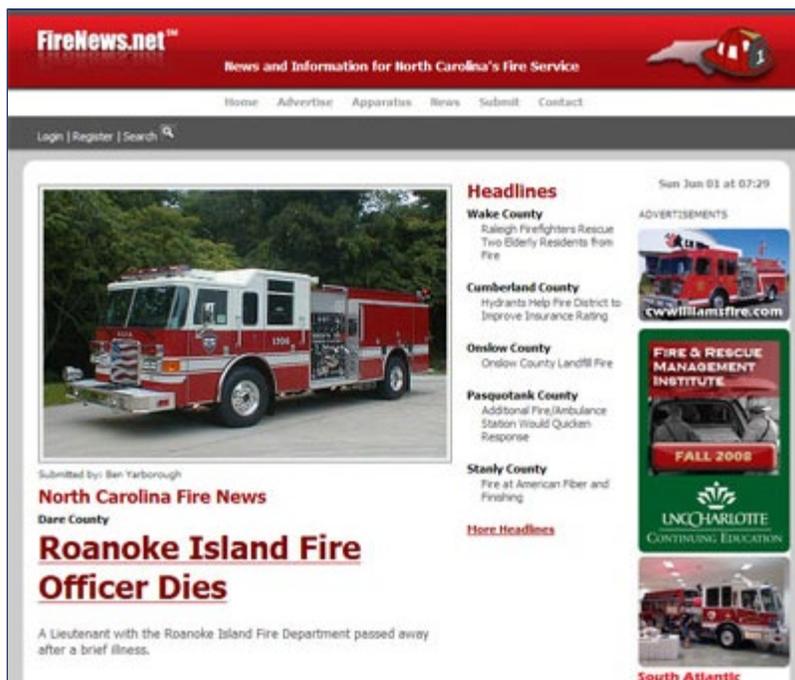
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New Version of FireNews

06/01/08 69 W, 1 I - + 16 - 13

The new version of [FireNews](#) has been pushed to production. The interface has been improved with a nicer, neater design. The architecture has also been improved to facilitate easier and more frequent updates. New stuff? There's an [Editor's Blog](#), for starters. And a page of information about [Contributors](#). Motley crew there! What happened to the old stuff? This page of [Legacy information](#) has that information.



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Old Photo of Station 12

06/02/08 24 W, 1 I - + 19 - 14

Engine 12 as a 1975 Mack CF pumper and Truck 12 as a 1980 Ford service truck. Taken in the Eighties. Click to enlarge:



WOW!!! good find

lee - 06/03/08 - 12:36

is that FOAM 12!!!!

JBoggs - 06/03/08 - 14:29

At that time it was E12. I remember when #12 was staffed with E12 and T12. That T12 is the former T7 after the wreck and remount.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/03/08 - 15:46

Nope, 12 had a "truck", a service truck that is....it then eventually had a foam unit.

Silver - 06/03/08 - 15:47

I just seem to remember early to mid '90s in my explorer days an old engine with a boat load of foam buckets in the hose bed

JBoggs - 06/03/08 - 17:04

When I first came here in '00, it was still in service. If memory serves me right, at first it was an American LaFrance, then a Mack.

Silver - 06/03/08 - 17:11

Name: (real name
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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Bo Burns

06/03/08 99 W - + 10 - 10

There was a working fire at the [Bojangle's on Western Boulevard](#) yesterday afternoon. Alarm time around 2:30 p.m. Engine 8 first on scene. Ladder 1 also attending, as Ladder 20 was participating in high-rise training nearby at State. Single-story brick structure with 5,206 square-feet and an attic space. Fire in a storage room, with [WRAL reporting](#) same starting in the kitchen. Really burned their biscuits, so to speak. Two of three lanes of westbound Western Boulevard were closed, also says the news. That's a funny driveway and incline over there. 'Tis a fine breakfast destination. Hope they're back in business soon.

The Bojangle's on Western Blvd is one of the top money makers in the franchise. It will not be closed long. On a lighter note, at least they did wait until after I was moved from EMS4 to have the fire.

DJ - 06/03/08 - 09:20

the cleanup company was on site this AM already working...

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/03/08 - 10:52

When I attended State I heard that this location was **the** busiest one in the franchise. After going there a few times I could clearly understand why, but (for me) they were always efficient. Also add in all those "Tailgate Specials" on game day...

Luke - 06/03/08 - 21:56

I've heard anywhere from 1st to 3rd. So, I went ot one of the head managers for the franchise (I transported her a couple of times years ago-almost delivered her kid) and she told me it was one fo the consistent moneymakers with Fuquay-Varina, Selma, and Clayton also being in the top three or four consistently.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/04/08 - 08:15

Smooth Size up given by Captain Rich. Scene was impressively organized.

Smooth - 06/06/08 - 17:01

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

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What if Firefighters Ran the World?

06/03/08 14 W - + 16 - 7

This one's making the rounds. Nextel commercial. Hilarious.

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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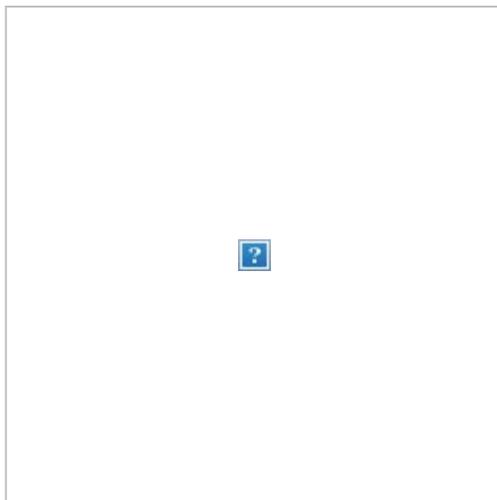
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Universal Studios Fire

06/03/08 68 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

They say it's the longest operating commercial structure fire in Los Angeles County history. Realty meets unreality. LAFD has an official Flickr site, with [several dozen suburb shots](#) from the scene, including [this one of a scorched pumper](#) by Scott LaRue. Below is the aftermath, shot by Allen J. Schaben for the *Los Angeles Times*. Notice the LAFD dozer in action. Click to view more:



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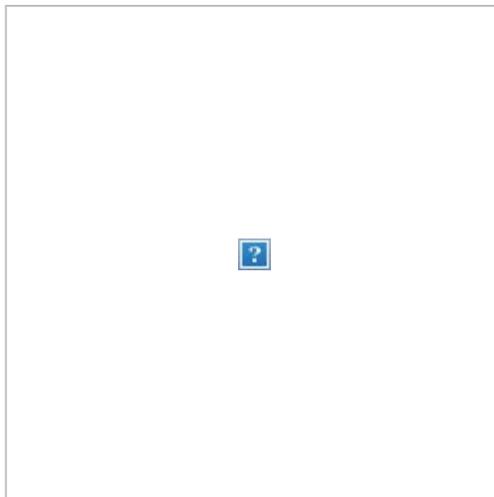
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Tarzan Hot

06/05/08 32 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

"Man it's hot. It's like Africa hot. Tarzan couldn't take this kind of hot." Matthew Broderick as Eugene Morris Jerome in *Biloxi Blues*, script by Neil Simon, from [his play](#).



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This Evening's Fire

06/08/08 80 W, 1 I - + 13 - 9

Two alarms at [2311 Byrd Street](#). Reported grill fire that spread to deck. Engine 6 first on scene at a two-story, brick residence with 2,569 square feet. Built in 1940. Engine 6 reporting working fire both on deck and in rear room. Second alarm requested by Car 5 to relieve personnel due to heat. Fire units on scene included E6, E5, E9, E13, E16, E3, L1, L16, R14, B2, B4, C5, C20, A8. EMS provided rehab with a number of units and Truck 1.



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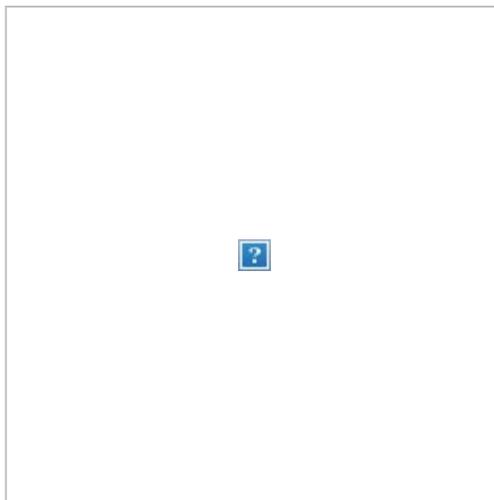
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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Fire From Space

06/09/08 56 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

The [News & Observer](#) has a nifty AP photo of the Hyde County wildfire as seen from space. The article reports that the fire is presently the largest such fire in the United States. What resources around here have been sent there? FireNews also posted some aerial photos, [if you haven't seen them yet](#).



I heard Apex was sending a crew???

Silver - 06/09/08 - 12:38

Right now the resources sent from Wake County are 1 Engine and 1 Brush truck from Morrisville and 1 Brush truck from Wake Forest. Multiple units have been sent from Johnston county and even a tanker from Orange County New Hope.

D. - 06/09/08 - 13:56

Apex did send a brush truck and crew

ApexBattChief - 06/09/08 - 17:11

Wake Forest sent engine crew (4) and brush crew (2)

Wayne - 06/09/08 - 17:50

Wake EMS and Eastern Wake EMS have been assisting, reports <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/wake/st..>

Legeros - 06/10/08 - 21:50

talking to family today in NE NC and they said that there are smokey conditions in their neck of the woods. now the largest wildland fire in NC history!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/10/08 - 22:09

A second wave of personnel will be departing tomorrow to relieve the initial deployment for a second operational period through Saturday.

Olson - 06/10/08 - 22:52

Do they need more help up there ? Who would I contact about sending crews? I've got a lot of guys willing to go.

Chief Meares ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/11/08 - 09:50

I would suggest contacting your local fire marshall's office.

Mike - 06/11/08 - 19:27

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Kenly Structure Fire

06/11/08 58 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

For those monitoring, that's the Kenly structure fire on PS Event 4. FireNews has [incident details](#). Multiple alarms at the Kenly Tire Company at the intersection of Highways 301 and 222. Single-story metal building, 80x150. Aerial operations. Departments from Johnston, Wilson, and Wayne counties. Selma's foam unit just arrived, for a fuel tank that's part of the incident.



This is the building, I believe: <http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&ge..>

Legeros - 06/11/08 - 21:00

you can smell it here in Raleigh

lee - 06/12/08 - 00:08

WRAL has a few photos: <http://wral.com/news/local/story/3029935..>

Legeros - 06/12/08 - 05:14

Name: (real name
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Tee in Flight

06/12/08 60 W, 2 I - + 16 - 10

Today's [National Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament](#) at Eagle Ridge Country Club in Raleigh produced one particularly cool photo. Canon Digital Rebel XT and 18-55mm kit lens, and highest-possible shutter speed, 1/4000 second. Shutter priority mode, I believe. Couldn't capture a crisp golf ball smack, alas. One day I'll get better with my camera settings. Click to enlarge:



Neato, you'll be sitting court-side before you know it!

Tom Suiter - 06/12/08 - 20:59

Eagle Ridge is actually inside the town limits of Garner.

Map Guy - 06/12/08 - 22:43

yup.. with a Raleigh address... kind of like people that live in Cary with an apex address... etc...

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/12/08 - 22:46

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Yesterday's Fire / Harps Mill Road

06/13/08 87 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

Two alarms at [7721 Harps Mill Road](#). House fire with multiple calls received. Engine 15 first on scene at a two-story, frame residence with 2,828 square feet. Built in 1978. Engine 15 reporting major working fire with flames through roof. Alarm time about 5:20 p.m. Controlled about 5:36 p.m. "C" shift companies on scene included E15, E4, E22, E19, E25, E11, E9, L22, L16, R19, R7, B1, B2, B4, C5, C20, A8. EMS units includes EMS 122, EMS 33, D3, MD20, T1. [More details and photos from Lee Wilson](#).



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Code Purple

06/14/08 45 W - + 12 - 10

As this [WRAL story details](#), state officials have declared the most extreme air-pollution warning possible for folks in the northeastern part of the state. Code Purple, from the smoke from the wildfire. Guess it'll be smoking or smoldering until the next tropical storm.

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Onslow Firefighter, Deputy Killed While Directing Traffic

06/14/08 75 W, 1 I - + 17 - 10

Details from the [Jacksonville Daily News](#). Both were directing traffic on US 17 south of Verona at 5:30 a.m., when struck by a tractor-trailer rig. Another deputy was severely injured. Deputies and firefighters were directing traffic due to low visibility conditions, due to fog and smoke from a controlled burn. Vernona Fire Department Asst. Chief Gene Thomas and Onslow County Sheriff's Deputy Steve Boehm died in the crash.



WRAL has more details on the deaths of Vernona firefighter Gene Thomas and Onslow Deputy Steve Boehm, <http://wral.com/news/local/story/3044969..>

Legeros - 06/14/08 - 16:26

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Wake County Fire* « **Onslow Firefighter, D...** » **Cary, Apex EMS Units ...**
Academy Now Accepting Applications

Wake County Fire Academy Now Accepting Applications

06/15/08 70 W, 1 I - + 15 - 8

[Wake County Fire/Rescue](#) is now accepting applications for its first county-wide fire academy. Applications must be received no later than August 1, 2008. The academy is scheduled for September 2008 through January 2009. Successful candidates will receive: Firefighter II, HazMat Operations Plus, EMT Basic, ICS, Firefighter Rescue, Firefighter Survival, Rescue Technician, and Fit Testing. See this [PDF flyer](#)  for application requirements and contact information. Good luck!

Best thing since sliced bread.

Jake - 06/15/08 - 08:50

So you have to be affiliated with a FD and furnish your equipment? That seems a bit odd compared to other fire academies in the area...will definitely reduce the number of applications.

Sanders - 06/15/08 - 11:41

Can somebody tell me what the starting pay is? Is Wake County firefighters just going to float from station to station or what?

Matt - 06/15/08 - 11:57

This is not an academy for employment. It is an academy for people wanting to obtain their certifiactions like the one that is ran by Durham Tech.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/15/08 - 14:41

Chev is correct this is the same type of academy like other community colleges run. Johnston Community college, Durham Tech and Wilson Tech. It gives the firefighters who can attend day time classes a chance to finish their certifications in less time than taking classes at night. Back when I was teaching at JCC we ran 2 a year and 99.9% of the students had paid firefighter jobs with in a year! I am glade Wake Tech and the county have pulled this together because when I was at JCC most of the students came from Garner, Durham Highway, Western Wake, Wake New Hope, Wendell, Knightdale, Six forks, Bay leaf and Wake forest. SO good luck to the staff and the students!

Jason Lane - 06/16/08 - 19:37

Great Idea, and a good chance for quality and consistency with training in this county.

JBoggs - 06/17/08 - 11:42

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

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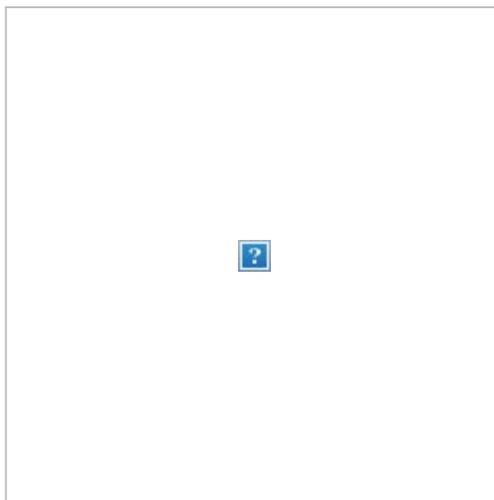
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Cary, Apex EMS Units Could Consolidate

06/15/08 73 W, 1 I - + 20 - 10

Yesterday's *News & Observer* featured a [Cary News story](#) about a possible merger of Cary EMS and Apex EMS. The two have been talking about a consolidation for over a year, the article notes. The last such merger in these parts was when Eastern Wake EMS was created from agencies in Knightdale, Wendell, Zebulon, and, as of July 1, Rolesville. Learn about [Cary EMS](#). Learn about [Apex EMS](#).



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Remember personal info?
Yes
No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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Something in the Water

06/15/08 38 W - + 17 - 10

Fatal shooting near Blount and Lee streets Tuesday night. Fatal shooting at Walnut Terrace Friday night. Fatal shooting on Peyton Street Saturday morning. Body found on Glenwood Avenue this morning. Must be the heat.

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

Remember personal info?
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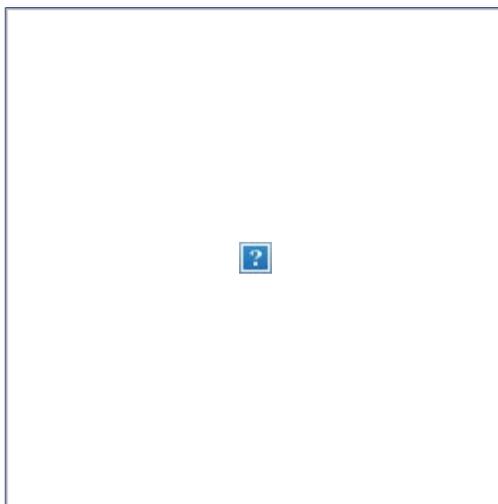
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Iowa Flood Photos

06/16/08 61 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

There's strong photography coming out of Iowa and that terrible flooding. The [Des Moines Register](#) has numerous galleries, including a Best of collection. A story titled [Tempers Flair as Residents Wait](#) features the below AP photo by Seth Wenig, showing officers with gun and baton drawn, as a resident attempts to circumvent a roadblock. Not a good idea.



If only NCHP would do that on our 10-50 scenes!!

Beach ([Email](#)) - 06/17/08 - 17:19

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

Remember personal info?
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County Commissioners Approve Recommendation to Close Western Wake Station 2

06/16/08 74 W - + 16 - 7

[NBC 17 reports](#) that today the Wake County Board of Commissioners voted to accept the recommendation of the Wake County Fire Commission to close Western Wake Fire Department Station 2 starting July 1, and with the Cary Fire Department commencing contracted service of the newly created Cary Suburban Fire Insurance District at that time. Guess what we thought was a done deal took some time for final approval.

Video footage of the meeting is available at <http://wake.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.p...> Start watching at about 3:30:27. The unanimous vote for "closure" is actually the discontinuation of county funding for Station 2. It is also noted in the meeting that four other county stations are simultaneously being evaluated for "closure," with the county Fire-Rescue Division talking to the city of Raleigh about coverage. Recalling a prior WCFC meeting, those are Bay Leaf 3, Falls, New Hope 1, and Western Wake 1.

Legeros - 06/16/08 - 20:59

The News & Observer has the story today, <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/wednes...>

You can now post comments on the News & Observer site, for stories.

Legeros - 06/18/08 - 05:14

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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New Apron for Station 5

06/18/08 46 W, 1 I - + 13 - 8

Picture says it all. One side at a time. Station was built in 1961, and replaced a 1926 structure at same location. Also housed truck company from 1961 to 1987, foam unit from 1965 to 1990, and air unit from 1991 to 2007.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
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Cary's New Rescue/Service Ladder

06/18/08 61 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

This 2008 Pierce Velocity heavy rescue/service ladder truck was delivered this afternoon. Equipped with a light tower, cascade system, retractable awning, and full complement of ground ladders, it replaces Truck 7. In related news, Truck 6 was placed in service yesterday, June 17, at 2:00 p.m. The 2008 Pierce Velocity aerial ladder was delivered in April. Click to enlarge:



You beat me to the punch by a few hours, <http://todddeery.smugmug.com/gallery/520...> Great photos though.

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 06/18/08 - 20:35

Nice rig....I'll have to walk over and check it out. When's the wetdown?? Hahahahahaha.....

Silver - 06/19/08 - 17:32

Placed in service yesterday, July 15, at about 4:15 p.m. Old Truck 7 has been placed in reserve.

Legeros - 07/16/08 - 07:22

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

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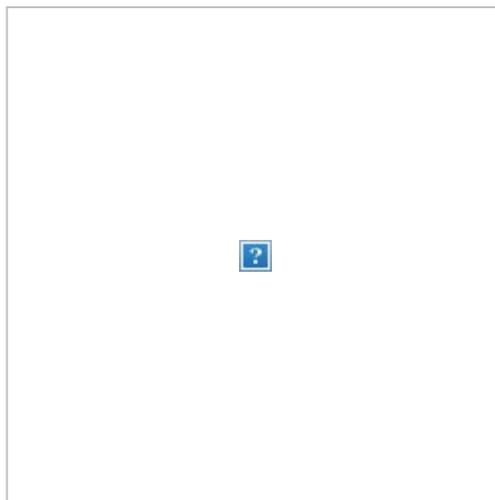
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Remembering Charleston

06/18/08 67 W, 1 I - + 15 - 15

Today is the anniversary of the Super Sofa Fire that killed nine Charleston firefighters on June 18, 2007 . The *Post & Courier* [reports on today's memorial service](#), one image from which is pictured below. They also have [video footage of the service](#). There are also a number of features at [Firehouse.com](#). Reflections and commentary are present on a number of sites, including [Firefighter Hourly](#) and [Statter911](#).



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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *News Articles* / « Remembering Charlesto... » Charlotte House Explo...
Wake Forest Crews Return From Wildfire / New Fuquay Firefighter

News Articles / Wake Forest Crews Return From Wildfire / New Fuquay Firefighter

06/19/08 34 W - + 15 - 10

[Wake Weekly article](#) on Wake Forest Fire Department members who returned from eastern N.C.

[Fuquay-Varina Independent feature](#) on the town's newest firefighter.

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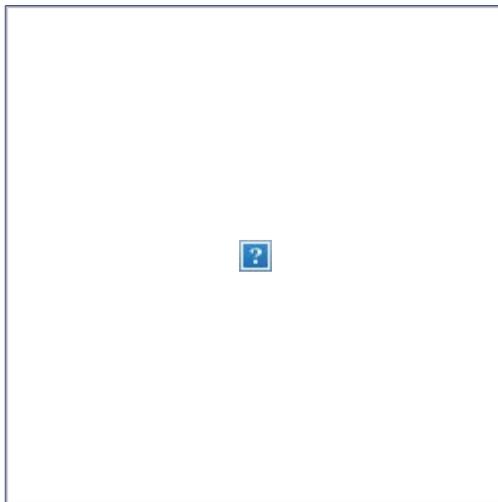
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Charlotte House Explosion

06/20/08 65 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

The *Charlotte Observer* has [dramatic images of last night's fatal house explosion](#). One toddler was killed and two adults were seriously injured. Gary O'Brien took this shot, one of several in the article. The details of the story paint a scary picture. Crews were called to the neighborhood 90 minutes earlier, for a strong smell of gas five houses down. Nothing found.



How it happened, as investigators have determined: <http://www.wsocvtv.com/news/16731234/deta..>

Legeros - 06/29/08 - 10:07

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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Could a Defibrillator Have Saved Tim Russert?

06/20/08 63 W - + 20 - 10

Heart disease is still in the spotlight one week after the passing of television newsman Tim Russert. [This New York Times blog](#) and accompanying comments discuss the role that AEDs could have played. Said blogger's prior post concerns the consequences of wearing flip-flops. However, it doesn't advise if wearing Hawaiian shirts aggravates foot and leg problems.

Coronary artery disease was probably his single biggest risk factor for having a fatal heart attack. Going on little sleep just compounds that—and other—problems. In fact, sleep plays directly into all of the chief risk factors for heart disease.

Kelly ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/11/08 - 01:20

I know a guy who worked at NBC in NYC and would see Russert in passing. Said he always appeared "stressed out", and during a political season; "fuhhhhggettt about it".

Silver - 07/11/08 - 09:40

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Web Site: (optional)

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Haz-Mat 8

06/20/08 49 W, 1 I - + 19 - 8

Delivered yesterday to Station 8, this haz-mat recon vehicle will be utilized by members of NC Regional Response Team 4 and NC Task Force 8. The 2008 Ford F-350 Super Duty truck will be equipped with monitoring equipment. It's also equipped with a tow hitch.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Woman is Fired Up About Firefighting Mural

06/21/08 39 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

[News & Observer story](#) about a person not pleased with a firefighting mural at Firehouse Subs in Chapel Hill. Seems some school rivalry is reflected in the piece. The offending artwork:



Let me say what Tim Goss should have said. Good Ms. Brown go somewhere else! Let me get the door for you. Firehouse subs ain't gonna go under because of your offended feelings. GET OVER IT! It's a picture for petes sake.

jetexas - 06/21/08 - 17:22

that's one woman that needs to get a life and while she's at it... a clue... it's a joke and seen as such... geeze

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 06/21/08 - 17:32

Now, I just moved to Edenton, but I seem to recall that this mural has been the subject of the same type of controversy in the past, and the response was the same... —"Deal with it, it's just a picture!" It would be the same as a mural on the campus of UNC depicting something happening at Duke, and it wouldn't get mentioned in the paper. But, God forbid, it be in a public business...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 06/21/08 - 18:34

hey, this is good advertising for the place! – now, i want to check it out, and i'm sure it'll bring a lot more folks in who are curious as well

cornerhydrant - 06/21/08 - 20:42

You should see the mural at the firehouse subs in Durham, It has the duke blue devil in turnout gear and the UNC ram mascot on fire.

guest from the west - 06/22/08 - 20:19

I see both sides actually. As a member of CHFD and the IAFF Local President it does carry with it an aire of flippancy since every Firehouse Subs I've been in the mural has been created after pictures of an actual incident. This mural doesn't show how seriously we take our job. Now, with that being said the business is in downtown Chapel Hill and is frequented by either students or functioning members of society that know how big the rivalry is and are able to see it for the joke that it is. (as a side note, the flag used to be an NC State flag.)

Local2580prez ([Email](#)) - 06/23/08 - 15:28

Name: (real name preferred)
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Indy Article on Raleigh Budget

06/22/08 40 W - + 15 - 10

This week's *Independent Weekly* has a [detailed article on the city's proposed budget](#), and in particular talks about income sources (impact fees, capacity fees, taxes) and capital projects (public safety center, remote operations center, etc.).

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Here's another Indy piece on the [News & Observer job cuts](#). Today's paper also [provides information on the coming changes](#). Readers can expect less local coverage, less business news, less late stuff (sports, breaking news), and a page less of opinion each week. All told, it says, 14 fewer pages each week. What role has the Internet and social media had here? Speaking, er, writing anecdotally, it's been some years since the paper was one's sole source for news of incidents or developments related to fire departments. There are now niche news sites, such as [FireNews](#). There are niche bloggers, such as Yours Truly, who provide a sort of journalistic service. Official press releases are increasingly common, and easy to find online. Same with public documents, which can be browsed or search for noteworthy news. Etcetera, etcetera. Whole new world.

Living in Charlotte, and seeing what the conglomeration of the people who own the Charlotte Observer and the N&O has done here I am close to canceling my subscription because the only reason I got the paper was for the local news. That has all but disappeared, and what is in there is usually so incompetently covered or written that it is frustrating to read. Now the only reason to get the paper is to read the comics. Seems to me they are taking away the stuff most people read the paper for, is it any wonder the paper is a dying format? How about less AP news stories and more actual reporting versus hyping.

coop2 - 06/22/08 - 17:36

One of the more successful newspapers in the area is The Dunn Daily Record. It covers a lot of local news and very little beyond. The Smithfield Herald USED to be a good read, but the format has changed and the content is less. Now it is not worth the bother. I think that the de-emphasis on local news by the N&O is a big mistake. Oh well, the print media is in decline. Before you know it there will only be online media to read.

DJ - 06/22/08 - 20:15

DJ is right about the Dunn Daily Record – I think we can attribute the decline of the Smithfield Herald to the fact that they are now owned by the N&O and are now printed in Raleigh. I'm sick and tired of the N&O poor mouthing and bashing our troopers. They're as bad as WRAL. There are some interesting comments that were added to WRAL today about their choice of news coverage and covering a cow calling contest over the trooper's funeral. Local news and sports is the only reason I look at the N&O now... if they get any worse, I too will stop reading. When I first started in EMS our local newspaper reporters were always carrying their scanners and coming to the scene of even minor accidents. We had EXCELLENT coverage of local public safety news from newspaper back in the day and they always gave us excellent photos of our scenes. The local newspaper reporter is a dying thing in this area it seems.

Jason ([Email](#)) - 06/22/08 - 21:23

News coverage in general is getting crappy. Think about it- WRAL shows news from 5:00 pm until 6:60 pm and they regurgitate the same stuff over and over. There is a lot happening here in the Triangle. There is enough happening in Raleigh and Wake County alone to keep WRAL busy. And there are lots of so called 'national' and 'international' news outlets. Aside from CNN, MSNBC, and FNC, there are the network programs. But it is a sad commentary (on who I can't say- the public or the news media) when national news coverage centers more and more on 'celebrity worship' and who was bumped from "American Idol".

Oh well, I guess we get what we ask for/ deserve.

DJ - 06/22/08 - 21:52

Jason raises the question of balanced coverage, in his comments regard SHP stories. Do some agencies or classes of responders get fairer shakes than others? What does bad (unbalanced) coverage look like? Or, if you prefer, what would good (balanced) coverage resemble?

Legeros - 06/22/08 - 21:57

One thing I've noticed; if a Trooper is allegedly doing something wrong, it'll be a top story on wral.com for 5 days. But, when one gets killed in

the line of duty, it's a story for 1/2 a day, then Miss Teen NC is the lead story. I say we all boycott wral and watch NBC!!!!

Silver - 06/22/08 - 22:28

you want to talk about a crappy paper, take a look at the Eastern Wake News...better known as the "Eastern Wake Enquirer" for its tabloid-esque nature.

JBoggs - 06/23/08 - 08:52

It seems a lot of the local papers have that tabloid approach. One that I have always thought was a class act in the past was The Tideland News from Swansboro, as compared to the National Enquirer approach by The Carteret County News-Times in Morehead City. Like I said above, I used to enjoy The Smithfield Herald, which was based solely on local news. Bottom line is that the news media is ever changing to another entertainment venue. Like everything else, I guess it has to make money. Maybe the fact that communities are changing and that society is changing plays a big role in "what is news". Maybe some of the crap that passes for news does so for its "entertainment value".

I remember watching "Today" when I was growing up and the emphasis was on "news". Of course, there were a lot of news events going on then- Viet Nam, the Civil Rights struggle, and more. Now the lead stories involve "Survivor", "American Idol", "Dancing With The Stars", or what/who has Britney Spears or Lindsey Lohan or Nicole Richie done lately. And who cares how many kids Brad and Angelina adopt/ have? And look at the format of shows such as "Fox and Friends". And then you have to remember that many more people get their "news" from entertainers like Rush Limbaugh, Shaun Hannidy, etc., and that even more people truly get their news from "Entertainment Tonight" or "Insider", or "Inside Edition".

An NC trooper getting killed on the job is a brief spot, but yes, troopers having sex in the car goes on and on. Firefighters making a genuine rescue got how much media coverage? But I bet the fire chief in Harnett County accused (only accused at this point) has drawn more attention. Anyone seen anything about Chief Crocker from Pine Level on WRAL, WNCN, or WTVD?

Who gets the better (or fairer) 'shakes'? Hmmm, I don't know if I want to jump on that one or not...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/23/08 - 10:18

Responder saves someone, versus responder steals from someone. Which gets more news coverage? Well, that's a no brainer. By why does that happen? Why is, say, a law officer scandal covered twice or more as much as a law officer duty death? Part of the reason, I suspect, is that difference in the situations, and with respect to expectations of readers/viewers. They are, by in large, not members of the responder community. Thus, their expectation of a responder is someone, well, who may die in the line of duty. That story is "dog bites man." Not unusual, if you will. It is within the framework of their expectation. But a scandal, a responder who commits bad behavior? That goes against their grain of expectation. Yeah, the responder is just as human as anyone, but that society-applied higher standard turns the story toward "man bites dog." Unusual. Thus, perhaps one of the reasons for the disproportionate coverage.

Legeros - 06/23/08 - 21:54

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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

Raleigh Passes Budget

06/24/08 59 W - + 17 - 12

City leaders approved the FY09 budget last night. Included is a mess of public safety funding, including construction of Station 29, an additional ladder company, and increased starting salaries and academy completion increases for fire and police. The Clarence Lightner Public Safety Center was also funded, part of the Capital Improvements Program. [Read the entire press release.](#)

Name: (real name preferred)
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Stony Hill's Rescue

06/24/08 38 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

Stony Hill Rescue 26 is expected in early July, the third of three 2008 Spartan/Hackney heavy rescues. Hopkins and Wendell have already received theirs. The picture below was taken June 19.



FYI – It's a little different and "slightly" shorter than the standard "pinched and dropped frame" Hackney design that Wendell and Hopkins has. One noticeable difference is that it has ROM roll-up doors. Striping and lettering still to come... The design is a first for Hackney and so far the process has went well. Overall, it appears to be a good build and we are excited about the new addition.

A.Rich - 06/25/08 - 09:39

AC, how does the size compare to RFD's Pierce Rescues? More storage or less?

Silver - 06/25/08 - 09:47

Probably about the same to slightly more, but there may be a little less in the interior due to the ladder tunnel (since it's a ladder/service truck). However, there are HUGE coffin compartments up top.

A.Rich - 06/25/08 - 11:50

Are they equipped with cascade units?

Silver - 06/25/08 - 17:13

No we chose not to put a casad system due to the fact that Wake Forest and Bayleaf both having air trucks.

J. Schwenk - 06/25/08 - 17:58

Schwenk on the blogs..... Are cows flying?

WOW!!!! - 06/26/08 - 18:40

What is a "casad" system? Is that made in Iraq?

Casadmanba - 07/10/08 - 09:42

It is on it's way. On my way to work today, I saw Stony Hill's new truck being driven from Washington to Stony Hill on it's delivery drive with a Stony Hill chase car/chief's car behind it. Looked nice. Wish we could have a truck like that for our department. Congrats!!!

Steven ([Email](#)) - 07/24/08 - 18:43

Dalmatians

06/25/08 14 W - + 17 - 13

Humor from the current issue of the [New Yorker](#). Scroll down to Dalmatians.

Mike reads The New Yorker.

Yeah... it figures.

Pretty funny, though.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/26/08 - 16:18

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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No

Comment:

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

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Summer Movies

06/25/08 52 W - + 16 - 12

Speaking of minor amusements, there's a pretty good laugh to be had when watching [The Incredible Hulk](#). One scene features a 6x6 military communications-type unit in downtown New York City, except the vehicle is... an [Oshkosh Striker crash truck](#). No one else laughed that day in the theater. Go figure.

Name: (real name preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

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Yes

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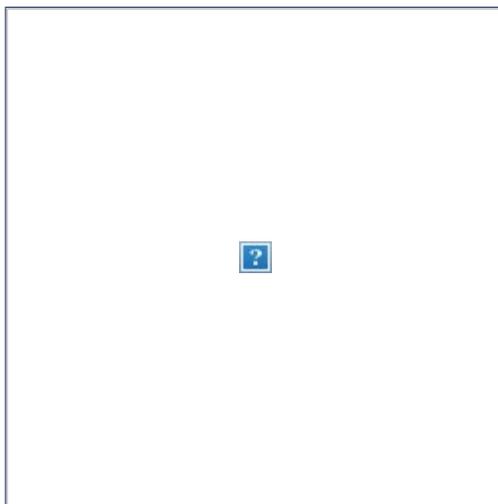
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Custom Chassis Ambulance

06/26/08 36 W, 1 I - + 13 - 16

From a reader, here's something new and exciting, a Spartan/Braun custom chassis ambulance. It's their Furion chassis. Read the [JEMS product preview](#). More about [Spartan](#). More about [Braun](#). Click to enlarge:



Miami-Dade has one, <http://forums.firehouse.com/attachment.p...> \$247,000, says one discussion board.

Legeros - 06/26/08 - 17:53

Finally!

No doubt costly for now (remember when VHS players were over \$1,000.00?). But maybe this is a good step in light of the reliability (not!) provided by the commercially available chassis up to now. Having used Ford, GM, IHC, and Freightshakers for several years, I have yet to be impressed by the durability and dependability of these vehicles. We'll see how it works out.

Maybe Pierce is next with a custom chassis for Med-Tec.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/26/08 - 18:39

Now if the ambulance industry will get serious about designing modules and using materials geared for the years of service that this chassis is intended for. Nice concept – nice price. Metro-Dade (operating a crew of 3 on their “rescues”) was to have put this unit in service in mid-June. Will be interesting to read the reviews in a year or so.

I'll keep my money on the Freightliners for now... at least they aren't Ford.

Olson - 06/26/08 - 18:55

We had one demoed here in Dekalb Co. a couple weeks ago, and from the word out of HQ was that they were very impressed with them in design features and turning radius. We will see what the outcome is since we are getting ready to buy 10 new rescues..

Jim Kay - 06/26/08 - 20:36

I will echo the comments “at least they are not Fords”. And I agree with the comments about the module construction. There is no excuse for modules to be making as much ‘rattle noise’ after only a few months of service. Even with relatively light service, it is amazing how noisy the current crops of ambulances out there really are. And how undependable various components are (the overhead interior lights come to mind).

My own experience with medium duty chassis is from a hospital-based service covering several Sandhills area counties (mostly used units) and a small municipal service to the east (a single new unit). Granted they are not E350s and E450s, but I still believe that there should be better alternatives out there, given the number of EMS runs every year (and it is going up as we type/read), than those that involve us having to make poor adaptations and 'make do'.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/26/08 - 21:48

Jim Kay, when you see "rescues", we say "ambulances", correct? Sort of like Miami-Dade, but they are staffed with an officer & 2 and at fires they do go to work. Are you guys on the same type system?

Silver - 06/27/08 - 09:59

Hey Silver, Yes we function in the same way, with the exception that we run with 2 (1 Firemedic and 1 FF) and usually go in and perform a primary along w/fire attack, and as a crew we carry a set of irons and a puller. On a single family residence we respond with 3 engines, 1 truck, Heavy Rescue, Rescue (ambo), Squad, 2 B/C's, on report of working fire Air truck gets added. On an Apt. fire or Commercial job a 2nd Truck is added to the assignment. Now let me clarify for you. A Squad is a Rescue Capt. and FF. They are on a F550 w/utility body and carry extra equipment. There is 1 per Batt., with the exception of Batt. 3 where we have 2 due to the call load. The second BC operates as the safety Officer. We currently operate from 26 Stations staffing 22 Engines, 4 Quints 70', 7 Truck Co's (3 100' TDA's, 3 95' Sutphens and 1 70' Sutphen) 19 Rescues, 6 Squads, 1 Heavy Rescue, 2 HazMat Trucks and 5 BC's 2 Air Trucks and 1 ARFF Truck and a number of specialty units. Oh yea we also have a Dozer.

J. Kay - 06/27/08 - 12:56

A dozer? NICE!!

Silver - 06/27/08 - 15:54

Hey Jeff,
Yes a Dozer... That's what I said too.. It's at station 17 in the far SE side of the county, They are our wildland team. The Heavy Rescue is at Sta. 24 as is the GSAR truck (Georgia Search and Rescue) 1 of 10 in Georgia. Here's a link that explains the system <http://gov.georgia.gov/00/press/detail/0..>

The Dog team is at Sta. 21 and forgot to mention we have an on duty asst. chief also (Car 7) feel free to listen in at scandekalb.com

J. Kay - 06/27/08 - 16:24

Bet the Fire Commission will want some dozers in a few years for Wake County

Dashlight - 06/27/08 - 16:34

LOL. If you can't get the staff to put out the house fire just cut a line around the subdivision.

DRT - 06/27/08 - 16:39

Don't give 'em any ideas, the geniuses that manage the money but have no clue about the fire service might say "hey, we can just staff a dozer with one versus a fire engine with four"?

Silver - 06/27/08 - 23:27

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Yes

No

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Municipal Notes

06/27/08 238 W - + 14 - 11

Morrisville passed their FY09 budget, [reports NBC17](#). The replacement for Fire Station 1 was retained (\$3 mil), but a new piece of apparatus didn't make the cut. The station structure began its life in 1960 as a two-bay building facing Morrisville-Carpenter Road. Planned widening of the road, and the impact on egress and response times, are cited as a reason for the relocation. [See their budget docs](#).

Knightdale has approved a fire service agreement with Eastern Wake, to provide fire protection to the Poplar Creek Village, Cheswick, and Riverview Commons subdivisions. This from their [eViews Weekly Update](#). The town had planned to build a second fire station near those areas, but that project was postponed.

Wake Forest budget [information is here](#), including a message from the Town Manager about fire protection, funding, and the future. They appear to be adopting a "wait and see" approach with regard to the funding increase requested by the prior fire chief. [Learn about Wake Forest FD](#).

Apex doesn't appear to post their budget information on the web, or at least this blogger can't find the documents. [See what you can find](#). Ditto for Holly Springs, which also doesn't appear to post their budget information. This year at least. [Look for yourself](#). In both cases it is worth noting that public records requirements does not equate to a requirement for Internet posting. The latter is simply a service provided by many municipalities.

It is also worth noting that this blogger is not a journalist, nor does he play one on television. The above examples are absolutely apples and oranges, where I am entirely cherry-picking examples of "fire news" (or "fire budget news") from some but not all of Wake County's municipalities. The beauty of blogging, however, is the capacity for comments. If compelled, readers can complete some of the pictures. Or even take me to task for playing with apples, oranges, and cherries in a public forum.

Legeros - 06/27/08 - 05:40

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Web Site: (optional)

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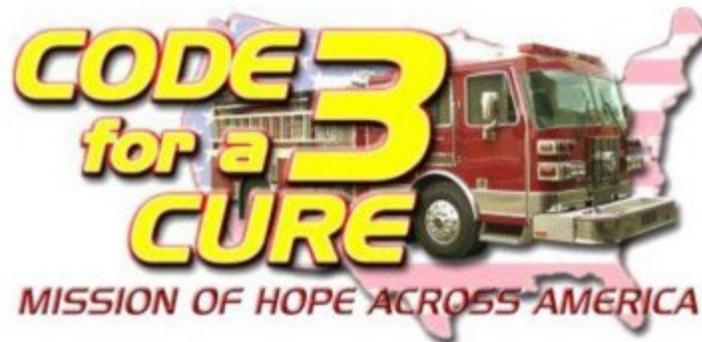
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Code 3 for a Cure Visits Raleigh on Sunday

06/27/08 126 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

The [Code 3 for a Cure](#) tour stops in Raleigh on Sunday, June 29. The firefighters and their Sutphen pumper are expected at [Station 1 on S. Dawson Street](#) from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. They are collecting the names of personnel both active and retired who have lost their lives to cancer. The Code 3 crew started their trek in southern California on June 13, and are stopping at various departments along the way to Times Square, where they will read the names and ring the bell on their truck. [Read their intinerary](#). They will repeat the process on the return trip, and read additional names in Los Angeles upon concluding their 8,800-mile journey. Good luck.



Date corrected. Sunday, not today.

ML - 06/27/08 - 10:20

Mike-Their intinerary shows them leaving Raleigh at 1:00pm, not 3:00pm.

JD - 06/27/08 - 17:16

Time corrected. Thanks.

Legeros - 06/27/08 - 22:38

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Your Brain Lies to You

06/27/08 77 W - + 15 - 19

Don't believe everything you read, or everything you remember. This [nifty New York Times article](#) is about the science of memory and its relationship to what we remember as truths versus falsehoods. The brain does not store information as a computer hard drive does, it begins, but instead keeps rewriting and reshaping the information as it is recalled. And during that process, its context is lost. They call it source amnesia. Fascinating.

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Tokyo Fire Department New Year's Fire Review

06/28/08 53 W - + 18 - 15

Here's a treat via [YouTube](#), footage from the Tokyo Fire Department's annual New Year's Fire Review. Fire trucks, fire boats, fire helicopters. Synchronized streams, synchronized rappelling, synchronized aeriels. Bet it's a blast in person. Music by Richard Wagner, "Ride of the Valkyries" without vocals.

Here are two more trippy videos, from 2006. Earthquake response, with simulated fire and rescue scenarios. The second clip show a motorcycle crew, and some sort of backpack "pop nozzle." Plus their earthmoving equipment. Now that's a department equipped for USAR!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1bDo_Uxf..

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xq7fkx1cy..>

And here's an old-fashioned parade. Those are some seriously annoying sirens!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-as-rhrvO..>

Legeros - 06/28/08 - 22:37

Judging from Tokyo FD's experience with some pretty big building fires (along with several other Japanese cities) I would venture that these guys have some pretty impressive capabilities, given the large amount of what seems to be specialized apparatus that I have seen in many different sources.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/29/08 - 12:50

NFPA article from 2002 about TFD, http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qa..

Largest FD in the world, with 17,993 employees and a \$2 billion budget. Some 1,839 pieces of apparatus and 80 fire stations protecting 12 million residents. Approximately 6,933 fires per year, or about 19 per day. In 2001, 4,044 of these were structure fires. Each year they receive

a million emergency calls, and perform 570,000 ambulance runs, 60 percent of which are for minor injuries. There are also 24,434 trained volunteer fire corps members, for disaster response.

Legeros - 06/29/08 - 12:59

I would be curious to see how Tokyo's stats compare to other cities, such as New York, London, Seoul, Berlin, etc. Or even closer to home, a comparison of Raleigh/Wake County's stats to similarly sized cities throughout the world.

As I recall in my travels most cities in the world do not have the same size pumpers as we do, usually smaller.

DJ - 06/29/08 - 13:15

New York population in 2000, over 8 million. From FDNY report in 2002, total structure fires: 26,248. Total medical emergencies, 158,461.

Today, says Wikipedia, FDNY has some 13,800 uniformed members. Looks like 220 fire stations, from

http://www.n2nov.net/fdny_locations.html

Berlin population today, 3.4 million. BFD has approximately 3,800 members, and 38 fire stations. Yearly budget of \$283 million. In 2006, says a translated Wiki entry, they also had 58 volunteer fire brigades, and 42 youth brigades. They had 709 vehicles plus 43 "swap bodies" (pods?), 76 "supporters" (support vehicles), four "machines" (heavy equipment), 30 "rescue" and 2 "delete" (rescue and recovery?) boats. In 2006, they responded to 8,233 fires.

London population in 2006, 7,355,400. Nearly 7,000 members, and 112 stations. Operational fleet with 267 pieces of apparatus, plus 100+ reserves and 25 for training. In 2005-06, attended 16,000 serious fires.

Seoul population in 2007, 10,421,782. The Seoul Metropolitan Fire and Disaster Management Department has... 22 fire stations, or says Wikipedia. Can that be right? City is 233 square-miles in size, or twice that of Raleigh. Their official site: <http://www.fire.seoul.kr/>

Paris population in 2006, 2,167,994. They had 8,340 personnel who man 81 stations and facilities, and operate 463 pieces of equipment: 130 pumpers, 63 aeriels, 66 ambulances, 71 command and patrol vehicles, and 133 special units including boats, helos, ATVs, four-wheel drive vehicles, etc.

Legeros - 06/29/08 - 13:52

Seoul is correct. I was there a few years back. Fire stations are few and far between.

A pattern has emerged: large cities around the world have what appears to be smaller fire departments— fewer stations, fewer trucks, fewer personnel, and fewer calls in, for most of them, older structures.

Mike, I can't pull it up, but maybe you can. A comparison of fire apparatus types from city to city. Like, how do their pumpers compare to ours, their ladder trucks, and their staffing.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 06/29/08 - 14:36

Seoul might differentiate between "fire stations" and "branch fire stations". I think that in Tokyo, Seoul, and Taipei that the "fire stations" will have pumpers, ladders, and chiefs. The smaller "branch fire stations" will have pumpers only.

Peter Sz ([Email](#)) - 08/21/09 - 14:44

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Hong Kong Airport Fire Contingent

06/28/08 41 W - + 19 - 13

And while we're exploring the Far East, here's an English-language video introducing the fire department at Hong Kong International Airport. Though their wheeled apparatus is interesting, its the two gargantuan rescue boats that stop the show.

Except there's no video :)

paul - 06/29/08 - 18:33

Works for me. Direct link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KENkgr9az..>

Legeros - 06/29/08 - 21:20

i was able to open it in safari and camino on the mac, but not in firefox where i have scripts blocked

cornerhydrant - 06/30/08 - 00:39

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Digital Photo Post-Processing

06/29/08 106 W, 1 I - + 20 - 11

This is an [example of digital photo post-processing](#), from this morning's house fire on Atkins Drive. Image 1 is right out of the camera, using a Canon Digital Rebel XT and a Canon 17-40mm F4 L lens. Priority shutter mode, ISO speed 1600. Shutter speed 1/60 sec., focal length 20.0 mm. With flash. Saved in Canon RAW format. Image 2, using Canon Digital Photo Professional software, adds sharpness. Image 3 changes white balance setting to Flash. Image 4 crops closely and changes to portrait orientation. Image 5 increases the exposure. Image 6 increases the contrast. Image 7 changes the picture style to Portrait. Click to view:



It sure can be a time consuming process to get an image just the way you want it. Your camera appears to exhibit relatively low noise levels at high ISOs, a good thing given the nature of your photography. Is 1600 the highest setting of which you camera is capable? Do you use any noise reduction software in you post-process work flow? Also, regarding your work flow, have you tried sharpening as the last step rather than your first? I find that I have better control over the sharpening results, if I wait, until at least after I've cropped. Oh, and I like the shallow DOF that you've utilized in some of your recent photos like this one, <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2008-0..> . Keep up the good work.

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 06/30/08 - 18:31

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preferred)
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And There You Have It

07/01/08 65 W - + 18 - 6

Yesteday at 1900 hours, an official out-of-service message for Western Wake Fire Department Station 2 was broadcast. The message said the station was "10-7" and that Engine 293, Pumper 297, and Utility 2 were out of service, and that Rescue 295, Brush 299, and Pumper 196 were now in service at Station 1. Short and sweet. Alas, the transmission wasn't recorded on the [live scanner web site](#).

Sad. I had a lot of good times at that station and at WWFR. Stay safe, and keep doing what you do.

Barrett ([Email](#)) - 07/02/08 - 10:16

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Looking Back on Station Closures

07/01/08 178 W, 2 I - + 12 - 13

There appear to be exactly two similar station closures in county history. Wake Forest Fire Department #2, a separate department formed in 1942 by black members of the town, ceased operation in 1982-83. Their station was located on Taylor Street. Their members and assets were incorporated or partially incorporated into WFFD. (That's an oral history waiting to be recorded!) And WFFD being the town department, as Wake Forest Rural Fire Department was a separate entity at the time, with separate members and equipment.

Western Boulevard Fire Department, formed in 1958, ceased operation in 1960. (On April 1 of that year, the city annexed a bunch of land in west Raleigh, and Engine 8 was placed in service at Western Boulevard and Method Road.) The WFFD station was located on Powell Drive, on the northwest corner with Western Boulevard. Some of their equipment was designated surplus, and was later transferred to the newly formed Swift Creek Fire Department. WBFD members reorganized as Fairground (singular) Fire Department in 1961. [These history pages](#), though a bit outdated, tell more. Click to enlarge images:



The WBFD pumper pictured was in service at Fairground as late as 1974. It was typical of many fire trucks built by American Fire Apparatus in having the rear windshield for the tailboard personnel. The paint job was also typical of many American Fire Apparatus products. At least one other in Wake County alone (the original Six Forks Road pumper) had the same basic paint. I remember seeing numerous others throughout NC and VA.

Trivia- while I do not know if it was delivered with it, in later years the Fairground pumper sported a Buick engine. Around 1975 it was replaced with another American Fire Apparatus pumper, on a Chevrolet chassis, but according to several members there at the time it was woefully underpowered. They did not keep it long.

DJ - 07/01/08 - 10:24

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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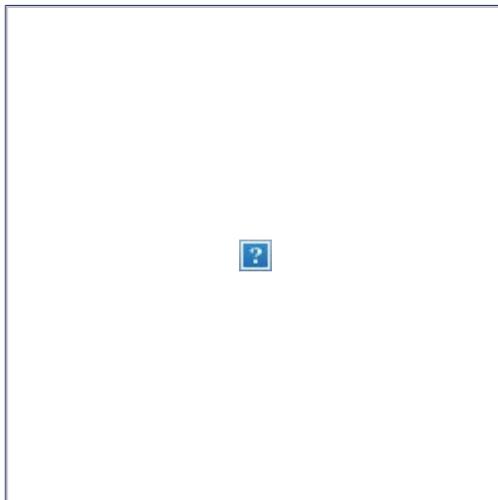
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Great Shots

07/01/08 32 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

FireNews has posted some great shots by ~~DFD member Sean Boone~~ Julian Harrison of an [apartment fire on Angier Avenue](#) on June 12. Some times the stars align for strong photography...



I wouldn't doubt it if Mr. Julian Harrison is the man responsible for those photos. He's usually the man behind the camera whenever you see awesome fire photos from the Bull City. He usually sells video fire footage to the local media as well. If it's video of Durham's Bravest just getting on scene of a job, he's usually the one rolling the video camera.

Silver - 07/01/08 - 22:25

You are correct, and I will correct!

Legeros - 07/01/08 - 22:27

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Web Site: (optional)

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No

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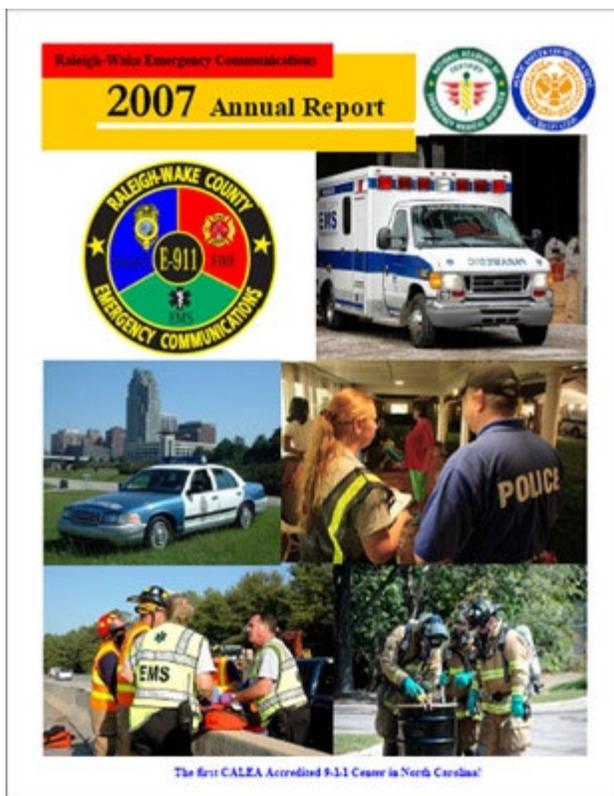
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center Annual Report

07/02/08 52 W, 2 I - + 14 - 12

This was released much earlier this year, but it's a pretty cool document for anyone who hasn't seen it. This [annual report from the Raleigh-Wake Communications Center](#) features stats, milestones, an org chart, keen cover photos, and other interesting information.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
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Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center Also Hiring

07/02/08 53 W, 1 I - + 7 - 15

The communications center is also hiring, with their next academy starting in early October. Both Call Taker and Telecommunicator positions are open. They're hiring 8 of the former and 4 of the latter. Visit the [city employment site](#) for application information, or learn about the [Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center](#).



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

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Random RFD History

07/02/08 517 W - + 13 - 6

News & Observer, August 14, 1932. Memorial Auditorium dedicated that day. Beneath the stage is a fire station, which saves the city cost of an additional building to replace Station 2 on South Salisbury Street. Has room for two trucks, and sleeping quarters for both officers and firefighters. The presence of the fire station also adds a 24-hour watchman service to the auditorium, which also saves the city money. Unknown how long this practice was practiced. Probably decades. One side of the (interior?) stage wing is designed for use as a drill tower, for firefighters to practice scaling the sides of tall buildings. Station 2 was pretty much the training location, until the tower was built in 1954. News & Observer, April 4, 1942.

New fire alarm switchboard installed. The switchboard is "completely automatic" unlike the manual switchboard it replaced. Meaning, I believe, some person performed the switching of incoming fire alarm box signals. All hours, all days. It's housed in a "small fireproof building near the Union Depot, and near where the new central [fire] station is to be built." The city building inspectors says the \$13,900 switchboard is the only one of its kind in the state. And it should be sufficient to handle 50 or 60 years of city growth. The building, later called the alarm house, "has room to house the fire department's emergency truck and a shop to repair traffic signals."

The truck room explains the garage door that's still there today. The "emergency truck" may refer to the "auxiliary truck" that the fire department started using in the 1940s. This was a light truck equipped with a small pump, tank, hose, and other equipment. Was same "stationed" at the alarm house? Or just parked there? Unknown.

City minutes, January 23, 1926. Bids are read for construction of a "Fire Alarm Station" adjacent to Station 1 on West Morgan Street. The award to J. N. Bryan amounts to \$1,632.50, which includes all labor, materials, and work as shown in the drawings and described in the specifications. Does this mean an earlier alarm house existed, behind the earlier Station 1? It appears so.

News & Observer, August 13, 1941. Personnel complete the transfer of equipment from Station 1 on West Morgan Street to old Station 2 on South Salisbury Street. Engine 1 is moved, and will share the Salisbury Street facility with Engine 2. They've been displaced from Memorial Auditorium, which isn't big enough to accommodate the two ladder trucks AND the engine. The new Station 1 will also house the "central telephone exchange" covering all fire stations. Ten firemen are housed in the facility, including two switchboard operators.

The article also notes that W. B. Barrow & Sons Contractors has started work on building the "signal system house" on South Dawson Street. The future alarm will include "window frames and other materials salvaged" from old Station 1. Unknown if those materials are salvaged from the station proper (built 1896) or the alarm house behind the station (built 1926).

Take a look at the alarm house some time. The first floor bricks look particularly old.

If I wanted to take a trip around Raleigh looking at historical fire dept. (or related) sites/buildings, where would I go?

marriedtothefireservice - 07/04/08 - 20:23

Here's a guide, [http://www.legeros.com/history/stations/..](http://www.legeros.com/history/stations/)

Here's a map, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/h..>

Legeros - 07/04/08 - 20:25

Name: (real name
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Yes

E-mail: (optional)

No

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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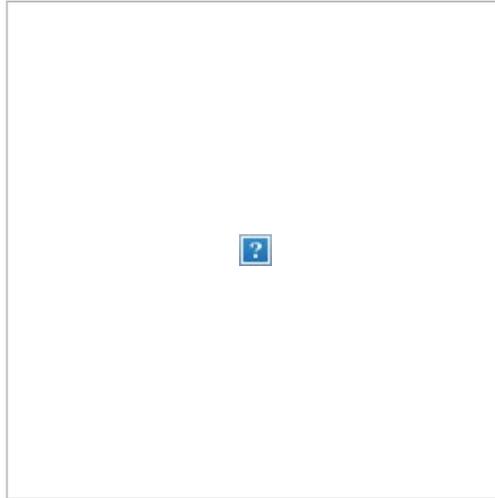
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Dunn Emergency Services

07/02/08 59 W, 1 I - + 17 - 8

Found via FireNews, the [Dunn Daily Record reports](#) that the town's fire and rescue services have successfully merged. The new organization was placed in service on June 30. They have a Fire Division and EMS Division, and are occupying facilities of the former Dunn Fire Department (East Harnett Street) and former Dunn Rescue Squad (West Cumberland Street).



Dunn also has an interesting former firehouse. The town hall at 401 East Broad Street was built in 1966. The rear lower level has three former bays facing Edgerton Street. <http://legeros.com/history/nc/images/dun..>

Alas, earlier fire station locations are not known to this historian.

Legeros - 07/02/08 - 21:37

Question...wasn't a similar merger considered for RFD and Wake EMS back in the 1970's?

Wondering - 07/03/08 - 09:38

I doubt it wondering. In this merger EMS took over the FD. You don't hear about that happening much, normally it is the other way around.

Mike - 07/03/08 - 10:14

There was talk and discussion about RFD assuming EMS from the old Beacon Ambulance Service. However, the Wake County Commissioners decided that, since they ultimately were responsible for it, that they should assume it.

As to Dunn's situation, it seems that the chief had been requesting additional personnel for some time, but I think that the Dunn commissioners are rather conservative. While I personally do not think that this was the best resolution, it does give a consistent staffing for fire purposes. And as stated in the article, they do have a consistent idea of what financial resources are available each year.

And it is different that EMS was the 'assimilator' (that's probably not a word) in this situation.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/03/08 - 11:12

Rephrasing an anonymous and subsequently deleted comment from earlier today, what potential people problems exist when fire is folded into EMS? Nobody blinks, say, when a Fire Captain runs a shift of both fire and EMS personnel. Does the reverse work just as well for all parties concerned, when an EMS supervisor runs the daily show?

Legeros - 07/08/08 - 21:12

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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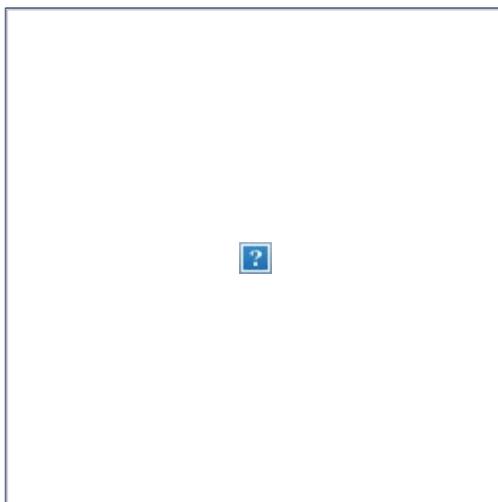
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

New Kinston Fire Station

07/03/08 78 W, 1 I - + 10 - 14

As seen on FireNews, [this news site](#) reports that the Kinston Fire Department has a new Station 1. The 16,000 square-foot station at [401 E. Vernon Avenue](#) replaces an older facility on East King Street. That station, built in 1962, replaced a 1937 structure on West King Street, which replaced an 1895 structure on South Queen Street. [Read more about Kinston firehouses.](#) The web site of the [Kinston Professional Fire Fighters Association](#) features the nifty photo below. Click to enlarge:



Are those barn-door style bay doors?

Coolness - 07/04/08 - 09:25

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Western Wake Car 190

07/04/08 34 W, 1 I - + 21 - 10

Lettering, emblems, and chevrons added in recent days. Photographed outside this blogger's daily destination for breakfast. The hot bar / cold bar combo is the best.



I don't know about a daily breakfast location, but I was off 2 days this week and picked up something healthy both days! Thanks for all you do Mike!

David Cates - 07/04/08 - 14:42

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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This Morning's Major Fire / Dellcain Court

07/06/08 130 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

Three alarms at [11705 Dellcain Court](#) in Brier Creek. Engine 24 arriving with second floor fully involved of frame residence with 2724 square feet. Built 2006. Defensive operations to protect threatened structures on either side of fire building. Ladder 23 operating. Extensive spread of firebrands in neighborhood. Alarm time 2:14 a.m. Under control at 3:43 a.m. Units on scene included E24, E23, E17, E4, E16, E22, E9, E15, E8, E6, Durham E13, Durham Highway P4, Bethesda E421, L23, L16, L22, Bethesda L413, B4, B1, B3, C5, C20, A8, E7 for relief, Six Forks EMS 122, 121, Wake EMS T1, and Cary EMS D5. Coverage included E13 (at 16), L1 (at 17), L11 (at 15). "C" shift, with "B" shift following. [Listen to online scanner archives](#). Click to enlarge morning-after photo:



Good job with the pano. Those can be tough to stitch together. What software did you use?

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 07/08/08 - 20:27

Photoshop Elements 5.0 is the magic, with some hand-editing to correct perspective.

Legeros - 07/09/08 - 20:50

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Lightning Rods

07/06/08 112 W, 1 I - + 17 - 8

Wind, rain, booming thunder, and a [house destroyed overnight](#) after an earlier lightning strike. Anyone else started thinking about lightning rods. Here's [all about them](#), from Wikipedia. But do they work, at least when used on houses? The Straight Dope weighs in with this [2001 column](#). That guys says yes, mostly. Google yields more answers, but most seem affiliated with a lightning rod provider. Shocking, there. **What are readers' experiences?** Post your thoughts. That's a local strike below, shot some years ago from Lake Wheeler Road south of Tryon Road. Great place for photographing storms. G***** it's so exciting, to quote the Thin Lizzy song¹.



¹ *Thunder and Lightning*, John Sykes guitar, 1983.

I work at Bok Tower in Florida, a 205 foot marble and coquina (limestone) bell tower sitting atop the highest point in peninsular Florida. The tower is protected by an engineered lightning arrestor system. In the past year the tower itself, not the arrestor system has been struck twice by lightning. The last being two weeks ago. While no significant damage has occurred I haven't seen the great benefit of the lightning arrestor system.

stretch - 07/07/08 - 20:25

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

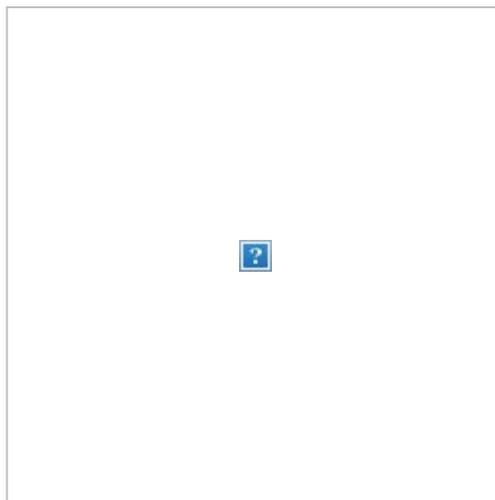
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Harkers Island, Church Fire, New Ladder

07/07/08 62 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

Found on [FireNews](#), the *Cartert County News-Time* has posted a photo of the Free Grace Wesleyan Church that burned on Sunday morning. Harkers Island resident Mary Ellen Schramm took the stunning shot. The [online article](#) includes additional shots, one of which shows an aerial operating. Same is probably HIFD's recently delivered [Spartan/Rosenbauer aerial ladder](#).



Spent last week at Harkers Island on vacation and had the opportunity to meet the Fire Chief. They spent several evenings doing ladder operations training with the new truck. Bet this wasn't quite what they had in mind for a training evolution though. Hate to see these old buildings meet such a fate.

Olson - 07/08/08 - 00:17

Link to Ladder 41 delivery info and photos:

http://www.cwwilliamsfire.com/012008_har..

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/08/08 - 11:36

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Menacing Skies

07/08/08 19 W, 3 I - + 10 - 12

Sunset plus storm clouds equals grab the camera. You guess the locations. Not hard. Click to enlarge:



What is the upper level, Crabtree Valley Mall?

Alex Trebek - 07/09/08 - 08:14

For \$200, identify the second location. Here's a hint, it's the location of a once-planned entertainment complex north of the Beltline.

Legeros - 07/09/08 - 20:50

north raleigh blvd and westinghouse blvd??

rpd - 07/10/08 - 00:13

We have a winner!

Legeros - 07/10/08 - 05:31

Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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

This Evening's Storms

07/09/08 66 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

What were some of the longest runs in the cities and county tonight, for the various lightning strikes and structure fires? Heard Western Wake dispatched to Fayetteville Road and Simpkin Roads. Another call (to Morrisville?) had Durham Highway and Apex on the same dispatch. Here's a kiln venting at Meredith College that looked alarming on arrival.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Wake County Fire*« **This Evening's Storms...** » **RAPS Race, Thursday, ...**
Commission Meeting, Thursday, July 17

Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, Thursday, July 17

07/09/08 77 W - + 10 - 16

The next Wake County Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, at 7:00 PM, at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building at 4011 Cary Drive. I'll post an agenda ahead of the meeting, if one is made available. For first-timers, just follow the line of red and/or white sport-utility vehicles from Poole Road and the Beltline. The ones with lightbars.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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RAPS Race, Thursday, September 25, 3:30 pm

07/09/08 75 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

The next Raleigh Area Public Safety Endurance Race is scheduled for Thursday, September 25 at [Rush Hour Karting in Garner](#). Qualifying begins at 3:30 p.m., with the 90-minute endurance race starting at 6:00 pm. See www.rapsracing.com for more information, including entry fee and team specifics. The Raleigh Area Public Safety (RAPS) Racing League is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to building interagency working relationships among public safety professionals. Varoom.



Name: (real name preferred)
 E-mail: (optional)
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Yes

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Chief Clack Clicks

07/09/08 90 W - + 16 - 12

[Dave Statter has an interesting story](#) about Baltimore Fire Chief Jim Clack and his presence on [the Watch Desk](#). He posts, talks back, and answers questions. "It is a forum where few fire chiefs have dared to tread," notes the blogger. No kidding. Social media and online channels are most certainly not for the faint-of-heart. "There's no laws in this place. Anything goes! It's Thunderdome!"¹

¹George Costanza to Jerry Seinfeld in "The Dealership," teleplay by Steve Koren.

I keep up with the Baltimore City forum on TWD on a regular basis. It's pretty damn impressive that he allows people to ask him anything, and he addresses the issue(s). He he doesn't have an answer, he tells them, rather than BS'ing. It's the responsibility of the person asking the question to "keep it clean". But, it shows that he's not afraid of confrontation as well as showing he's open for any suggestions the members might have.

Silver - 07/10/08 - 10:02

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Yes

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Comment:

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This Morning's MVA on the Beltline

07/10/08 62 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

[WRAL posted this aerial photo](#) of this morning's motor-vehicle accident on the Beltline at South Saunders Street, with a log truck overturned and down an embankment. The pinned driver died. Dispatched about 10:30 a.m. Units included E1, E2, E10, E20 (later), L1, R7, R19, C5, EMS 13, EMS D1, EMS T1. Click to enlarge:



WRAL photo

For those of us who don't know these things off the top of their head, what's the difference between R7/R19 (which I assume I would know as a regular ambulance?) and EMS 13/D1/T1 ?

Joe - 07/10/08 - 18:41

The units, explained:

E1, E2, etc. – Raleigh Fire Department engine companies

L1 – RFD ladder company, tiller truck also equipped with extrication equipment

R7, R19 – RFD rescue companies, two-person medium- and heavy-duty rescue units equipped with extrication equipment

C5 – Car 5, RFD Division Chief, also called a shift supervisor

EMS 13 – Wake County EMS paramedic ambulance

EMS D1 – WCEMS District 1, paramedic District Chief

EMS T1 – WCEMS Truck 1, special operations unit, equipped for functions including extended operations support

Legeros - 07/10/08 - 18:48

Which company has the blue hose bed cover? Is this now the standard color for RFD?

stretch - 07/11/08 - 08:26

That is E-10's hose bed cover. Not a new (or old) standard, but probably the most cost effective choice at the time of last replacement.

A.Rich - 07/11/08 - 12:29

there were 2 additional EMS units on scene (besides EMS13, D1 and T1)

lee - 07/11/08 - 15:44

Rescue 7 is a medium duty International 4 dr. chassis with a compartmented rescue body on the back. Rescue 19 (and R14) are Pierce Enforcer custom cab (just like a fire truck) with a rescue body on the rear. Prior to the receipt of R14 and R19 Raleigh had the misfortune to use two ambulances as rescue trucks. Pretty to look at but very poor to work with!

FYI - 07/14/08 - 23:00

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

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Raleigh Recruit Academy Graduates on Monday, July 14

07/10/08 98 W - + 22 - 12

Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy #34 graduates on Monday, July 14, with a 7:00 p.m. ceremony at the Fletcher Opera Theater, at the [Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts](#). The 24 members started their 26 28-week academy at the Keeter Training Center on January 7. The Capital City's newest firefighters graduate with certification as EMT, Firefighter I and II, and Rescue Technician VMR. They also received training on haz-mat operations and awareness, fireground procedures, high-rise operations, rapid intervention teams (RIT), accountability systems, safety companies, engine and ladder company operations, and firefighter safety and survival. Congratulations, everyone!

28 week academy!

Extra week helped us become car seat techs!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Class of 2008 - 07/10/08 - 20:13

Congrats guys and girl.....you're much needed in the field!!!!

Silver - 07/10/08 - 21:47

Congrats to all and good luck with your new career.

Lester ([Email](#)) - 07/11/08 - 13:25

They also were the FIRST RFD academy to go through a 3 day class at Gaston college. The recruits did 3 days of the famous flash over simulator (the can), intense RIT and survival training, Plus one of Capt. Coppage's famous P.T. runs at 4:30 am. I am VERY proud of the "HARD CORE 34", they showed integrity, discipline, team work and compassion for the job that has not been seen in a while!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I am proud to have been able to teach and learn from being part of this academy! Congrats to all of my brothers and sister of the "34"! You are a blessing to RFD! Welcome to the family!!!!!!!!!! Good luck on line and stay safe!

Jason Lane - 07/11/08 - 19:50

Great Job Jason. You seem very proud to be a part of the Raleigh's training coordinators. My hat goes off to you and Capt. Coppage and the rest of the recruit staff. I am hoping to assist Capt. Moore at Cary Fire with this years recruits. I hope that I have just as fun as you have had with Raleigh. Please stay safe and happy.

P.S. I look forward to seeing you at the recruit graduation Monday night.

jj ([Email](#)) - 07/12/08 - 22:36

I'm glad you're out of the academy and we do need and welcome you on shift. You are in the real world now so follow this simple advise to get started:

- (1) Listen to your Capt. because he's actually "been there and done that",
- (2) Listen to the old guys because they have "been there and done that" plus, they are who taught your Captain when he was a newboy.
- (3) Be a team player and humble – 24 hours is a long time to work by yourself if you are an "ass",
- (4) Be patient – It takes some time to get adjusted to shift work and your crew will need to get adjusted to you. The first couple of weeks will be hard, but hang in there. Remember, everyone here at RFD was a snot-nosed newboy at some point.

Good luck to you all, be safe, and I'll see you in the street.

P.S. – If I don't see you in the street, who knows, you may install a car seat for me sometime.

Grumpy Old Fireman - 07/12/08 - 22:55

Here's info about Gaston College's flashover simulator, <http://www.gastonfire.com/flashoversim.h..>

And the company that makes it, <http://www.swedesurvival.com>

Legeros - 07/12/08 - 23:14

Rules To Live By in the Fire Service

By Mark Wesseldine, FDNY

From Fire Engineering February, 1999

You have begun a career in the greatest job in the world. You will find no other job where you will "look forward" to going to work every tour for the next 20 to 30 years.

You have also become a member of the "greatest family" on earth. Anywhere you may be, you have brothers and sisters nearby, never be shy to ask for help.

Train – Excellence through training. Don't say your training let you down. "I didn't know" doesn't count. When you stop learning, it's time to retire, you can always learn something. Have an open mind.

This is a "team sport". If you're not a team player then don't try out for the team.

Always wear your mask when possible, even during overhaul, statistics speak for themselves. Think of your family, dead at 50 is not macho.

You are not going to get rich in this career, but you will live comfortably. You will have the respect of all.

God has given you two ears and one mouth. So listen twice as much as you speak.

Step up. When others are busy at a task, Don't be the last one to join in.

Friends are easy to make, you have to work at making enemies.

Think! Look when getting off the truck. Look when crossing the street at calls. Never run on a roof.

Treat others the way you would want them to treat you.

Don't be a whiner or complainer.

Remember where you came from.

Rusty tools and unattended equipment leads to no company pride.

Advice for Future - 07/13/08 - 09:17

Advice from Asst. Chief R.K. Lane, as told to the class of 1989, on the subject of "banks, politics, and goats." It went something like "the firehouse is not a lending institution. Don't loan money to firemen. What happens between you and your [spouse] is political. Don't talk about politics in the firehouse. And, finally, don't let firemen get your goat." The last one is crucial.

Legeros - 07/13/08 - 09:23

Don't you guys think it's time for a new, more up to date term for the newer members of the RFD? Maybe "rookie", "probie" or "rook"? The good ol' term of "new-boy" is a little outdated (not to mention offensive to the females), don't you think?

Guest - 07/13/08 - 13:16

I've always been partial to "Probie" myself.

JustaJake - 07/13/08 - 13:34

What's wrong with calling them by their names? Okay, heretical concept there. Tradition is an obvious answer. Everyone before them was called something, so they must be called something. Beyond that, what's the reason? Let's attempt to answer from an experiential perspective. What has each of you learned, by both being called "new boy" when you started, and calling others "new boy" when they started? I'll add a high-flalutin' sociological take later.

Legeros - 07/13/08 - 13:57

I like FNG as well. One good thing about the tag is that it lets them know and reminds them where they are on the food chain. But even more importantly when they are no longer the "New Boy, Probie, or FNG", it lets them look back with some pride on how much they have already accomplished in their short careers. Besides it is just part of being picked on or having someone get your goat. If they didn't like you they wouldn't even bother talking to you, so be happy that you are called something.

The people who complain about the tag are the ones who just don't get the "Job", and probably shouldn't be apart of it in the first place. They will eventually weed themselves out and have a completely different tag or scarlet letter that no one wants. If you can't hack it, get your jacket and hit the road!

Mike - 07/13/08 - 14:17

I have never like "rookie" unless you truly are one in the greater sense. Shoot sometimes the people coming out of the academy have more time "on the job" than the ones calling them "rookie". "probie" or "new" or "hey you" have been ones I've heard that aren't so bad. But you get what you get... some habits are hard to break.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 07/13/08 - 18:23

Lets stick with new-boy! We are a team!

Guest # 2 - 07/13/08 - 21:52

Mike, I like you thinking. You are exactly right. I am sure that 99% of the firefighters in Wake County agree with YOU! I am an FNG myself. And for what it is worth, I hope I stay the FNG for the rest of my career. I will always be training and learning every day. EGH

Guest # 2 - 07/13/08 - 21:58

Mike says it best. Be glad you have a job and don't whine. This is the best job in the world, as well as the hardest. No other service- aside from the military – even comes close. Keep your mouth shut and listen, listen, listen!! You can earn the right to drop the new boy moniker at some point if you can cut it. Welcome to the real world – work to make us all proud!

FYI - 07/14/08 - 23:13

I like "probie", because that's exactly what they are, no matter their experience level, sex or anything else. A "probie" is exactly that, someone on probation!!!

Silver - 07/14/08 - 23:58

They will always be "newboy" to me, regardless of sex, race, or anything else. I was proud to be able to wear that very name, and I am just as proud to have been here long enough to have the privilege to call the new newboys the same thing.

firedriver - 07/16/08 - 20:17

Did they start contacting people for the next class after this recent testing?

Thank you.

helpless - 07/19/08 - 18:22

Interviews are being conducted this coming up week....

Silver - 07/20/08 - 00:52

Do they plan on hiring just one class off this test or putting another class in as well?

Whynot - 07/22/08 - 09:00

I've heard wo different things, but if I had to guess, I'd say just one class. Big budget items keep getting pushed back due to the economy/gas prices. Supposedly the new ladder company won't go in service until January now.

But, on a positive note, Hillsborough St. is getting round-about and store owners are being offered grants to refurb their storefronts!!!

Silver - 07/22/08 - 10:33

Oops, that was supposed to be "TWO" different things....

Silver - 07/22/08 - 10:34

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *MDA Honors RFD*, « [Raleigh Recruit Acade...](#) » [Charlotte Train/Truck...](#)
Monday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.

MDA Honors RFD, Monday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.

07/10/08 97 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) will honor Raleigh firefighters at a press conference at the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial in [Nash Square](#), on Monday, July 14, at 10:30 a.m. This is the kick-off event for the Raleigh Fire Department "Fill-the-Boot" campaign to raise funds for MDA on July 26. Mayor Meeker will proclaim the month of July as Firefighter Appreciation Month. The MDA asks local businesses and residents to show their appreciation for their firefighters and EMS members throughout the remainder of July. More about [Fill-the-Boot](#). More about [MDA](#).



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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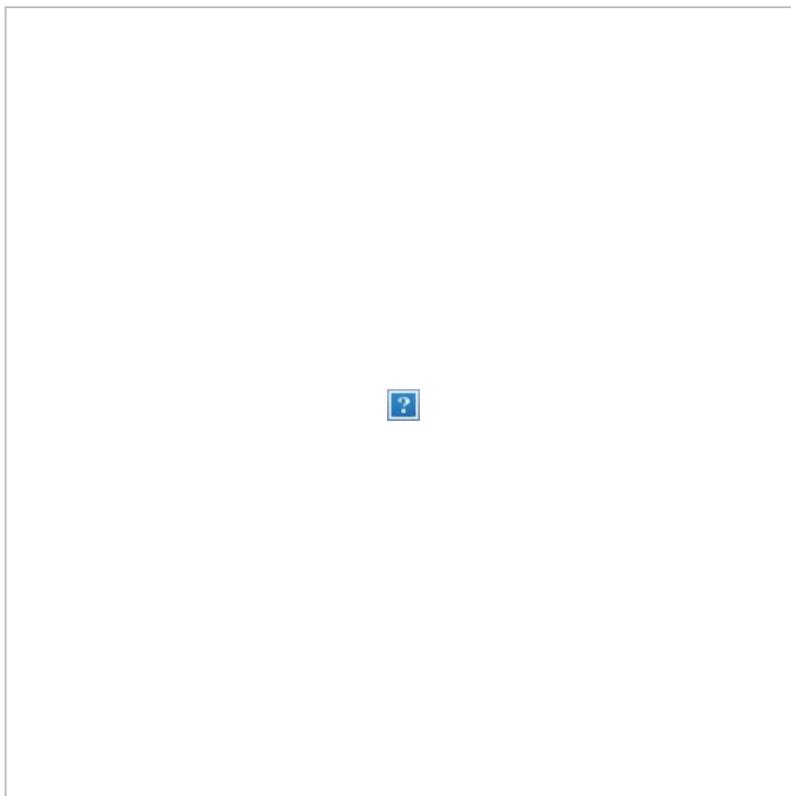
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Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Charlotte Train/Truck Collision Images

07/11/08 65 W, 1 I - + 17 - 10

The *Charlotte Observer* has a mess of images from this morning's [train/truck collision and haz-mat fire](#) in Meck County, including aerial photos that nicely sketch out the scene. Multiple fire departments, including a good dozen companies from Charlotte. Check out the slide show. Then think about the hazards around here. Are you prepared?



Charlotte Observer photo

Took a quick glance at the run card from this afternoon (note these are all CFD units, not county units):

BC01, BC02, BC07 – Batt Chiefs
 C02, C04 – Deputy Chiefs
 C14 – PIO
 C16, C17 – Char-Meck EM staff (Haz-Mat)
 C76, C77 – Logistics
 Engines – 1, 2, 4, 16, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 38
 Ladders – 1, 4, 23, 27, 31
 Rescues – 3, 10 (both quickly returned to service)
 Haz-Mats – 2, 3, 5 (HM05 cancelled)
 Tankers – 21, 28, 35
 Mobile Command Post

Newell, Mallard Creek, Harrisburg (Cabarrus County), and not sure of any other County Departments out there.

Keep in mind with the CFD units, they rotated to provide relief. Initial companies responded at 0814 and the last CFD units cleared at 1815. The call was upgraded to a 2nd Alarm assignment when it was confirmed that this would be a T/T vs. Train. E35 first on scene with command.

Luke - 07/12/08 - 04:20

FYI, Stations 1, 2, and 4 are close to uptown (Station 2 is on the OTHER side of uptown). Uptown is about 10 miles from this scene. That's a long haul.

Native Charlottean - 07/12/08 - 12:20

Check out Station 38s location... 14525 Sledge Rd.

Luke - 07/13/08 - 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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: 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 Map, 1887

07/12/08 72 W, 1 I - + 10 - 15

Random historical artifact, a [Wake County Map from 1887](#). Three sizes, scanned from photo copy. Quite a few familiar names on roads, creeks, and communities! The only fire department in the county at that time was the volunteer Raleigh Fire Department. The city's fire equipment could be transported by rail car, for assistance outside Raleigh. Such as in 1885 (Fayetteville), 1895 (Durham), and 1908 (Cary).



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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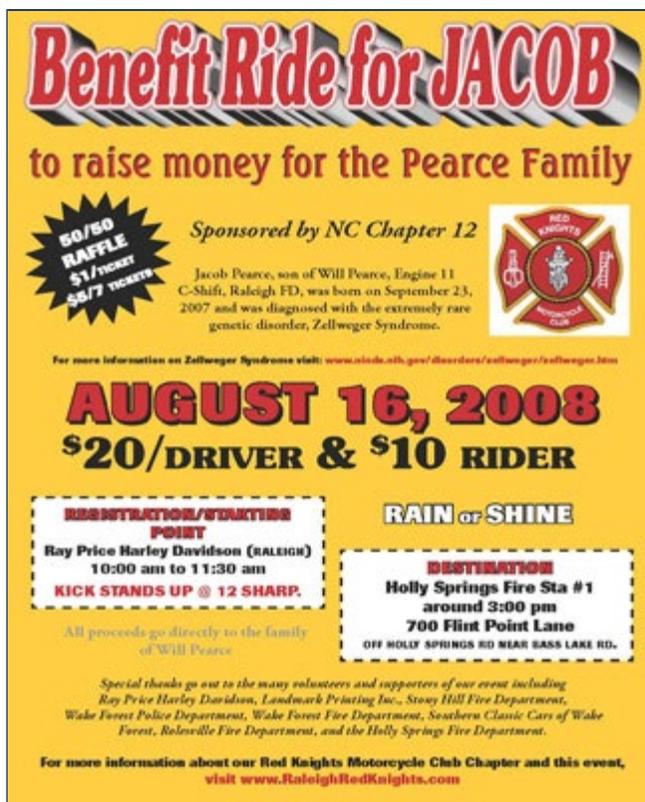
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Benefit Ride For « Wake County Map, 1887... » Anatomy of a Fatality... Jacob, Saturday, August 16

Benefit Ride For Jacob, Saturday, August 16

07/12/08 79 W, 2 I - + 13 - 10

The Raleigh chapter of the Red Knights Motorcycle Club is sponsoring a benefit ride on Saturday, August 16, to raise money for the family of a Raleigh firefighter, and whose son was born in September with a rare genetic disorder. Registration and starting point is Ray Price Harley Davidson in Raleigh. The destination is Holly Springs Fire Station 1. [View this flyer](#)  for more information. Learn about [Raleigh's Red Knights](#). Thanks for your support.



Benefit Ride for JACOB
to raise money for the Pearce Family

80/80 RAFFLE
\$1/ticket
\$8/7 tickets

Sponsored by NC Chapter 12

Jacob Pearce, son of Will Pearce, Engine 11 C-Shift, Raleigh FD, was born on September 23, 2007 and was diagnosed with the extremely rare genetic disorder, Zellweger Syndrome.

For more information on Zellweger Syndrome visit: www.ninds.nih.gov/ disorders/zellweger/zellweger.htm

AUGUST 16, 2008
\$20/DRIVER & \$10 RIDER

REGISTRATION/STARTING POINT
Ray Price Harley Davidson (RALEIGH)
10:00 am to 11:30 am
KICK STANDS UP @ 12 SHARP.

RAIN or SHINE

DESTINATION
Holly Springs Fire Sta #1
around 3:00 pm
700 Flint Point Lane
OFF HOLLY SPRINGS RD NEAR SASS LAKE RD.

All proceeds go directly to the family of Will Pearce.

Special thanks go out to the many volunteers and supporters of our event including Ray Price Harley Davidson, Landmark Printing Inc., Stony Hill Fire Department, Wake Forest Police Department, Wake Forest Fire Department, Southern Classic Cars of Wake Forest, Rolesville Fire Department, and the Holly Springs Fire Department.

For more information about our Red Knights Motorcycle Club Chapter and this event, visit www.RaleighRedKnights.com

Thanks for posting Mike! Any and all riders are welcome to join us.

A.Rich - 07/12/08 - 21:56

Will's family was featured in the July 8th N&O at <http://www.newsobserver.com/105/story/11..>

A.Rich - 07/14/08 - 13:00

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Anatomy of a Fatality

07/12/08 73 W - + 12 - 7

[WRAL has a detailed account](#) of the reported circumstances leading to this morning's fatal motor-vehicle accident on Glenwood Avenue at Lynn Road. The two-vehicle collision killed a 17 year-old passenger. The 19 year-old driver of the other vehicle faces charges including provisional driving-while-impaired and felony death by vehicle. Just one more tragedy on roads already stained with too much blood. Someday we'll realize a solution. There has to be a way.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Old Photo of Station 14

07/13/08 43 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

Here's a nifty photo of Station 14 from back in the day, circa 1974 or 1975. That was the tenth of the familiar building style. Engine 14 is a 1951 American LaFrance Series 700. Tanker 14 is a 1960 GMC 4000/Alexander, capacity 1,500 gallons. Click to enlarge:



I think it is interesting to note the number of trees in the early station photos like this one.

TJ - 07/13/08 - 09:17

Apparently Lake Boone Trail had not been widened yet....

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/13/08 - 20:37

What is even more interesting is this station still occupies the same footprint but with larger apparatus. Exercise equipment crowds the back of the bay and dayroom, and FF's sleep in the hallway in the dorm area. There is a large shed built in the back parking lot to house the boat and trailer for R14, and in the back parking lot is a triple decker boat trailer and F550 utility body designated USAR 801 that belong to NCTF-8. A busy station – also notable as it is the smallest in Raleigh!

FYI - 07/14/08 - 23:05

Or perhaps second-smallest, if going by county tax records, which indicate Station 3 as having about 50 fewer square-feet. See <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/h..>

Legeros - 07/15/08 - 06:56

I stand corrected! It is amazing how much you can put into such a small area. I am glad firefighters are such a close knit group!

FYI - 07/16/08 - 21:34

Garner Fire Department Changes Name

07/13/08 31 W - + 18 - 14

Effective July 1, they are now named Garner Volunteer Fire-Rescue, Inc. The corporation was formed on August 15, 1952 as Garner Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. [Learn more about GVFR.](#)

Just one question, why?

wcff - 07/13/08 - 23:11

I second that question. Does this name change have some import as to the future of the venerable Garner Rescue? Although beset by difficulties over the past few years they seem (?) to have been getting a handle on things and providing a service.

FYI - 07/14/08 - 23:16

Seems Caryesque. Years of genetic crossbreeding between those depts

lcj - 07/15/08 - 09:00

I normally don't post on blogs, but maybe the topic needs clarification. When a fire department becomes state rescue certified such as light, medium, or heavy, it must change its charter to include rescue services. We became medium certified last year so we changed our name to inform the citizens of the district that we serve and to comply with the standard. As for Garner Rescue they still provide primary rescue services inside the town limits, and we will assist them in anything they need. We expect the same thing from them while we provide primary rescue services in the county. And last in response to the crossbreeding comment, I would hate to be apart of an orginazation that would not use ideas from other fire departments. I have and will continue to learn vaulable information from outside agencies that shine new light on old problems.

Matt Poole ([Email](#)) - 07/15/08 - 15:34

I too normally do not post to blogs, but I will echo Captain Poole's comments on this one. Garner EMS & Rescue does work with and will utilize Garner Fire whenever necessary and would respond outside the Town anytime requested. When working on a scene, we do so in unison. Each department has a primary response area (regarding rescue services) that they are a responsible for and will utilize each other for back up and support.

Bill Frederick ([Email](#)) - 07/15/08 - 16:13

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wildfire Photography From California

07/14/08 66 W, 1 I - + 13 - 15

Found posted to the Firehouse forums, [here's fire photojournalism at its finest](#). Spencer Weiner shot this compelling photo, which can be found on many other sites. High-shutter speed, obviously. No blur to the propellers. Perhaps digital with ISO, due to the grain. Great composition, and cinched with two people standing on the deck. Click to enlarge:



Spencer Weiner/AP photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

The Graduates

07/14/08 8 W, 1 I - + 17 - 10

Click to enlarge...



[Read original post.](#)

Great Job- Welcome to the Brotherhood. One of the best graduation ceremonies I have been to yet. Be Safe!!!!!!

T-Hansen ([Email](#)) - 07/14/08 - 23:09

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Agenda for Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, Thursday, July 17

07/15/08 90 W - + 11 - 13

Call meeting to order

- Invocation
- Roll of members present
- Approval of Agenda

Minutes

- Adoption of Minutes for May 8th, 2008, Regular Meeting
- Adoption of Minutes for June 4th, 2008, Special Called Meeting

Regular Agenda

- Facility Committee
- Apparatus Committee
- Fire Commission Committee Structure

Information Agenda

- Chair Report
- Fire/Rescue Services Director Report

Other Business

Public Comments

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

Adjournment

- Next Meeting September 18th, 2008.

[Read original post.](#)

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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This Morning's Haz-Mat / I-95 in Kenly

07/16/08 63 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

[WRAL has incident details](#): truck stop at [932 Johnston Parkway Road](#) off Interstate 95. Tractor-trailer truck leaking silicon tetrafluoride. Vapor cloud created around the vehicle. Driver transported to hospital. Surrounding businesses evacuated. Incident time about 3:30 a.m. North Carolina Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team 4 from Raleigh on scene. They rolled with Haz-Mat 15, Haz-Mat 22, Haz-Mat 8, and Car 72.



WRAL photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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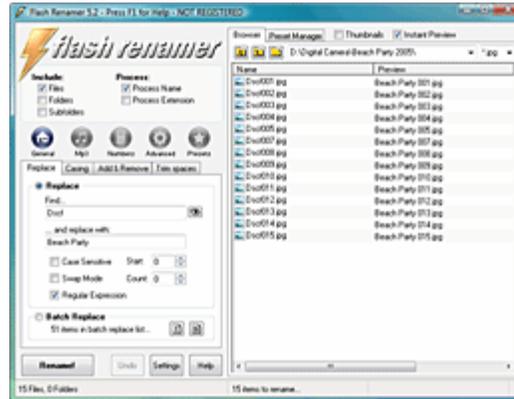
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Two Cameras, One Folder

07/17/08 267 W, 1 I - + 18 - 10

Do you shoot with two or more cameras, and want to display the digital images in the order they were shot? Here's one way to do it. First, synchronize the time and date settings on all your cameras. Second, install a program called [Flash Renamer](#).



Next, perform these steps:

1. Open Flash Renamer.
2. Navigate to folder.
3. Click the **Advanced** button.
4. Click the **Format** tab.
5. Select **<CTIME>** from the drop-down menu.
6. Append the drop-down entry with additional text to read **<CTIME>-3**.
7. Repeat and create entries for **<CTIME>-2** and **<CTIME>-1**.
8. Select **<CTIME>-3**.
9. Click **Rename!**.
10. If something goes wrong, click **Undo** to revert the filenames.
11. After renaming, there may be some files that didn't rename. This occurs when two or more files were created at the same time, such as two pictures taken at the same time (according to their clock settings).
12. Select **<CTIME>-2**.
13. Click and select the files that were not renamed.
14. Click **Rename!**.
15. If some files that again don't rename, repeat with **<CTIME>** setting.
16. Viola!

To rename the files again, with "normal names," then do these steps:

1. Since we are referring to Flash Renamer Version 6.02, first change an advanced setting.
2. Click the **Settings** button.
3. Click the **Advanced** tab.
4. Scroll and select **ClassicCounterFormat**.
5. Activate by entering "1".
6. Click **Set**.
7. Restart the program.
8. Click the **Numbers** button.
9. Click the **Add Counter** tab.
10. In the drop-menu menu field, create your own file name format. Such as: 2008-07-14-rfd-graduation-<COUNTER>-mjl

11. Click **Rename!**

12. Voila!

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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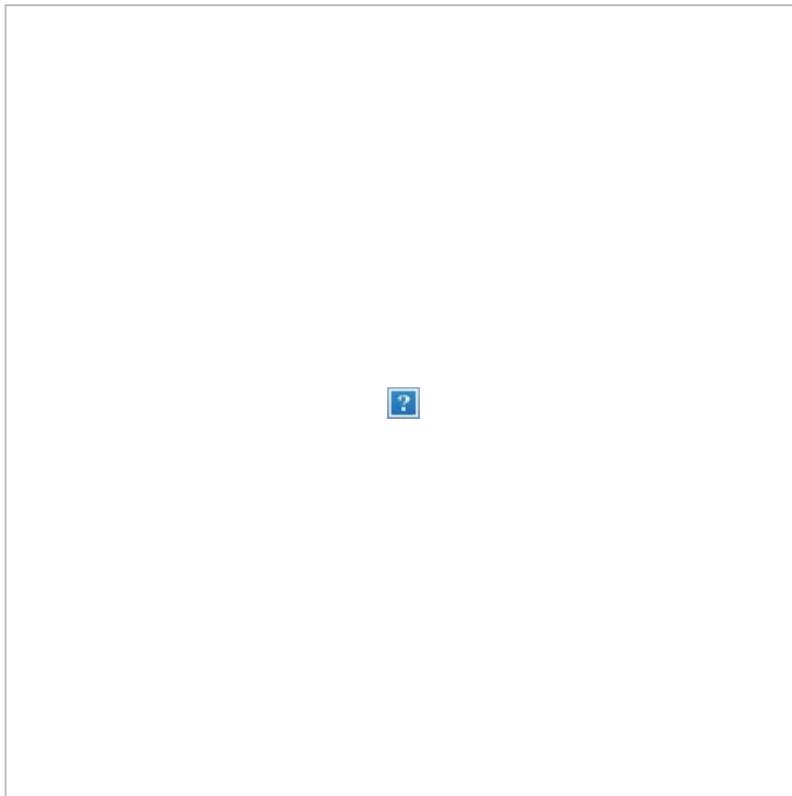
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Yearbook Preview

07/17/08 57 W, 1 I - + 20 - 5

Here's a [preview of the coming Raleigh Fire Department yearbook](#). The pictures show the cover and title page, a portrait spread, an action photo spread, and a station photo spread. The book will be 160 full-color pages with over 1,100 pictures. The price for [ordering online](#) is still \$50. Delivery is expected in September. Click to see 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.

Burning Vehicle Rolls Backwards

07/17/08 44 W - + 11 - 9

Found on the [Firehouse Forums](#), here's a video of a burning RV in southern California that commences to roll backwards. Its movement is checked by a patrol car, perhaps intentionally. Can't quite tell. Something you don't see every day...

It was smart thinking to stop it with the patrol car. You can hear an order given at the 6 second mark.

RescueRanger - 07/18/08 - 18:47

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Murder Most Foul

07/17/08 45 W - + 14 - 9

Everyone's an armchair detective, as evident in the reader responses WRAL's coverage of the Cary slaying. Their discussion forums have proved popular for many months now, and are an interest study of online conversation. Such as the [330+ responses](#) to the story yesterday.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Vacant Citizen Seat on Wake County Fire Commission

07/18/08 71 W - + 13 - 10

As was indicated at last night's meeting, there's a vacant citizen seat on the Wake County Fire Commission. You interested? [Read more about the commission](#), then submit an application [on this Web page](#). Regular meetings are held every other month. Committees, such as facilities, apparatus, and staff, meet on a more regular basis. For more information (correct?) contact the [Wake County Fire-Rescue Division](#).

Who's off?

J.Boggs - 07/21/08 - 16:47

Michael Fletcher. He previously worked for Progress Energy and has taken a position that has required him to move out of the area.

Chris ([Email](#)) - 07/21/08 - 17:16

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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See You in Baltimore

07/18/08 64 W, 1 I - + 15 - 14

Yours Truly is travelling next week, destination Baltimore by way of Atlantic City and Philadelphia. Should be a scenic drive, with planned stops on the [Boardwalk](#) and the Philly [fire museum](#). See you on the [Fire Expo](#) exhibit floor Friday and Saturday. Look for the guy in the tropical shirt. I'll bring back photos.



See you in Baltimore...

Silver - 07/18/08 - 20:48

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake Forest Names New Fire Chief

07/18/08 90 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Congratulations to new Wake Forest Fire Chief Freddy Lynn, whose appointment was announced Thursday night. [The Wake Weekly has the breaking news story](#). Chief Lynn is a retired member of the Raleigh Fire Department, last a Battalion Chief who led the Training Division. He's also a veteran member of the Six Forks Fire Department, and was Fire Chief for five years. WFFD received over 40 resumes for the position, the article notes. They also hired a new Administrative Deputy Chief.



Lee Wilson photo

Congrats Chief Lynn. Good to see you back under the white hat.

AB - 07/19/08 - 12:02

I concur with AB. Good luck Chief Lynn

jetexas - 07/19/08 - 16:39

Congrats, and wise choice by WFFD.

J.Boggs - 07/21/08 - 16:45

I don't know ya'll... he used to be my boss... (just kidding!!). I can say with certainty that WFFD has a great person to lead them. Good luck Chief and we will see you very soon!!

A.Rich - 07/22/08 - 13:57

Wake Weekly feature on the new Chief: <http://www.wakeweekly.com/index.php?cate..>

Legeros - 07/28/08 - 22:26

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Orange Rescue Squad Asked to Stand Down

07/19/08 140 W - + 13 - 11

The Orange County Rescue Squad has been asked to stop responding to emergencies until county officials can review their operations. [WRAL had this story](#), while the *News & Observer* [ran a small a story today](#). The paper's initially reported about the issue [originated Wednesday](#), with OCRS dispatching discontinued on June 27 by the county Emergency Services Director in response to safety concerns. What do you think of the coverage? One-sided? Sensational? The squad's side of the story has yet to be surfaced. Reader comments, [such as these](#), provide the JSP¹ (Joe Six Pack) perspective².

¹Apologizes to future Google searchers, who find this posting while looking for information on JavaServer Pages.

² With regard to reader comments on WRAL and other sites, those perspectives obviously run the gamut, from fellow responders to regular Joes and Janes.

Here's another story, found linked from Firegeezzer.com. Originally published by the Chapel Hill Herald: <http://www.ems1.com/ems-products/consult.>

Legeros - 07/19/08 - 14:02

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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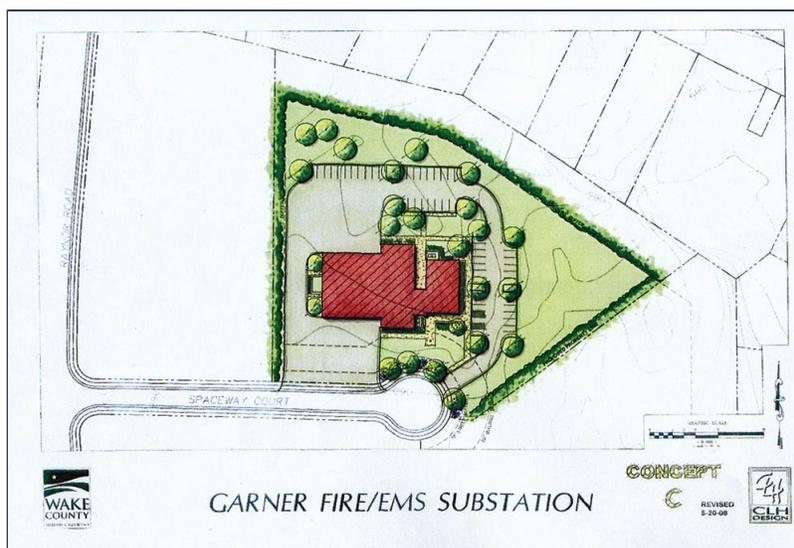
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Southeastern Wake County Fire Station Update

07/19/08 456 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

This week's [Wake County Fire Commission](#) meeting included a presentation on the status of the land search for the planned southeastern Wake County fire station. Included was this concept drawing of the proposed site on Spaceway Court. Click to enlarge:



Notes on the presentation.

Corrections and clarifications encouraged!

- Presentation introduced by Facilities Committee.
- Presentation by Fire Marshall and Facilities and Design Construction staff.
- Station covers no-man's land along the southeastern border of Wake County.
- Area is within the fire tax district, but not within a rated fire district.
- Thus those who pay the fire tax don't receive reduced insurance rates.
- Sites evaluated on Spaceway Court (recommended), Bricksteel Lane, Hein Drive, Sigma Drive, Waterfield Drive, and Raynor Road.
- Analysis of sites included using GIS to model road network distance, and identifying a search ring within 6 road miles.
- Also looked at co-located school site, but that didn't work out.
- Spaceway Court is most cost-effective site, at \$130,000 per-acre listing price.
- Good location, 200 feet east of Raynor Road.
- Excellent size, shape, and topography.
- No Neuse River buffers, flood hazard areas, or flood prone soils.
- Zoned I-2.
- Four acres will be needed.
- Conceptual drawing uses an older prototype station style.
- Conceptual drawing used to determine building orientation and acreage needed.
- Facility with house both fire and EMS.
- Building should resemble the design of the Willow Springs fire station, but with three bays (two fire, one EMS).
- Site is inside the [town of Garner](#).
- Discussion followed question of what happens if Garner decides to form a fire department in a few years?
- Would they take over the facility? Would they provide rural service to the no-man's land? Would the county lose fire tax revenue, after having spent \$2 million on a new station? etc.
- The Fire Marshal noted that the town and the [Garner Fire Department](#) have an agreement regarding Station 3, that if the town ever forms a fire department, the town will buy back the part of Station 3 that they financed. That would be one option.

- The Fire Marshal expressed his opinion that there's a high probability that the town of Garner will get into the fire business in the near future, and that there's a low probability that a town FD would choose not to provide rural service. Among other things, they would lose the \$1 million each year received from county contracts for that area.
- Action items for Fire Commission was confirming the choice of Spaceway Court, and direct county staff to move forward with developing an interlocal agreement with the town of Garner to cost-share the facility, and present the joint land ownership and purchase proposal to both the Fire Commission and the Wake County Board of Commissioners.
- Action was approved.

Sweet we need it.

Mike - 07/20/08 - 16:04

The design footprint is very similar to the Stony Hill FD/EMS Station. WC may still be using the original protoype design from the Fuquay-Varina Stat #3 and the SHFD Stat #1 formats.

A.Rich - 07/22/08 - 13:50

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Male Seasonal Baldness

07/19/08 57 W, 1 I - + 13 - 8

[It's head-shaving season in the big city](#), reports the *New York Times*. "It is not easy to shave a head," notes one barber, "because the razor edge is square — and the head is round." When heat 'n' humidity is high, there's nothing as nice as a close-cropped top.



Try it – you'll like it.

Olson - 07/19/08 - 21:26

Celebrity photo added...

Legeros - 07/19/08 - 21:37

I've generally kept very short hair since my HS days anyway, and that certainly has its benefits to those of us in the fire service. No helmet-head, for example. A while back I decided I'd try the bald look, and I loved it from the get-go. It does keep you much cooler, and once you get into a routine of shaving your scalp it's really not all that difficult. I tell the probies ("newboys" to you folks down there) that it makes me faster than them despite my increasing age...and I think one or two of them actually believe it.

attic.rat - 07/19/08 - 23:43

Attribute it to my 'coming of age in the 70s...just can't bear to lose what little I still have left. I think actually paying for several bad haircuts in the army helped preserve 'the look'. And at my age, I ain't looking for speed anyway.

DJ - 07/20/08 - 08:19

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Today's Working Fires

07/19/08 92 W, 1 I - + 12 - 10

Let's log 'em, since it's Saturday. Residential structure fire at [114 Baytree Street](#) in Fuquay-Varina, dispatched about 8:55 a.m. Laundromat fire in [300 block of East Owen Avenue](#) in Wake Forest, reported by Stony Hill member about 12:30 p.m. Apartment fire with two alarms at [434 Westcliff Court](#), dispatched about 10:25 p.m. Engine 8 first on scene with heavy fire showing from a two-story, wood-frame structure with 6,468 square-feet. Ladder 20 raised but not needed. Dispatched units included Engine 8, 20, 14, 1, 16, 13, 6; Ladder 20, 1; Rescue 14, 7; Battalion 3, 4; Car 5, 20; Air 8; EMS 4, 8, 82, 11, District 1, District 2, Truck 1



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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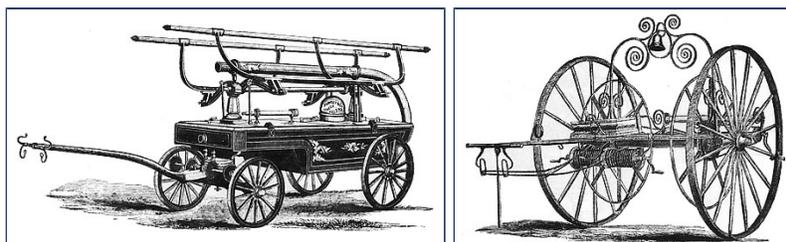
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Hand Engine in Operation

07/19/08 171 W, 2 I - + 16 - 14

On November 10, 1883, the *News & Observer* recounted a prior day's exhibition by the Victor Fire Company. The volunteer firemen operated a 1873 hand engine built by Rumsey & Company. Catalog drawings of a Rumsey hand engine and Rumsey hose reel are below. The engine is 16 feet long, with 31-inch and 37-inch diameter wheels. The wheels of the hose reel are probably 60-inches diameter. Click to enlarge:



"The Victor with twelve men at the engine made a run of 470 yards, laid 300 feet of hose, and had a stream of water on the imaginary fire in five minutes. The engine started from the intersection of West Martin and South Salisbury Streets at 7.34 ½ o'clock p.m. At 7.36 ½ the hose reel reached the cistern at the intersection of West Lenoir and South Salisbury streets; at 7.37 [a total of] 300 feet of hose had been laid and the nozzle attached; at 7.38 the engine arrived, and at 7.39 ½ had a stream of water upon the fire. Who can beat that record?"

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Shift Happens

07/20/08 172 W - + 16 - 15

When did Raleigh firefighters begin working 24-hour shifts? The answer is revealed in a *Raleigh Times* article of October 7, 1974. The subject of the article was shift schedules, and changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act, while ultimately resulted in the hiring of a third shift. Fire Chief Clarence A. Puryear recalled that the city moved to 24-hour shifts in 1946. He was one who voted for the change. What was the work schedule before 1946? Need to research that. Decades earlier, when the full-time fire department was first formed, personnel apparently worked every day. (They may have also resided at the fire stations!) At some point, split shifts were likely implimented. The above article also cited a future Raleigh Fire Chief, Sherman Pickard, then director of services for the North Carolina League of Municipalities. It also featured a photo of a firefighter "laying in the bed" and reading. Though a photographer shot station activites up and down, the paper only ran one photo. And said firefighter never lived it down.

More on this. The Raleigh Fire Department switched to 24-hour shifts in 1948, not 1946. A trial period was started at Station 5 on April 1, 1948. Presumably, but not certainly, this change was effected department-wide. It appears the trial never ended! The schedule prior to the switch may have been a split-shift, with personnel working six of seven days straight. Day 1, day. Day 2, day. Day 3, day. Day 4, day and night. Day 5, night. Day 6, night. Day 7, off. Need to research more. There were also folks who worked 24-hour shifts, perhaps one person station.

Legeros - 08/03/08 - 12:39Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Skyline

07/20/08 100 W, 1 I - + 21 - 14

Here's what the city's skyline's looking like these days. Western Boulevard bridge looking north over South Saunders Street. The usual view. Click to enlarge:



What building is what?

Left to right, they should be:

- Construction site
- Wachova Capital Center, 150 Fayetteville Street
- Wake County Public Safety Center, 330 S. Salisbury Street
- Raleigh Convention Center, 500 S. Salisbury Street
- Wake County Courthouse, 316 Fayetteville Street
- RBC Plaza Tower, Fayetteville and Martin Streets
- Sir Walter Apartments, 400 Fayetteville Street
- Sheraton Hotel, 421 S. Salisbury Street
- BB&T Bank Building, 434 Fayetteville Street
- Progress Energy Building, 411 Fayetteville Street
- Marriott City Center, 500 Fayetteville Street.

Is that right?

The "construction site" is the new County parking deck. It's replacing the existing parking deck across the street from the courthouse. They're bulldozing it to make way for the new Justice Center.

Chris - 07/21/08 - 08:20

It's not quite the usual view. "Usually" there is an RPD unit with a 'surprised' motorist on the right shoulder, just about where the orange road signs are, discussing right foot problems.

DJ - 07/21/08 - 09:13

Maybe we can try that again with one of us in there. I give a 20MPH limit through there (55 in a 35). I think that is plenty generous given the

drastic, yet highly marked speed reduction.

RPD - 07/21/08 - 20:17

Moral of the story: If you speed, don't gripe if you get a ticket!

Silver - 07/21/08 - 23:23

That is overly generous! 20mph over?  Wow. Are y'all given judgment decisions or do y'all have to follow a set guideline as to what speed over the limit to pull somebody over and ticket? I would think 10mph over would be very generous.

RescueRanger - 07/22/08 - 09:41

Everyone has their own "threshold". There is no department wide guidelines as to who you pull and at what points. I would say generally for me it's 15 mph, but given that particular stretch I up it to avoid and kind of argument while standing on the side of the road. However when it comes to work zones, school zones, or 10-50 scenes it's a strict limit. Same with the move over law if I'm in a position to enforce it. I try to do what I can to keep the scenes safe for y'all because you might be cutting me out of a car or plugging a bullet hole in me some day. Y'all do good work.

RPD - 07/22/08 - 23:02

We do good work? Appreciate the kind comments but you are the one who has people who HATE you just because of a career decision. There is NO way I could ever be a police officer. I think the majority of firefighters appreciate you guys more than y'all think. So THANK YOU!!! And yes, please keep nailing violators of the move-over law anytime you can.

RescueRanger - 07/23/08 - 10:48

I appreciate that. I'll be sure to pass that along, and I'll also be sure to let the guys in blue know not to park too close to the house fires or block the roads when checking in with y'all. I know we tend to be lazy and want to pull right up to the front door. Feel free to block them in with an engine or some of that 5", haha.

RPD - 07/23/08 - 16:46

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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1966 Batmobile

07/21/08 76 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

Here's the coolest law enforcement vehicle ever designed. Mattel has released the second of three planned editions of the George Barris Batmobile. This is the elite edition, MSRP about \$79.99. The standard edition's already released; the super-elite edition is coming. All three are scaled at 1:18. This one has opening doors, hood, and trunk. [Tower Hobbies](#) has 'em. Google for other retailers, and more images. You know you want one.



Would make for an ultra-cool fire chief's vehicle.

Robin - 07/23/08 - 16:41

Hold that thought for Battalion 5

Jon - 07/24/08 - 19:02

When Batman first came on TV (yes, I remember) the original Batmobile toured the country. We were living in Richmond that year and it came to the Willow Lawn Shopping Center. It was way cool, especially if you were 7 years old and got to sit in it. They would slo activate the rear exhaust and shoot flames out of the rear.

I think MD-1 ought to consider these for the APP cars...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/24/08 - 21:22

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Wake County Justice Center

07/22/08 68 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Here's information on the [Wake County Justice Center project](#), to be located beside the Wake County Public Safety Center. Eleven stories, plus two underground levels. Will house judicial and criminal courts, and county public records and administrative offices. Construction starts in 2009, and occupancy expected starting in 2013. The session display boards, at the above link, are particularly cool.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Bloggers in Baltimore

07/22/08 37 W, 1 I - + 9 - 18

[FireGeezer has a booth in Baltimore this week.](#) He informs that Dave Statter will join on Thursday and Friday. Should be fun to see these guys in person. One big, happy, cross-linking family.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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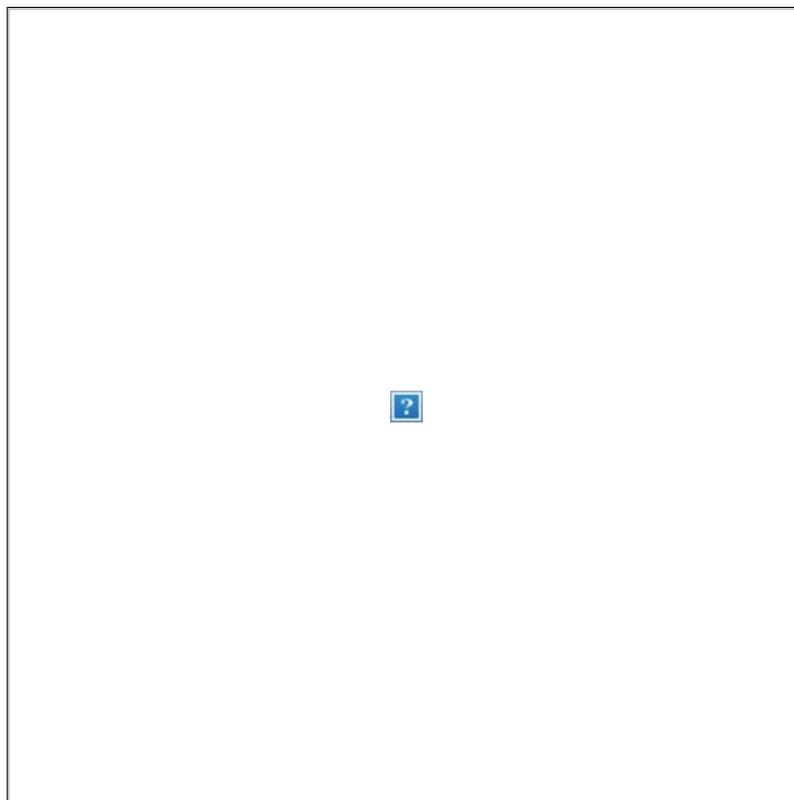
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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North Carolina Central Prison Expansion

07/22/08 102 W, 1 I - + 21 - 13

Here's another interesting construction project, a mental health hospital and medical center. The 365,775 square-foot, five-story facility will consolidate health care facilities within the prison system, and include a 120-bed medical facility and a 220-bed state-run mental health hospital with a connector to the prison. Should open early next decade. [Read more at www.newraleigh.com](http://www.newraleigh.com), and see some neat images. The thing's also in the news, as residents of Boylan Heights have expectedly had a cow, only now learning of the project. [The News & Observer has that story.](#)



[Schenkel Shultz rendering from www.newraleigh.com.](http://www.newraleigh.com)

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Hopkins Fire Department Now EMT Level

07/22/08 65 W - + 16 - 9

Found via [FireNews.net](#), this [Eastern Wake News article](#) reports that the Hopkins Rural Fire Department was named an EMT-level service department at a ceremony on Thursday, July 10. To meet the standard, a department must have a minimum of one Emergency Medical Technician per first-call, first-duty truck. HFD currently has seven EMTs, and four more schooling to become EMTs.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Locution, Take a Breath!

07/22/08 47 W - + 14 - 15

More storms, more tones. The structure fire on Castlegate Drive dispatched a minute ago was a mouthful: Wendell Engine 115, Wendell Truck 115, Rolesville Engine 15, Rolesville Engine 153, Raleigh Engine 28, New Hope Rescue 14, New Hope Tanker 9, and New Hope Car 3. She never gets excited, does she?

Shall we pull the horse out of the ICU and beat it a little more (about how it would be much simpler with a county wide numbering system)?
Hahahahaha!!!!

Silver - 07/22/08 - 22:10

Nope...already cremated and the ashes scattered...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 07/22/08 - 22:26

Hahahahaha!!!!

Silver - 07/23/08 - 00:12

Oh come on Dale. We haven't had this debate in nearly 90 days now. Think how simple it would be if...

Olson - 07/24/08 - 00:30

Aw, come on, Mike... It's only 5 sets of tones across three dispatch frequencies... a good fire in the south end of the county has more...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 07/24/08 - 04:53

The county-wide numbering issue was supposed to be sent to a Fire Commission sub-committee many months ago.

Anyone know the status of that action?

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/24/08 - 08:39

It was nothing but a well pump house on fire. They said it was approximately the size of a 10x10 shed.

RescueRanger - 07/24/08 - 10:52

Jon, it reminds me of the following-

"If an idea's worth having once, it's worth having twice." Tom Stoppard

But then I think about how it goes every time and I think about this one-

"Discussion is an exchange of knowledge; argument is an exchange of ignorance." Robert Quillen

We can come up with many reasons to do something, and all we here is not to because, well, that's the way we have always done it, or "our situation is different", or whatever.

It's the same old thing. Bring forth an idea that will make our jobs easier (which at my age I am all about doing) and someone will argue to the end that what we are doing now is better. I have heard it for 30+ years- "It's what we are all used to", "It's always worked before", "It would be too hard to change", "It won't be any better", blah, blah, blah.

I heard it when we started using 1 3/4" hose ("it's too heavy", "it'll take up too much room in the hose bed", and "it'll use too much water"); Nomex turnouts ("we need to know when it is too hot and when your turnout gear starts to burn it is time to get out" and "Nomex is too expensive"); pressure-demand SCBA ("it'll use too much air"); ICS ("the chief cannot possibly know what's going on unless he can move around"); NFPA and NC Fire Commission with firefighter certifications ("it's going to destroy the volunteer fire service", "it's too expensive").

Sheesh!

Sub-committee? Take a look at how the NC and US Legislature and Congress handle things "sent to a sub-committee". That's 'politicaleze' for 'buried in a black hole somewhere and hope it does not come out'.

I see the light, you see the light. But for now, I think I will try something that I can make better progress at, like trying to get my step-son to move out.

Which brings me to one of my two favorite quotes of all time-

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man." George Bernard Shaw

So, gather up the ashes, buy some Elmer's glue, put it all back together, then beat the crap out of it as you wish.

Later ya'll.

DJ - 07/24/08 - 15:32

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

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Baltimore Meeting and Greeting

07/25/08 163 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

First day, first hour in Baltimore. Arrived on the exhibit floor at 4:00 p.m., one hour before closing. Spent morning in Philly, at the fire museum. Great place, great guys. Pics coming. Day before was driving to Atlantic City. Buy me a beer, er, Coke and I'll tell about the casino and other night adventures. Driving took forever. Finished 1.5 audio books. Rode a ferry. Etcetera, etcetera. First stop upon arriving at the Fire Expo was [Booth #743](#), to meet FireGeezer Bill Schumm, FossilMedic Mike Ward, and reporter/blogger Dave Statter. Nice guys, and we had a nice chat. Dave and Bill will be interviewed today at noon, in room 310, by Billy Goldfeder for his bi-weekly podcast. The topic? Fire and EMS blogs. Should be good. Pics and maybe some stories coming later. See you on the floor.



Bloggers in action. [Firegeezzer](#) Bill Schumm in rear, [Statter911](#) Dave Statter in front, Fossilmedic Mike Ward on right. [Click to enlarge.](#)

Road trip pics posted, first sets: <http://www.legeros.com/photos/balt-08/>

Legeros - 07/26/08 - 09:12

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Stony Hill Rescue 26

07/26/08 100 W, 1 I - + 17 - 8

Here's the third of the three 2008 Spartan/Hackney heavy rescues delivered to Wake County. Stony Hill received theirs on Thursday, July 24. [Lee Wilson took photos and recorded details](#). Equipment includes a 35 KW PTO generator, a Hurst Simo pump and portable pump, 35' and 16' ladders on top, 24' and 14' and attic ladder in rear compartment, 9000-watt light tower, and removable winch. ~~Access to the top utilizes Hackney's auto-deploy staircase.~~ [Read more about that cool feature](#). Rescue 26 is expected in service at Station 1 within 3 or 4 weeks. Read more about [Stony Hill Fire Department](#).

*Lee Wilson photo*

Though I haven't climbed one of those auto-stairs while wearing gear and carrying gear, they're a breeze to ascend while carrying a camera at a trade show! If memory serves from photos I've seen, Japanese apparatus utilize a similar method to access roof equipment.

Legeros - 07/26/08 - 05:46

Mike,

In Lee's pictures I don't see the staircase just an access ladder on the officers side. ?

stretch - 07/26/08 - 08:39

D'oh! Let's revise this posting...

Legeros - 07/26/08 - 08:41

Wendell's rescue has the staircase.

lee - 07/26/08 - 12:28

R-26 has a Zico ladder that will lean outward at the base, lock, and provide a slight climbing angle. It is much easier to climb than the standard vertical rear access ladder.

We are pleased with the truck thus far. It is unique as it is the first body of this type that Hackney has built. Much was learned by both parties during the design and construction process. As a noticeable difference, the roll up doors are by ROM and not the standard Hackney 2", 3", or 4" slat doors that has been their "trademark" for years.

All are welcome to stop by Stony Hill #1 and look at the truck if you like.

A.Rich - 07/26/08 - 18:04

Nice truck! Since the county and city now supposedly runs "closest unit" does this mean that your new rescue will be running with Falls/Ral. E-25? I would think it would be a lot closer to the Wakefield area than Raleigh R-19? Or does Wake Forest have a rescue that runs with Falls?

RescueRanger - 07/27/08 - 14:52

I think the current CAD configuration only allows for closest engine (not rescues or ladders).

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/28/08 - 08:07

CAD will look to the closest unit resource capability, as specified by the local department. We'll respond wherever CAD indicates a "rescue capability" needed and our station #1 is closest. One example – If Falls FD does not specify a "rescue" capability in their response, none will be dispatched. Another example – In our response area west and south of Station #2, we specify a rescue for structure and MVA responses. Since Bayleaf R-36 is closer, it is dispatched and everything works out well. The city/county closest unit is still somewhat odd. R-19 is still dispatched to the Wakefield area and WFFD's rescue is closer. Maybe it is not totally reciprocal as thought.

A.Rich - 07/28/08 - 08:58

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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Blogging's Glass Ceiling

07/26/08 105 W - + 15 - 12

Today's *New York Times* [writes about women bloggers](#). The context is an annual convention for female bloggers that was conducted last weekend. The issue is women bloggers being taken as seriously as their male counterparts. (There's probably the meta-issue, as well, whether male readers will take the article seriously. But perhaps they're not the primary audience.) The piece certainly compels the question of female *fire* bloggers. Are they out there? Though female firefighters thrive on discussion boards, what sort of blog presence have they been having? (Or is this a trick question, as firefighter blogs, period, are still relatively new?)

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

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Yes
No

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Wednesday's Major Fire / Rivermist Drive

07/26/08 108 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Two alarms at 3718 Rivermist Drive. Engine 10 reported column of fire visible while en route, and declared a major working fire upon arrival at a two-story, wood-frame house with 3,030 square-feet. Heavy fire in rear, with crews performing offensive attack. Adajacent residence damaged. No injuries. Alarm time 12:15 a.m., controlled approximately 12:55 a.m. "B" shift units included E10, E26, E12, E7, E3, E11, L26, L11, R7, R19, B2, B3, C5, C20, A8, EMS7, EMS11, EMS13, EMS D1, EMS T1. [Photo and incident details from Lee Wilson](#). Cause determined as arson, [reported WRAL](#).



Lee Wilson photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Blow This!

07/26/08 79 W - + 14 - 11

Here's a nifty idea. [WRAL reports on a new push-cart vending service](#) in Raleigh that lets bar-hoppers check their blood alcohol levels for \$5. The concept seems a winner, and provides a valued service. The company, [Drug and Alcohol Risk Management](#) of Holly Springs, is providing the cart Friday and Saturday from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. They're also teaming with [Safe Ride Home](#), the report reports, for downtown Raleigh events.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Monster Fire Station

07/26/08 75 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

Happened upon this station site, while touring points westward. Friendship Fire Department in Howard County, MD. The left section has double or perhaps triple-deep bays. On the backside, there appears a full second lower story. Here's a [news article that tells more](#). Costs \$11 million. Will sleep 21 people. Will have 28,810 square-feet. Now that's a *big* fire station! [Read about the department](#), as well as their [station project](#). Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Baltimore Former Firehouses

07/26/08 111 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

Last minute project, locating retired BFD engine houses that are still standing. The guys at Steadman Station got me started with about a dozen locations. Left to right, top to bottom, Baltimore Street just west of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S. Caroline Street near Gough Street, 700 N. Eutaw Street, 414 N. Gay Street, McColluh Street at Gold Street, North Avenue east of Mt. Royal Avenue, and 323 N. Paca Street. Dates, information, and other stations are pending. Might be a good project for next year's visit. In the meantime, here's a [page with considerably more information](#), from the Ghosts of Baltimore site.



Here's a house on Locust Pointe that I shot some years ago, <http://www.legeros.com/photos/expo05/sli..>

Legeros - 07/26/08 - 23:18

Looks like there are 40+ old stations in the city! I'd better add an extra day or more next for shooting! Here's my list, draft form, posted to the BCFD forum of the Watch Desk: <http://www.thewatchdesk.com/forum/showth..>

Legeros - 07/27/08 - 06:58

As indicated in subsequent post, here's everything on a new web page: <http://legeros.com/history/baltimore/>

Legeros - 07/30/08 - 04:56

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Another Raleigh LaFrance Found

07/28/08 101 W, 1 I - + 17 - 9

Another one of Raleigh's old American LaFrance engines has been found, at least from some years ago. This 1992 photo, sent from an RFD member, shows a seemingly pristine 1958 pumper, registration number N-720. Present whereabouts may be Alamance County. It served as Engine 9 at Station 1, Engine 10 at Station 1, Engine 11, Engine 14, and in reserve. The contract for purchase was dated December 4, 1958, and it was delivered by August 29, 1959. It had a 1,000 GPM pump and a 300 gallon water tank. In later years, the shop added both a fiberglass roof and a top-mounted booster reel. See [vintage photos](#). Click to enlarge:



Mike , you have a better location in Alamance Co? If so , I could try to get a few more pics for you.

Travis Loy ([Email](#)) - 07/28/08 - 22:18

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

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Baltimore on the Brain

07/29/08 277 W - + 13 - 13

It started at Steadman. Guy in a tropical shirt walks into a fire station and asks about old buildings. Dusk explorations, assisted by GPS, found a few. How many more were there? Consulted the Internet. Very helpful entity. Found a [web page on the subject](#). Merged that information into my list. Then found [this Watch Desk thread](#). Merged more information into my list. 'Twas midnight. Time for bed. Said goodnight to moon, while cursing self for starting project on last night in city.

More Google in morning. Refined list. Posted as [new Watch Desk thread](#). Drove downtown for Fire Expo flea market. Sought and found and photographed a few more houses. *The Unheralded Heroes of Baltimore's Big Blazes*, by William A. Murray, curator of the Baltimore Fire Museum. Published in the 1970s, sold by his grandsons at the flea market. One is a Baltimore Jake. We talked old houses. Left market, destination Charlottesville. Left in direction of Washington Boulevard, to find another house or two, but missed exit. Oh well.

People responded to Watch Desk thread. More information came. One "J Smith" [posted a superb list](#) of stations still standing in the city. Merged that information into my lists on Monday morning, before leaving Charlottesville. Destination Raleigh. Baltimore still on the brain. Home around 4, and at computer by 5:30. [Converted list into web page](#). Posted link on Watch Desk thread. And 90 minutes later, pulled away from the computer. Guess that's enough for now, for this year.¹

¹ Well, almost enough. [Found list of active stations](#) later. Merged with web page. Checked tax records for building dates. Eliminated newer stations. Revised web page. Done?

Name: (real name preferred)
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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Whole Lotta Orange

07/29/08 39 W, 1 I - + 18 - 13

Flourescent orange, that is, as striping on ambulances and apparatus at the [Charlottesville-Albemarle Rescue Squad](#) in Charlottesville, VA. Fleet includes heavy squads (3), logistic unit, water rescue unit, support trailers, and numerous bone wagons. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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

Blue Ridge Tunnel

07/29/08 151 W, 1 I - + 24 - 10

[This is an abandoned railroad tunnel in Virginia](#), about 30 minutes west of Charlottesville. Called the Crozet Tunnel, or Rockfish Gap tunnel. The eastern bore exits at Afton. To access, drive to the end of [Afton Depot Lane](#). Walk about a mile west along the tracks. The old tunnel is located up and to the right of the present tunnel. Watch for trains. To explore the tunnel, bring waders. Boots, say... fire boots, are insufficient. The depth of the water and mud will be higher than your boots will be long. Still pretty cool, even if explored only a few feet inside. The water and mud is just very deep. For more information about historic railroad structures, consult the book [Landmarks on the Iron Road: Two Centuries of North American Railroad Engineering](#) by William D. Middleton. Great for travel planning. Commence choo-choo sounds.



It would be pretty funny to take a rookie in there and then start running out screaming "BATS, BATS, BATS!!"

Beach ([Email](#)) - 07/30/08 - 09:41

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Yesterday's Fire / Shanda Drive

07/30/08 114 W, 1 I - + 13 - 17

Two alarms at [6308 Shanda Drive](#). Engine 15 arriving at a two-story, wood-frame apartment building with 10,872 square-feet, with smoke showing from roof. Crews used multiple hand lines for interior attack. Command requested second alarm at approximately 3:15 p.m. Marked under control at 3:30 p.m. All occupants escaped safely. Three pets rescued. Sixteen units damaged, with 16 occupants displaced. Cause determined as accidental. Alarm time 2:55 p.m. Units on scene included E15, E9, E4, E16, E19, E18, E22, L22, L23, B1, B4, C5, C20, C72, C4, C2, C1, A8, EMS 16, EMS 5, EMS 3, EMS 124, EMS D3, EMS 200, EMS MD-20, EMS T1. "B" shift. [See more photos from Lee Wilson.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

08/01/08 259 W, 1 I - + 17 - 8

Thus ends the Great American Road Trip. The last stop isn't home, work, or returning to blogging. It's the pictures. When the [last photos have been posted](#), the trip is finally over. 'Twas six days of shore leave, NC to MD and with assorted stops in-between. Roadside attractions included tall ships, wide vistas, and a giant elephant with a window in its butt. Total mileage? [A hair over 1,500](#). Total cost? Unspecified, though the cheapest gas was \$3.79 somewhere in Virginia. Consumed 3.75 audio books, including the splendid [The Devil in the White City](#) by Erik Larson. World's fair + serial killer. Driving was relaxing, at times engaging, and entirely a pain. Maybe next year I'll fly. Said that last year. And the year before.

As always, the exhibit floor was the reason for season. More small, specialized vehicles this year, including a couple amphibious all-terrain types. Greater EMS presence. Lots of LEDs. Code 3 Collectibles was back with a booth. [See this forum](#) for heated discussions by obsessive collectors (redundant phraseology there!). Fewer people, it seemed. Flea market vendors were fewer, too. Most interesting product? [Scene dots](#). Instant chevrons, just add diamond plate. Coolest rig? Gettysburg's soft-yellow ladder looked nice. What did I buy? One book on the history of the Baltimore Fire Department. Well, plus one or two things for the Missus that I picked up in College Park, MD. Wandered to IKEA one night. Click to see summer vacation photos:



Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Snorkel in Operation

08/01/08 89 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Old Truck 1 was operating this afternoon on New Hope Road, working to extinguish a debris fire at the city yard waste center. Presently named Ladder 210, the 1988 Pierce Arrow 85-foot articulating platform was delivered around August 31, 1988. It cost \$396,325, and was placed in service as Truck 1 on September 21, 1988. It was subsequently placed in service at Station 15 (1996/1999), Station 22 (2001), and Station 26 (2005). [Read more about it.](#) Ladder 210 is one of only two to serve in this area. Durham had a Hi-Ranger, back in the day.



Snorkels have served in Fayetteville, Charlotte, Greenville and Wilson to name a few.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/01/08 - 22:33

Henderson-Vance County purchased one several years ago together, and is still in reserve status

rnln ([Email](#)) - 08/01/08 - 22:41

If Im not mistaken Goldsboro has one that the still run as a truck out of station 5.

[Adam Brown] - 08/02/08 - 04:32

Snorkels around the state, versus just the Triangle, were a topic in this thread: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

Legeros - 08/02/08 - 05:29

You are correct about Goldsboro, Snorkel 5 is stationed at St. 5 on Central Heights Road. It was repainted to red a few years ago.

car3550 - 08/02/08 - 18:39

Just for a little history about truck 15. The snorkel was not truck 15 in 1996!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I was transferred to engine 15 in May of 1998 and the truck was still the old segrave. At that time truck 1 was still on the snorkel. If memory serves me correct when truck 1 started riding on the American la France, the snorkel came out to 15 and the segrave went to truck 8. We had to drive truck 15 out the back doors because the elbow would not let us go out the front due to the height of the front doors. Anyway I hope this helps history wise! Stay Safe!

Jason

Jason Lane - 08/03/08 - 11:30

Thanks Jason! The correct date is around April 12, 1999, the date that Truck 1 received the ALF platform. To accommodate the snorkel at Station 15, a higher roof and rear doors were added to the bay. A section of curbing, on the access road to the station and the park, was also

Photography Puzzle

08/02/08 112 W, 2 I - + 12 - 10

While shooting at the airport fire station this morning, the combination of blue sky, fluffy clouds, and staggered trucks seemed the perfect picture. **Here's what my eye saw**, as best recalled and created as a composite using PhotoShop:



Here's what the camera saw. Either the sky looked right, or the trucks looked right, but not both. Click to enlarge:



Fellow photographers, what's happening here? The camera is a Canon Rebel XT. The mode was Program Shift. The settings were ISO 100, shutter 1/200, aperture f10, metering evaluative, auto white balance, no flash, no exposure compensation, AI focus AF, and 17mm focal length. Your input is greatly appreciated in helping solve this puzzle.

CFR 2,3,& 4 would be great for a blitz attack with low staffing levels...pull up, squeeze the trigger on the joystick, and wash everything out the back door! Those trucks are neat.

ncff - 08/02/08 - 22:17

there's only one way around this (from what i know) and that is to tripod it, use aperture priority, spot meter, use a remote shutter release, and take three exposures that you will later combine into an hdr image – the canon xt probably has the same menu system as the xti, so under menu 2, set AEB to either -1, 0, +1 or -2, 0, +2 – then, you will need a program that can combine the three images, such as paint shop pro photo x2 from corel, which includes a new hdr feature – i'm not sure if i would spot meter on the grey siding on the overhang, the grey cement, or the door closest to the vehicles – i'm thinking the grey cement is closest to an 18% grey – no metering on the white of the vehicles, or everything else will be too dark

cornerhydrant - 08/02/08 - 22:43

you may need to get off of auto white balance as well and set it to shady or custom wb

cornerhydrant - 08/02/08 - 22:46

option #2 – graduated neutral density filter, even though i’ve never tried using one myself

cornerhydrant - 08/03/08 - 15:28

option #3 – one raw file made into three tif files, first underexposed for the sky, one normal exposure, one over-exposed for the vehicles and building – combine three into pseudo-hdr (was this a test??)

cornerhydrant - 08/03/08 - 18:30

Hope your not standing over the white line when taking these photos.

Oh NO! - 08/04/08 - 13:19

Negatory. That’s what the wide lens is for.

Legeros - 08/04/08 - 18:58

literally or figuratively over the white line? i was going to say, over the line, and outside of the box, always

option #4 – select sky in second shot – feather slightly – create new adjustment layer and play with hue/saturation levels until some of the color comes back (info should still be there in raw (i think))

cornerhydrant - 08/04/08 - 19:48

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E-mail: (optional)

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

Discussing Rules For Probies

08/03/08 104 W - + 10 - 10

There's a good discussion going on Firefighter Hourly, on the subject of [rules for probies](#). The context is a list of rules posted by the blogger, e.g. shut up, arrive early, grab a mop, etc. The comments discuss and debate the rules and the reasons behind them. One reader posted the FDNY probie rules. Another posted a compelling "contract of expectations" utilized by their department. The readers also present a range of challenges to probationary members and the fire service, from the "me generation" to the dwindling number of working fires faced by many departments.

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
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Adventures in Navigation

08/03/08 314 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

Eight months after purchasing a GPS navigation unit, I finally took the thing on a trip. The [Garmin StreetPilot c330](#)-- since discontinued and supplanted by smaller, snazzier models-- has two modes of navigation: shorter time or shorter distance. Mine was set on **shorter time**, as the unit was used for finding fire scenes. The first thing I learned? Change the setting to **shorter distance**, or be directed onto smaller roads instead of the major roads listed on my trusty AAA TripTik.¹



The next challenge was listening to the thing. Some dozen times, it said "turn here" and I didn't. Usually, this happened in an urban or freeway area, with a number of intersecting streets close together. "Turn here" said the soothing British female, but I would hesitate. Did she mean turn here, or at the street some yards ahead? Well, she meant **exactly** there. More than a couple times I circled one or more blocks, having missed the initial turn.²

One other thing I learned was that I could enter intersections, instead of block numbers. This would have been very helpful while trying to find old engine houses in Baltimore. Alas, I didn't discover this feature until somewhere in Charlottesville. And on the subject of this particular model, my patience was tested by its inability to remember the city last entered.³ That was a royal pain.

¹While navigating south from Front Royal, VA, the thing took me through the mountains on a couple miles of winding gravel road. Needless to say, this was unexpected.

²And some turns were missed because I wasn't paying attention. Since my wife wasn't with me, I am willing to admit that fact.

³The thing remembered the last **state** entered, just not the last **city**. I am looking at [Tom Tom](#) as a possible upgrade. Need to try one in person.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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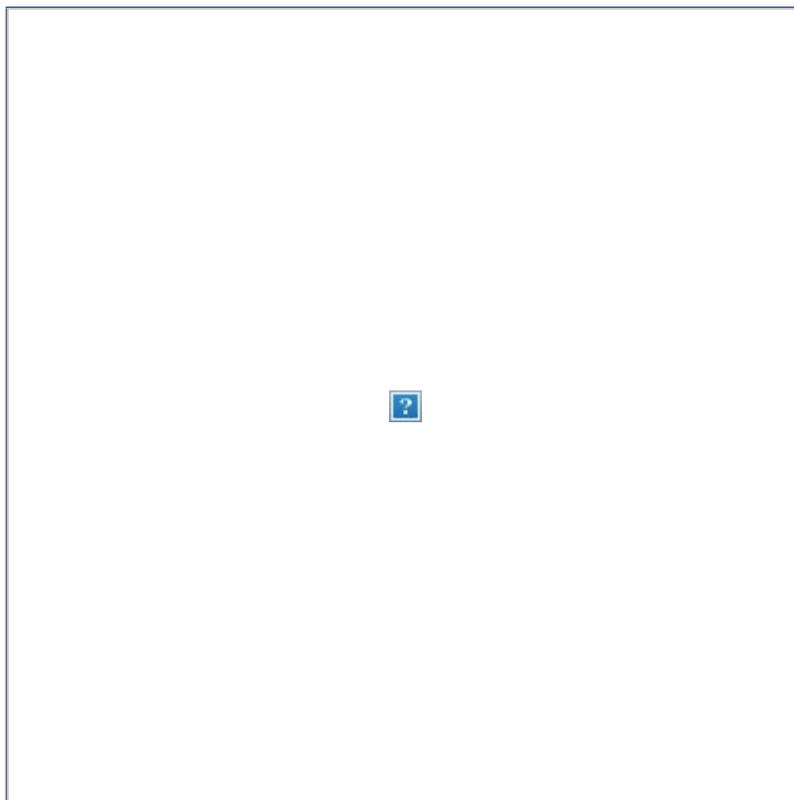
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Sticks Ahoy!

08/03/08 61 W, 1 I - + 14 - 11

Found on [Firegeezzer](#), here's a strong photo of a church fire from the *Baltimore Sun*. Nice composition, with the camera low to the ground. Elizabeth Malby took the Saturday shot, when fire destroyed the 130-year-old Mount Vernon United Methodist Church in Hampden. Click the below photo to see more. Or [read the story](#).



Elizabeth Malby / Baltimore Sun photo

Now that's what you call ladder company courtesy!!!

Silver - 08/03/08 - 18:06

Image #6 in this collection of aerial shots shows the apparatus placement: <http://www.wbalvtv.com/slideshow/news/136...> Looks like a wide collapse zone in front of the structure, with engines and ladders neck-in-neck farther back.

Legeros - 08/03/08 - 20:56

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department Company Histories

08/03/08 74 W, 1 I - + 14 - 9

For your enjoyment, here's a newly updated historical list of [companies and special units of the Raleigh Fire Department](#) . The PDF document replaces a prior, simpler version on the [RFD history site](#). There are still gaps, however. **Comments, corrections, debate, and discussion welcome.** Hope to the have the thing completed after another year or two. Still more research to do. Always more research to do. Thanks for any help.

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

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No

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Hot, Hot, Hot

08/04/08 63 W, 1 I - + 19 - 8

Here's what was left of the abandoned house off Southall Road that burned this afternoon, and caught the surrounding woods on fire. Several Raleigh and New Hope fire units were on scene, plus a number of Wake EMS and Eastern Wake EMS units for aggressive rehab. Great work as always, guys and gals.



When I first saw this shot, I thought it was from a wildfire out west....

harkey ([Email](#)) - 08/04/08 - 23:22

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

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Yes
No

Comment:

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Ask Anything of Cary EMS Chief Steve Cohen

08/04/08 43 W, 1 I - + 12 - 10

WRAL is featuring Cary EMS Chief Steve Cohen as a future [Newsmaker of the Week](#). They invite readers to submit questions. The answers will be posted August 19. [Learn more about Cary EMS](#).



WRAL photo

Can you give us an update on the merger between Apex EMS and Cary Area EMS? At a membership meeting earlier this summer, you said that you expected the two organizations to be operating under one budget by the end of this fiscal year. This is good for both communities, in my opinion. Is this still the timeline?

Bradley Wilson ([Email](#)) - 08/05/08 - 19:35

So, why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway?

Bradley Wilson ([Email](#)) - 08/08/08 - 10:34

Why do they have Braille letters on the drive-up ATM at the bank?

guest - 08/08/08 - 14:39

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

Another Church Fire Photo

08/04/08 38 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

This time in Massachusetts and [featured in the Boston Herald](#). Three alarms after a lightning strike to a historic 1867 structure in Lynn. Angela Rowlings took this amazing photo:



Angela Howard / Boston Herald photo

Lightning??? From the looks of the sky, that storm cleared up quick!!

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/05/08 - 23:11

Clear sky != lightning risk, or so they always say on the Weather Channel.

Legeros - 08/06/08 - 05:51

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Big Orange / Cary EMS

08/05/08 119 W, 2 I - + 16 - 13

Speaking of Cary EMS, took delivery of their first commercial truck-chassis ambulance some weeks ago. I believe it's dubbed "Big Orange." That, or I am simply remembering a line from Andy Griffith's classic comedy routine¹ "What It Was Was Football." Lee Wilson took the below photo of EMS 54, as well as picture of their cool new District Chief vehicle. Memories of *Emergency!* and the LACoFD return yet again. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photos

¹Well, I says "I believe I will have another big Orange." [More about WIWWF.](#) And check out this [Capital Records compilation](#) from 1993 for Griffith's best comedy routines, as well as a few fun songs.

Does anyone know the thought process behind this type of district chief vehicle? Seems like a great concept besides of using an SUV.

[Adam Brown] - 08/05/08 - 14:51

Well may when things are slow they can put it in to service as a spare MAP unit changing tires on I-40.

guest - 08/05/08 - 16:49

That big orange box is fugly!

buckwheat - 08/05/08 - 17:12

Hey, I like it! It's different and a good mix of the typical SUV and an ambulance. I'm sure it is a lot more practical and has an added flexibility for different applications (e.g. pulling boats, trailers, etc). Probably not the most economical vehicle in regards to fuel mileage, but which of our fire/ems vehicles even come close to having great gas mileage? Probably none. Nice vehicle Cary EMS!

RFD574 - 08/05/08 - 18:14

The trucks look great, I think. Obvious benefits of utility body versus Suburban-style is easy access to stowed equipment, and no danger of that same equipment flying forward in an accident. Alas, not as much surface-area for rear-facing chevrons.

Legeros - 08/05/08 - 20:24

They had simply outgrew the Durango that served as D-5. There was no room for much other than a driver. Got a chance to look at the new rig and it's laid out well, provides great access to equipment and carries more for MCI situations. It's a neat concept and I'm interested to see how it works out. I have heard that the lettering inside of the orange stripe will be changing to blue letters in the near future.

As for "Big Orange" that thing is a beast, and it's always funny to watch somebody that doesn't know about the air system open the back doors and watch the body drop! And at the least it's visible!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/05/08 - 20:39

Cary are not the first to go to a medium-duty chassis in Wake County. Garner EMS was first, and they've stayed with them. Rolesville took delivery of two medium-duty ambulances. They do have a lot of room for working in the back, and the driving is not that different.

As far as the district chief's vehicle, I am all for it. Besides the safety advantages of not having the equipment flying at you, imagine, for a second, that you have a patient in the middle of the woods during weather. With the old SUVs, you couldn't put the patient in the back of the SUV because of all the equipment. True, this doesn't keep them out of the weather, but at least it's faster than walking them out..

CJS ([Email](#)) - 08/06/08 - 08:13

Holly Springs had an International/AEV that was originally in New Hanover County. Smithfield had a medium duty Freightliner/ Wheeled Coach from 1996 to about 2005. FirstHealth of the Carolinas (Chatham, Hoke, Montgomery, Richmond, and Chesterfield (SC) Counties) used them from 1996 to this year. I think Cumberland and New Hanover use them, and Mt Pleasant Rescue (Nash County) had one around 1995-1996).

There are certain advantages- heavier duty chassis and drive train, the late 90s IHC/ NAVISTARS would turn on a dime. They allow a larger payload which makes them great for critical care transport units or fire-rescue-paramedic units. It is said that they are more economical in the long run.

They can have more room for work, allowing more room to move around. But there is a lot of evidence out there that to me, and only me, that we should not be moving around the back of a moving ambulance. These boxes are not made to any crash-stable standard that means anything (in other words they do not stand up to impact or rollover at all). How much room they have is all in the specs.

To me, the main drawback is the rougher ride. It is a medium duty truck and will ride like it.

It is a shame that the ambulance manufacturers have not seriously addressed the ride that a vehicle for this purpose provides to people with broken bones and such. Also, it is a shame that crash sturdiness has not truly been addressed.

OK, enough of the soap box.

They are pretty sharp trucks. I like the supervisor vehicle concept of a utility box better than an SUV.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/06/08 - 11:35

I've noticed several (larger sized) departments making a move towards using a utility truck/light-duty rescue vehicle for their Battalion Chief and/or Supervisor vehicle. A few that immediately come to mind are:

Austin-Travis Co Texas: <http://www.x635photos.com/displayimage-2..>

Los Angeles CA: http://firechief.com/inservice/los_angel.. – Can't locate the bigger pictures that I once saw.

Miami-Dade: <http://www.local1403.org/index.cfm?dsp=g..> (apparently Miami-Dade likes the concept, they have taken more units: <http://www.rosenbaueramerica.com/deliver..>)

Luke - 08/07/08 - 16:39

The newer light duty chassis-cab units are much more practical than the SUVs. They do, however, cost more upfront, which some city and county councils look only at the upfront costs.

The added safety of not having everything in the back simply stacked back there in an SUB is justification alone, at least to me. Also, you would tend to get a better support capability out of them, whether it is response support, ICS support, or a combination.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/07/08 - 16:48

Cary FD has ordered and taken delivery of at least one of the two replacements for their battalion chief vehicles. They are F-250 Crew Cabs and will replace 2 Excursions (one of which was totaled in an accident last year). Best I have heard is that they will have standard bodies, but some form of a camper shell and slide out tray/command system will be in place.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 08/07/08 - 18:49

The Los Angeles experiment of a utility body instead of their standard Suburbans has been abandoned. They only had one unit, and they didn't like the results.

LAFD is wondering what they are going to do now that the Suburban will no longer be made with the hinged barn doors, only overhead lift gates.

harkey ([Email](#)) - 08/07/08 - 21:45

Here in Dekalb Co. we are in the process of ordering 25 of the Spartan/Furion chassis rescues similar to the Miami Dade units over the next 2 yrs., Apparently admin. and motor maint. like the ease of maint. Vs. the new F-series trucks we currently run, and the turning radius is much better...And speaking of utility bodied squads here is a link to the units our Squad Capt's run, they are staffed by a FF/Emt and the Capt/Firemedic and function as an additional resource for fires and respond to all shootings/stabbings/entrapments etc. They will also respond on alpha calls in place of an ambulance and decide whether transp. will be necessary. keeping ALS units in service....

Sq.7 <https://dklbweb.dekalbga.org/fire/rescue/photos/7.jpg>

[jdkay2839] - 08/07/08 - 23:06

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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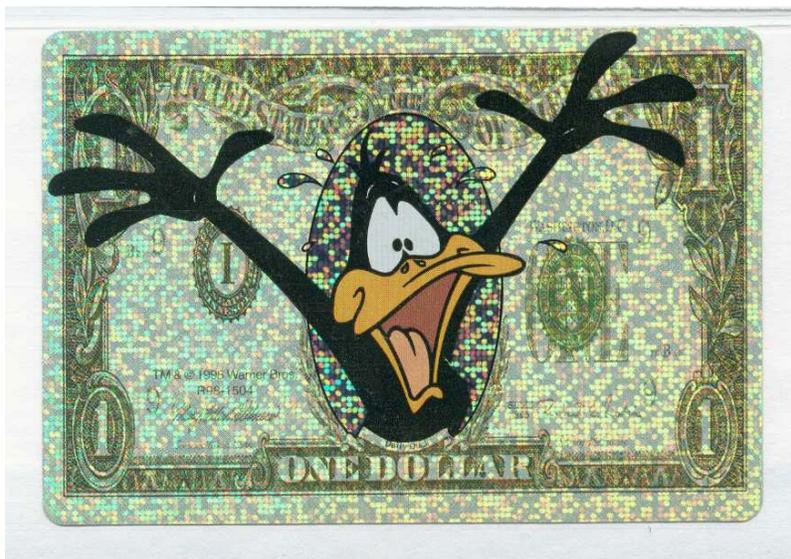
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Ticket Scalping Now Legal on Web

08/05/08 76 W, 1 I - + 12 - 9

Lest we fail to cover a broad range of non-fire service related topics, the Gov¹ has signed a temporary law into effect allowing online scalping of event tickets. [Here's today's AP/N&O story.](#) Gentlemen, start your eBay engines.



D. Duck, esq.

¹Unknown if those letters are on the back of Easley's coats, a la Mel Brooks in *Blazing Saddles*. I didn't get a harumph out of that guy...

There goes my idea of getting a Yankees ticket for the last game at a fair price.....

Silver - 08/05/08 - 12:22

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Eastern War Time

08/05/08 47 W - + 16 - 10

Was looking through some logs from the Forties and saw a reference to "Eastern War Time." Huh? Says the [Wikipedia entry](#), it replaced Eastern Standard Time during World War II. From February 9, 1942 to September 30, 1945, it was the equivalent of year-round EST. Interesting.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Stats, You Say?

08/05/08 97 W - + 16 - 15

Haven't looked at the logs in a while. In July, this blog received 11,205 visits from 3,022 unique visitors, with an average of 361.45 per day. Visitors spent an average of 2:13 minutes on the site. They came from 33 countries/territories, with 10,972 visits from the United States, then 26 from Germany, 13 from Canada, etc. The most popular blog entry, viewed 805 times, concerned the [graduation of Raleigh's latest recruit academy](#). The entire [Raleigh/Wake FF site](#) received 21,847 visits, while [legeros.com](#) received 27,235 visits. Unknown if the dapper home page portrait has increased traffic. Data from [Google Analytics](#).

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Trapped or Entrapped?

08/06/08 167 W - + 15 - 14

Is someone trapped in a car, or entrapped in a car? [Merriam-Webster](#) defines the transitive verb¹ "trap" as "as 1 a: to catch or take in or as if in a trap : entrap b: to place in a restricted position : confine <trapped in the burning wreck>." They define the transitive verb "entrap" as "1 : to catch in or as if in a trap." Okay, sounds like the same word. However, there's no inflected form² of "entrap." Ergo, "trapped" is a word, but "entrapped" is not a word. But wait, Batman! [This site](#) cites "entrapped" in a 1913 edition of Webster's. So, it was a word, but now it isn't a word? There's even a web site named [entrapped.com](#). I wonder if they know? Definitely requires further research... not!

¹What the heck is a transitive verb? Don't know, was never good at grammar. That's why we have Google.

²See #1.

thinking that entrapped may be more restrictive, more devious, planned

here entrapped is a word:

from dictionary.com

enˈtrap

–verb (used with object), -trapped, -trapˈping.

1. to catch in or as in a trap; ensnare: The hunters used nets to entrap the lion.
2. to bring unawares into difficulty or danger: He entrapped himself in the web of his own lies.
3. to lure into performing an act or making a statement that is compromising or illegal.
4. to draw into contradiction or damaging admission: The questioner entrapped her into an admission of guilt.
5. Law. to catch by entrapment.

—Related forms

enˈtrapˈper, noun

enˈtrapˈpingˌly, adverb

—Synonyms 1. capture, snare, trap.

cornerhydrant - 08/06/08 - 16:39

The Cambridge International dictionary defines trapped as "a dangerous or unpleasant situation which you have got into and from which it is difficult or impossible to escape", and defines entrapped as "to cause someone to do something that they would not usually do, by unfair methods, or tricking". Therefore, trapped appears to be the better word to use in your 'auto' situation.

Blog wife - 08/06/08 - 18:26

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Civil War Cave off Airline Drive

08/06/08 120 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Anyone know anything about a cave off [Airline Drive](#) that purportedly was used during the Civil War? It's relatively easy to find. Take Airline Drive to the end, turn right on Sandra Drive. Look for a creek on the right that passes behind houses. Walk the creek for some 200 yards. The cave is on the left. Crouch to enter, but you can stand once inside. It's maybe 20 feet deep. Though there's too much foilage to see the area using Google maps, [Wake County's aerial photography](#) has photos from the winter months. As for the Civil War stories, I've heard that ammunition was hidden there. Perhaps during Raleigh's occupation.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

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

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

Restoring Engine 11 to Honor Charleston Firefighters

08/06/08 80 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

[Firefighter Hourly](#) blogged about this last month, a project to restore Charleston Fire Department Engine 11, a 1961 Model C85 Mack¹ that served from 1960 to 1991. The engine is planned for restoration and future use for public fire education and as an event and parade piece to honor both the Charleston 9 and all current and retired Charleston firefighters. [Read more about it.](#)



Old Engine 11

¹ How many Model C engines served in North Carolina? Any? Many?

Seems like Winston-Salem had them. I remember seeing what I think was a C model back around 1972 or so.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/06/08 - 12:05

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Yes

No

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Wake County Fire Academy Update

08/06/08 79 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

The Wake County Fire-Rescue Division has concluded the application acceptance process for the first Wake County Fire Academy. They had a total of 29 individuals that requested applications, and they accepted 18. The participating departments:

- Bay Leaf - 2
- Garner - 1
- Apex - 2
- Durham Highway - 2
- Morrisville - 2
- Holly Springs - 6
- Western Wake - 1
- Summerville - 2

The academy starts September 8 and ends around January 16, 2009. See the bottom of [this PDF flyer](#)  for contact information, to learn more.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake County Fire Commission Vacancy Update

08/06/08 138 W - + 10 - 12

The Wake County Board of Commissioners last night appointed Barbara Poole to fill the vacant citizen seat on the Wake County Fire Commission. Ms. Poole is a former member of the Eastern Wake Fire Department board. [You can watch this decision on the web.](#) Starting watching the August 4 meeting at 4:30:37. Nearly 20 people applied, believe it or not, including some of our blog readers. The names of applicants and their resumes were available on the [meeting item agenda](#), but appear to have been since removed. The meeting includes a discussion of geographic representation of the Fire Commission, and notably the preponderance of members from the eastern side of the county. There was also a lot of laughter during the voting, which took a couple iterations until one nominee received a majority vote.

Oh well, I tried.....

Silver - 08/06/08 - 20:28

Those in the know, what are the secrets to securing an appointment to county commissions? I presume making yourself known to one or more commissioners is a good start. What else?

Legeros - 08/06/08 - 21:55

Now, let me start by saying that I may be somewhat biased. Barbara Poole is one of my family's oldest friends, and before her late husband died, he was a part of my stepfather's group of friends. NOW, with that said:

Barbara Poole has been active in the support of public safety since before her husband died, but the circumstances of his death led her to be even more involved, especially on the EMS side. She is a woman who speaks her mind, and does so while still being diplomatic.

Of course, being somewhat self-made and having political clout is also a plus...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 08/07/08 - 04:58

Were – are – aren't available. The link is available at the bottom of the page, however it is a link to nowhere.

stretch - 08/07/08 - 08:06

...are available.

Now - 08/07/08 - 09:40

I tried the link, i still get the "sorry. not available" message....

Silver - 08/07/08 - 10:02

I've found it.....

Silver - 08/07/08 - 10:16

Funny how 2 "ex" Eastern Wake board members sit on the Fire Commission.

TJ - 08/07/08 - 10:51

TJ , and to those who are questioning the 2 "ex" members...Keep in mind they are "ex" Board Members. Do you know the circumstances to why they are "ex" members? So, before you or others jump on the band wagon with the "ex" crap, find out why they are "ex" and you might change your stance or opinions to them. "EX" means they are no longer associated with that organization and they either quit (on their own account), were asked to leave, or just plain out did not get voted in. If you look at the Primary and Alternatives, seems to be equal representation there, 2 citizens from the east side and I am not sure where the 4 others live? Anybody know?

Here are some questions I have:

1. Why are there 16 members on a Commission?
2. Why are there mostly Fire Chiefs' on the Commission?

3. Why is there a rep. from the Town of Wendell? Why can't the other towns have a rep?

4. There are only 5 citizens seats, why?

5. The Wake County Fireman's Association, what do they do?

[WC Fire ?] - 08/07/08 - 11:37

I'll try to answer WC Fire's questions...

1) The number of members can vary, based on municipal participation in the single tax district. The current makeup is:

- 1 Board of Commissioner member
- 4 Fire Services Representatives (one from each region, historically a Chief)
- 1 Wake County Firefighter's Association president
- 5 Citizens/Public Consumers
- One seat per municipality that has joined the service tax district (currently only Wendell)
- All the others are alternates and only vote if their primary member is absent

2) The regions can elect whomever to represent them. Historically, they've chosen Chiefs due to their availability for meetings and such

3) Wendell joined the service tax district, meaning that property owners pay fire tax just like everyone in the County. Fire protection for the Town of Wendell is provided by the County. Any other town that does the same thing would get a seat on the Commission.

4) The intent is to balance representation so that neither side (fire service or public/citizen) has more seats.

5) My advice...see <http://www.wakefirefighters.org>

Hope that helps...

Chris ([Email](#)) - 08/07/08 - 13:26

WC Fire, for question #5 did you mean "The Wake County Fireman's Association [seat], what do[es] [that representative] do?" I believe the purpose of the WCFA seat is representation of the men and women of the county fire departments, and watching over their interests. That's my take, at least.

Legeros - 08/08/08 - 07:27

Safe to say that vote solidifies Eastern Wake st.2's safety spot OFF the closure list....

boo hiss - 08/10/08 - 11:05

FYI, the Wake County web team was notified of the periodic unavailability of those agenda attachment items. They advise they are working to resolve same.

Legeros - 08/13/08 - 04:15

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Cramping Cheerleaders

08/07/08 105 W - + 14 - 12

Would you believe 26 cheerleaders crammed into a single elevator car? That's what Austin firefighters faced on Tuesday night, when a gaggle of teens at the University of Texas commenced conducting an experiment in mass, weight, and the mechanical capabilities of a dormitory elevator. Once stuck, cell phones were wiggled free and used to summon emergency officials. Extrication took 25 minutes, once a repairman was on scene. One subject fainted and was transported; two others were treaded on scene. Unknown if pom poms were also present at the confined space rescue. Story details from the [Associated Press](#). Sardonic wit or attempts thereof from Yours Truly.

I can just hear the screams now.....I feel for those Firefighters that made that rescue.

Talk about crammed. See the 10-50 in Arizona? 19 people on board SUV, at least 9 die in SUV rollover on rural Ariz. road

Looks like this is fairly common in Arizona?

buckwheat - 08/07/08 - 18:20

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

South Salisbury Street

08/07/08 33 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Here's how it's lookin' in front of the nearly completed [convention center](#) on South Salisbury Street. Road's still closed, though the odd pedestrian was seen passing through. Click to enlarge.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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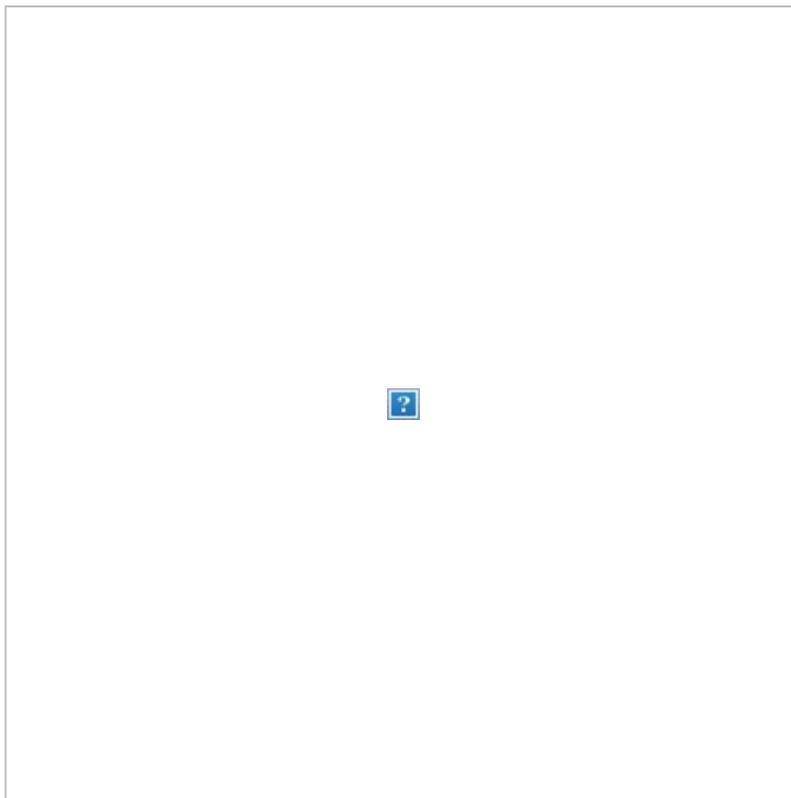
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Interesting Graphics

08/08/08 81 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

From a reader and speaking of Texas¹, here's an interesting and newly adopted graphics scheme in Austin-Travis County. Observe the chevron stripe extending to the body, and cab. [See more ATC EMS photos from Seth Granville's site.](#)



Seth Granville Photo

¹Almost made it through two postings about Texas before that scene from director Tim Burton's first feature film played in my head. "The stars at night, are big and bright..." Name the movie for extra credit.

The movie quote is from PeeWee's Big Adventure. It is a passage in the song "Deep In The Heart of Texas", written by June Hershey in the early 40s or late 30s.

June Hershey, 1941
The stars at night,
Are big and bright,
Deep in the heart of Texas,
The prairie sky
Is wide and high,
Deep in the heart of Texas.
The sage in bloom
Is like perfume,
Deep in the heart of Texas,

Reminds me of,
 The one I love,
 Deep in the heart of Texas.
 T
 he coyotes wail,
 Along the trail,
 Deep in the heart of Texas,
 The rabbits rush,
 Around the brush,
 Deep in the heart of Texas.
 The cowboys cry,
 "Ki-yip-pee-yi,"
 Deep in the heart of Texas,
 The dogies bawl,
 And bawl and bawl,
 Deep in the heart of Texas.

Now, as to the color of the ambulance...I like it.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/08/08 - 14:47

Ha! nice job DJ, As they say....everything is bigger in Texas!
 It's more like over the top. From the 10 gallon hats, to the snake skin boots to the hub-cap size belt buckles.
 You might even find some boss hogg size longhorns on the front of any emergency vehicle.
 As for the ambulance yeah it's definately an eye catcher.

jetexas - 08/08/08 - 17:53

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

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Flickr Photo Group Pools

08/08/08 104 W - + 18 - 10

I also have a [Flickr photo site](#), which serves as a permanent archive of pictures. My photo sets include fire and EMS, obviously, some travel photography, and the occasional "other" category. Some of the pictures draw draw from other Flickr members, who ask if the pics can be displayed in pools for their Flickr groups. Pretty cool concept, collectively sharing images of similiar themes. Here are three Flickr group pools with quite a few cool photos:

- [Baltimore City Fire Department](#)
- [Oshkosh Fire Apparatus](#)
- [Unique Colored Fire Apparatus](#)

What group pools of note have you found, fellow Flickr users?

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Fire Protection During Beijing Olympics

08/08/08 91 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Has anyone happened across articles describing what's happening in Beijing with regard to fire protection during the Olympics? Searching the official site finds [this China Daily article from last year](#), noting 2,220 new members and 120 new fire engines were planned. The city's force of firefighters was expected to reach 6,725 this month, with temporary fire stations at each games venue. [This CRI English article has additional details](#) about BFD's expanded capabilities. [Here's a blog posting](#) with the sound of a Beijing fire engine.



New York Times Photo

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Photographer in Action

08/08/08 14 W, 1 I - + 18 - 11

I'm Mike Legeros and I approved this self-parody. Click to enlarge:



you'll be wanting scene dots for your vest and maybe one for each lens cap too

http://www.scenedots.com/photo_gallery.p..

cornerhydrant - 08/08/08 - 20:08

And don't forget about the shorts cornerhydrant. Here's my concept: <http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v147/s..>

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 08/09/08 - 10:43

speaking of reflectors, there should be some kind of law for bicycle riders, who are nearly invisible at dusk and dawn, both for the bicycle and on garments worn (fighting the urge of outfitting my car's bumpers with scene dots)

cornerhydrant - 08/11/08 - 17:56

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

State Issues Fines After Salisbury Millwork Fire

08/08/08 104 W - + 12 - 12

Turning to serious matters, the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the state Department of Labor fined Salisbury and Locke Township fire departments this week, after investigating the fatal Salisbury Millwork fire on March 7. Salisbury firefighters Justin Monroe and Victor Isler were killed. Though the story was well-covered, from [FireNews](#) to [Firehouse](#) to [Statter911](#), discussion on the topic has been harder to track down. Firegeezzer has offered some [preliminary thoughts](#). Readers of the Salisbury Post have generated a [couple dozen comments](#), as did a handful of [WRAL readers](#). What are your reactions to the labor department's actions?

Interesting comments...

Anytime a firefighter is killed (or an LEO or paramedic/EMT) people want to know why. The families want to know why Hopefully the departments/agencies want to know why.

We hope that is is something that happened that was unavoidable. That it is something that we could not have foreseen. We hope that we have covered all of the bases. Or maybe that not all of the bases had to be covered.

We hope that our situation is different from what existed in such places as Worchester, Patterson, Charleston, or Kingman. Or even closer to home in Salisbury or Goldsboro or Shelby.

These reports and findings are news so they will be covered. Partly because they satisfy society's insatiable appetite for 'blame'. Things don't just happen, we need to blame someone. Of course, when the fingers are pointed at you (or your department), the natural tendencies include 'circling the wagons'.

And usually, when all is said and done, although so few are killed in the LOD each year in non-helath related situations, it is the same old stuff everytime-

Training
Communications
Procedures

Is it that we are not learning? Or do we think that "our situation is different" and those terrible things that happen "every where else" will not happen here?

Or can it really be just summed up as "Crap happens"?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/09/08 - 13:41

Happy B-day DJ (50 !!). ...and well put. To add...We all know that we're in a dangerous profession and that Pandora's box is opened when something goes wrong. In reality, it's a matter of "when" and not "if" before we see another local responder tragedy is upon us.

So, here's some simple advice to reduce the investigative issues that occur "post event." Review your procedures, and if you're unsure as to their proper application or effectiveness, ask for help. NIOSH, OSHA, and even your insurance carrier have capabilities to provide guidance with your procedural development. Just ask. A LODD within itself is stress enough, so we definitely don't need the added problems associated with the ensuing investigations.

Make sure you're covered: Training, Supervision (actual and/or procedural), and Equipment are the main areas where deficiencies equal liability.

Everyone be safe and remember that "we did not start the fire..."

A.Rich - 08/09/08 - 23:14

Thanks, AC.

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

This is not meant as a hit to any body. WHY DO REGULAR LICENSE CHECKS?

A Japanese firefighter who has driven fire apparatus and ambulances hundreds of times over 20 years was sacked after it was discovered that he never had a driver's licence. The man's family was in on his "secret" and would drive him each day to and from the firehouse, from where he would get behind the wheel of fire apparatus and ambulances. But the firefighter in Takaoka (NW of Tokyo) was busted last week after he hesitated to show his licence during a routine (?) FD inspection.

"An inspector thought he was looking awkward and yanked the driver's licence from his hand and discovered it was his father's," said a FD Official.

The Firefighter, who is in his 40's, was a FF for some 20 years...during the five years to this March, for which records were available, he drove ambulances 309 times and fire trucks 97 time.

The city ALSO cut the salaries of the Chief of Department, his Deputy Chief and other senior officials by 1/10th for one month as punishment...the FD only began monthly licence inspections in November.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

What would happen here if this starting happening to command staff for not doing there job?

Adam Brown - 08/10/08 - 13:49

They would never cut a chief's salary here, especially in NC, as punishment....but I agree with the strategy. I know quite a few chiefs, here in this county ALONE that could use this kind of discipline-if not a permanent salary cut. They are much stricter over there, but have higher respect and discipline values too.

Capt. Rich is exactly right, we didnt start the fire, and it IS only a matter of time. Unfortunatley it wont be long before the "antics" that some departments call fireground operations bite them in the tail. Just go look on youtube (why they post video of themselves being stupid and show it off lkike a bravery medal is beyond me...) I was in a class somewhere and this Chief was telling us how to avoid labor and OSHA penalties. He said if you do these four things, you could rest with a clean(er) conscious if the unthinkable ever did happen:

- 1)Give your people the tools they need to do their job
- 2)Train your people, consistently and properly
- 3)Document EVERYTHING
- 4)NEVER order an unsafe act.

You have 2 eyes, 2 ears, and one mouth. Thats a 4:1 ratio on what you should be taking in on the fireground versus spitting out. Communication is a must, but thinking before you act and before you order is the real issue.

J.Boggs ([Email](#)) - 08/10/08 - 14:30

You know, the Takaoka incident reminds me of my military time. Eseentially "he who is in charge is responsible" rules. If one of my soldiers did something that was 'less than stellar', there were consequences for him of course. But there were also consequences for me, since I should have been on top of things and taught him/her better.

Maybe if we held those in charge responsible...then maybe we would not see the same old things over and over and over again.

DJ - 08/12/08 - 09:11

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

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 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

"Traffic" by Tom Vanderbilt

08/09/08 217 W - + 11 - 12

Haven't read the book, but have read the [New York Times book review](#). Sounds like a must read, [Traffic, Why We Drive the Way We Do \(And What It Says About Us\)](#), by Tom Vanderbilt. Click that link to Amazon to also read an interview the author. Mary Roach's book review quotes a number of fascinating observations by Vanderbilt. Modern collisions are caused-- well, one of the reasons-- because people judge their driving skills based on the number of crashes they've experienced, versus those they've narrowly avoided. Thus, everyone thinks they're a better driver than they really are. Then there's the problem, Ms. Roach notes of Mr. Vanderbilt, that driving rarely commands 100 percent of our attention, so everyone does something else while driving¹. Thus the reason so many accidents happen, writes Vanderbilt, on dry roads, on clear, sunny days, to sober drivers." Feeling safe kills, as the reviewer writes. Ditto, she adds, why Vanderbilt writes about SUVs being that much more dangerous than cars, as drivers feel that much safer, which begets more careless behavior. Fascinating stuff, just from the review! Can't wait to read the book.

¹Who wants to be first, and admit some of their regular behind-the-wheel activities that do not involve steering, speed control, or watching for other idiots?

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Civil Defense Site Hidden Near Cameron Village

08/10/08 126 W - + 15 - 9

Today's News & Observer has a couple stories about Cold War-era sites around the Triangle, including a [bunker beneath 401 Oberlin Road](#) and the [facility in Chatham County on Big Hole Road](#). Seems the latter has been vacated by AT&T. As the story goes, says the article, a department stor-size bunker was built and buried in the 1960s. The communications facility was designed to survive a nearby nuclear explosion. The Cameron Village facility, notes the N&O, would have housed local federal officials in the event of an atomic attack, and was equipped with comm gear, a giant generator, a big decon shower, and the requisite stores of food and water. What other relics are around here?

Farther north, I have visited a couple Cold War facilities. There's a Nike missile battery launch site in Granite, MD, one of several built around the nation's couple. Read about it, and see a couple pics that I shot in 2002 at this site (scroll down after clicking): http://members.tripod.com/airfields_free.... The launch control facility, up the road, is since gone, the site notes. The missile is still there, and is still well preserved, the site notes. Might have dig up my print pictures.

And this page, <http://www.legeros.com/photos/baltimore-..>, has some exteriors of Mount Pony in Culpeper, VA, the 140,000 square-foot, radiation-hardened (!) facility formerly operated by the Federal Reserve Road. <http://www.fas.org/nuke/guide/usa/c3i/mt..>

Legeros - 08/10/08 - 05:34

Also, there's the bunker beneath the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, VA. Immense facility under an immense hotel that incidentally has its own fire brigade and apparatus. Was designed to house members of Congress and their staff in the event of nuclear war. After it was deactivated and all the secret stuff removed, the hotel opened it to tourists. <http://www.conelrad.com/groundzero/green..>, <http://www.greenbrier.com/site/bunker.as..>, etc. I'll have to dig up those pictures some time as well.

Finally, you can read my own musings about Civil Defense and my memories therein at <http://www.legeros.com/essays/cd/>

Legeros - 08/10/08 - 05:40

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Holly Springs Fire Hydrant

08/10/08 29 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

This ornamental fire hydrant is in front of Holly Springs Station 2. There's another in front of Station 1. Very cute.



i've been wanting to do this for years, but it's not allowed – i'd even settle for some reflective dots – reflectors wouldn't be such a bad idea, as so many hydrants are lost among vegetation, not standing proudly as a beacon like mine is

cornerhydrant - 08/11/08 - 17:46

every K9 in the neighborhood is all in a frenzy when i wash off my corner hydrant – anyone have the same?

cornerhydrant - 08/11/08 - 17:49

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

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

New Hope Car 20

08/10/08 20 W, 1 I - + 17 - 12

New for New Hope, as photographed by Lee last week. [Click to enlarge:](#)



Lee Wilson photo

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

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Toronto Propane Explosion

08/10/08 62 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

Found on [Firegeezzer](#), here's a stunning shot from the propane facility explosion in Toronto that's killed one firefighter. The identity of the 25-year veteran has yet to be released. Joseph Rowland took the photo that's [surfaced on the Channel 24 site](#). There's a full story at that same link. What's the size of that fireball? Holy cow.



Joseph Rowland/Channel 24

The Toronto Fire Department has lost 178 members since 1848. View their honor roll, http://www.toronto.ca/fire/honour_roll.h..., and learn about their firefighter memorial monument, <http://www.toronto.ca/fire/monument.htm>.

Legeros - 08/10/08 - 18:01

I would wager that the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki saw something very similar in August of 1945.

DJ - 08/12/08 - 09:52

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E-mail: (optional)

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Daylight and Color

08/11/08 76 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

Bright colors, you seek? Try shooting in direct sunlight. Though the shadows may be harsh, the colors will be rich, as evident in this photo from today on Lumley Road, with Engine 24, EMS 123, and EMS 1280. Canon EOS Digital Rebel XT, 1/200 shutter, F10 aperature, 100 ISO, 32mm focal length, auto white balance, RAW format, landscape picture style in post-processing. Of course, having colorful objects in front of the camera helps too! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
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Yes

No

Comment:

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Temporary Fire Stations

08/12/08 497 W - + 15 - 12

Holly Springs has opened a temporary Station 3. They've leased a house at ~~4101~~[4112 Friendship Road](#), and placed Engine 3 in service there. Operational as of August 1, the station has a metal shelter for storing the apparatus. It's protecting new annexation areas until a permanent facility is erected *just down the road on Friendship Road.* (Updated 8/20)

Wake Forest is also operating a temporary Station 3. Located at a house at [1412 Forestville Road](#), the station has housed a day-time engine since some time last year. The town plans to construct a permanent facility on that site in the future.

What other temporary stations have been used around Wake County, in years or eras past?

- Bay Leaf's first firehouse was a garage bay in a building in the 11000 block of Six Forks Road from 1961 to 1967, the present site of a vegetable stand.
- Cary's original Station 2 was a tin shed in the 100 block of Cedar Street. Built in 1953 or 1954, it was located just around the corner from Station 1 and served for several years.
- Garner's first fire station was a used-car garage on Garner Road across the high school, used from 1952 to 1953.
- Holly Springs first town-operated fire station was located at the Omaha Meat Company at the corner of Thomasmill Road and Irvine Parkway. It operated during 1995, until a more permanent temporary station was opened that year at 127 N. Main Street. It served until 2006.
- Knightdale's first town-operated fire station was at the Public Works facility at 306 Robertson Street. Opened in 2002, the station consisted of a couple garage bays and a trailer for living quarters.
- New Hope's first fire station was a garage bay at the corner of New Hope and Louisburg Roads. It served from 1956 to 1958.
- Raleigh Station 6 operated in a rented commercial building at 2519 Fairview Road from 1943 to 1948. The station occupied half of the structure.
- Raleigh Station 8 operated in a rented house at 1007 Method Road from 1960 to 1963. It was addressed 903 Kent Road at the time. Personnel constructed a concrete garage that housed the engine and tanker.
- Rolesville's first fire station was the Amoco Station across the street from 106 S. Main Street. It served from 1958 to 1960.
- Six Forks's first fire station was a converted barn on the south side of Howell's Store on the west side of Six Forks Road, starting in 1956. Some years later, the station was replaced with a tin shed on the east side of Six Forks Road just north of Lassiter Mill Road. This facility served until 1962.
- Stony Hill's first fire station was a tin shed on Durham Road, used from 1958 to 1963.
- Swift Creek's first fire station was a tin shed on Tryon Road, used in 1961.
- Western Boulevard's first fire station was Pearson's Esso Station on Western Boulevard at Powell Drive, used in 1957. The replacement facility was an "old barbecue shed" on the opposite corner, used from 1957 until the department disbanded in 1960.
- Yrac's first fire station was a rented garage at the corner of Cedar and Ward streets, used from 1961 to 1966.

What others have been used?

How does this happen? Apex #2 is 2 miles away, and is staffed 24/7. You'd think the county would step in and say "enough is enough, there's no reason for this".

Silver - 08/12/08 - 20:17

You can also perceive the action as good news for all parties involved. One very close mutual aid engine on either side. Sounds good to me!

Legeros - 08/12/08 - 20:34

Holly Springs has land annexed in the area. They had a recent ISO inspection and with unprotected area they were faced with possibility of going to a 10 rating. At least this is my understanding. With our station 2 being so far out from town and with a 3 man engine, having Holly springs this close may prove to be positive. We will wait and see

Apex Batt Chief - 08/12/08 - 20:46

Sorry, Mike, but it doesn't sound good. It sounds like a complete waste of taxpayer's dollars. Silver is right. Enough is enough. A major overhaul is needed. We need one countywide dept. A few stations need to close. Sorry, guys, but the good ole days of "Beau's hangout" is over.

RescueRanger - 08/12/08 - 21:58

For what it is worth, the county does not have much if any control over a municipality's decisions if they are within their corporate limits. In Wake County, there is only so much "they" can do since there are so many municipalities with their individual objectives (and fire departments). This is not bad thing though, but achieving a "County-wide FD" would only encompass or affect the following departments who are virtually 100% county tax funded (about 1/2 of the county): Stony Hill, Bayleaf, Falls, Durham Hwy, Hopkins, Fairview, Swift Creek, New-Hope, and Eastern Wake.

(Note – Rolesville, Wake Forest, Garner, and Wendell are still individual corporate bodies that contract to their towns for services, and the towns essentially provide the vast majority of their annual corporate budgets)

There is a lot of departmental diversity in Wake County that some do not totally understand. However, the proper use of taxpayers' dollars can always be debated... What one governmental body considers proper for its citizens may be considered a waste by others. In my opinion, if fire services can be expanded to any area, it is a benefit for the safety of other responding firefighters and the overall safety of the community.

Thanks and be safe !!

A.Rich - 08/12/08 - 22:29

I agree with you Silver, however, the county has no authority over where towns and municipalities build their fire stations. One example of this is when the Town of Cary built station 7 next to Morrisville Station 3. I think we would both agree that the Morrisville Station desperately needed updating to house staff for 24 hour coverage. The Town of Morrisville and the county did not see a benefit from spending that kind of money when the Town of Cary was going to annex and build an updated fire station that is now housing three 24 hour companies including Morrisville Engine 3.

As far as the Holly Springs and Apex Fire Stations being so close, I know that ISO will give you credit for a contract with a rated agency. So therefore, Holly Springs could have contracted with the Town of Apex for coverage and they would have held onto their ISO rating. Again, look at the relationship between the Town of Morrisville and the Town of Cary. Cary has an area around the airport that is a lot further away than the land in Holly Springs from their fire station. Cary contracts with Morrisville for coverage in this area. This saves the citizens of the Town of Cary millions of dollars when you consider the cost of the station, equipment, and manpower.

One other point to consider, why not house Holly Springs Engine 3 in Apex Station 2? This could have been a win / win situation. Maybe the Town of Holly Springs did not want their resources so far out of town. Maybe someone from Holly Springs could give us some insight on their thought process.

How much harder will it be for Apex to get a fourth person on their truck now when they have mutual aid so close? Why does Apex need four people when Holly Springs is three minutes away? Same problems now exist for Holly Springs. If the stations were a little further apart, say four miles (Woods Creek / Old Holly Springs Apex Road area, 4 to 6 minutes), then the justification would be there for the additional staffing, and there would be better coverage over a greater area of the county and the municipalities involved.

Let's look at the other side of Cary. Fairview rebuilt their station 1 on the edge of their fire district, and 1 mile from Cary Station 6, when they could have relocated to a more central location of their fire district. How about another option, why not merge Swift Creek and Fairview when Fairview was rebuilding and put the new station in the center of both districts. Keep the old Fairview station 1, have the Swift Creek Station, Fairview Station 2 and the new central station. WOW, what a four station department that would have been! Better use of land, stations, and equipment than the mergers in the north side of the county and would have been a larger department as well. I think we all will agree that the people in the Penny Road / Olde South Road area would have liked that money spent in this manner instead of rebuilding a station on the edge of a fire district.

I wish that more of the powers to be would look at these types of scenarios to save the tax payers money and give us all better coverage. It does not make sense to have two fire stations two miles apart. That is the main reason the county is starting to close fire stations. The departments in western Wake County are having enough trouble getting county funding without the towns starting this kind of spending.

Now before you start bashing me for my opinions, or ask why don't I do something more active to fix the problem, I did put my name in the

hat for the vacant position on the fire commission, however, I was overlooked for someone else on the east side of the county. I guess since there are only two none municipal related departments (Fairview, and Swift Creek) on my side of the county, we don't need as much representation. I have also been in contact with my local department and have been bending the ears of local leaders for my department as well.

Be safe,

See you at the big one....

Outside of the box ([Email](#)) - 08/12/08 - 23:33

Oh here we go again....

You will have to excuse me while I go find a dead horse

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/13/08 - 00:11

Well put "outside of the box". Don't get me wrong on this, if things go right, the brothers at Engine 2 in Apex will be safer with "back-up" on their heels (positive). For this to work, drilling together will be imperative. But, I do agree that a better location could have been chosen, as stated above. Two miles is a little silly, just like Apex #1 and #3 being so close (1 mile). It's about maximizing your resources, and would be completely different if these companies are pulling in 3000 runs a year, but they aren't. I'm not a taxpayer in Apex or Holly Springs, but if I were I'd be pretty pi\$\$ed that tax dollars are being spent like this.

LTC, you know just like I do that there are probably 2 other spots that firehouse (AFD 3) should have gone, before the existing spot. With mindset like this, what the heck, why not build RFD #29 at Avent Ferry Rd. and Gorman St.? I mean, the citizens will be safer, and we at 20 would have back-up a lot faster. The reason why it's not going to happen, is because it doesn't make sense!!! There are better, more practical locations for a firehouse, that would maximize coverage and would be better use of the taxpayers money.

I still remember the tiny stretch of US 1 that has "Town of Holly Springs" signs on it. How ridiculous that was, to own a piece of highway with no entrance or exit, and completely surrounded by another fire district. But hey, we've got our signs out there for all to see. The section was so small, if you were in the southbound lanes and staring at the sign, you could see the back of the other sign on the northbound side (clear as mud?).

Before you think about bashing, use your real name, or your credibility is shot.

Stay safe...

Silver ([Email](#)) - 08/13/08 - 00:50

Beach, you can find one in the vet hospital section(s) marked "countywide station numbering" or "smooth-bore nozzle usage".....

Silver - 08/13/08 - 00:53

Original posting updated. The site location of Holly Springs' future facility is not known, at least to this blogger.

Legeros - 08/13/08 - 03:59

I am not defending the decision to build the station so close to ours. We have taken lemons and hope to make lemonade. Instead of arguing with anyone about HS decision we are choosing to utilize. With the distance of their station from town and the distance of our station from town, and with the amount of time each company will spend in their respective town it should work well. Example if Apex #2 is in town for training and they get a call out there they could call for HS to check in with them.

Silver, I agree that Apex 1 & 3 are way to close. I hope that when we open #4 we may look at redrawing all of our district lines to make response more efficient.

Apex Batt Chief - 08/13/08 - 11:03

Back when the talk first started about building Apex station 3, the chief at the time wanted to impress the town officials. It wasn't the greatest decision ever made to build so close to station 1.

Jeff - 08/13/08 - 14:37

Is Apex #2 county or municipality station? I am just curious because it falls in the same realm as Morrisville Station #3 which I believe is a county department primarily funded by county funds. I never understood why before and maybe now they will run back into the town of there

is a call leaving the area they are supposed to be covering unprotected. Is this the same for Apex?

Just curious - 08/13/08 - 15:39

Apex #2 is a municipal dept. It serves in the county area by contract. There is a split of money with the town and county. Our advantage is that is the only are for our town to grow. They are running water in the area now and sewer will come soon, after that the growth should follow. The town already has expanded its ETJ that direction.

Apex Batt Chief - 08/13/08 - 15:48

Oh crap...here it goes. BTW, the horses were cremated and their ashes were scattered at an undisclosed location.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/13/08 - 19:32

Well the barn is now full, so it's just a matter of time.....

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/13/08 - 22:12

After speaking with a Holly Springs OFFICIAL, it was decided by their Town Council NOT to contract with the Town of Apex for fire coverage in the Friendship area. The two fire departments had already discussed the option of contracting, especially with Holly Springs' man power shortage, but it was decided at a municipal (NOT COUNTY) level. Does everything that happens make sense? Of course it doesn't. Another interesting topic that you can blog about is how HSFD #3 will NOT be in the CAD, and AFD #2 will be responding to calls in this area as they always have. HSFD #3 will only respond to HS town limits in Friendship, unless requested to respond to county area (which AFD WILL do.) Just remember that municipalities are making these decisions and not the county, HSFD, or AFD. I will be leaving my name off of this post due to the possibility of my employer being one of the aforementioned entities...

Informed-wish u were 2. - 08/14/08 - 00:26

That's just it...it is a municipal decision. And in North Carolina municipalities can do just that- make decisions. Does not have to make sense to anyone but the ones making the decisions. And county boards can make decisions to, or leave them to someone else. It's their prerogative.

And it is up to the voters to decide if it was a bad decision or not. If they thought it was bad, then the ones that did it (or did not do it) will be voted out.

Of course, it does have to be something on the radar screen and it has to stay there. Kind of like schools, roads, taxes, etc.

Somehow, I don't even think this will create a false echo.

Let the horses rest in peace.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/14/08 - 10:14

LOL!

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/14/08 - 10:31

I'll say a "Hail Mary" and an "Our Father" for them.....gone but not forgotten...

Silver - 08/14/08 - 14:18

Multiple sources confirm that the new Holly Springs station is indeed in CAD, as well as other details that correct some of the most recent comments. To prevent the further spread of FUD— fear, uncertainty, doubt— I am closing this thread for the time being. Everyone's operating with the best of intentions, but let's get our facts straight(er). Contact me privately if you have questions, comments, etc. And we'll try remembering any other temporary fire stations at another time...

Legeros - 08/14/08 - 22:29

Firefighters Around the World

08/13/08 106 W, 1 I - + 8 - 15

What do firefighters look like around the world, both past and present? [Del Prado](#) produced a collection of lead firefighter figures a few years ago, and I've compiled pictures of most of them into a [pair of PDF documents](#). One is sorted by country, the other by issue number. One is for buffs, the other for collectors. There are probably web sites with photos (and drawings) of real people, but this is pretty cool comparative survey. The photos are from a DP product site found some months back. There are a few images missing, alas.



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History Bits

08/13/08 189 W - + 13 - 10

Night watch was discontinued in the Raleigh Fire Department on September 5, 1944 at 6:00 p.m., as ordered by Chief Butts. That is, "overnight" night watch was discontinued. The new schedule for keeping watch was 7:55 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. each day, with one person on the engine room floor at all times between 7:55 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. During that same year, one person was assigned boiler duty per day during winter months. At Station 5, for example, the boiler was operated from October 30, 1944 to March 17, 1945. Also during these years, personnel were detailed to entertainment events to perform fire watch. Such as State College to work a basketball game on February 18, 1947. Or for assorted events at Memorial Auditorium. Some of the service calls answered during the decade included replacing light bulbs. In 1949, for example, Truck 6 was sent to State College as well as at a church or two. The logs from that year also note that Engine 6 had a windshield installed on October 26, 1949. The work was done at the shop at Station 2, at Memorial Auditorium. They operated a 1926 American LaFrance Type 75 pumper.

RDU had 'radio watch' when we first started 24-hour shifts during the early 80s. One person was required to be up and monitoring the radios from 2300 to 0700. It was divided up amongst the 4-5 personnel on duty. Prior to that, we worked 12-hour shifts and were expected to stay up all night. Which was pretty 'fun', considering that-

-Channels 5, 11, and 28 all went off the air at 0100, 0100, and 0200 respectively. Channel 4 went off at 2300.

-The last commercial flight arrived somewhere around 2330 and all of the airline personnel were gone by 0100.

-There were only a handful of 24 hour radio stations on back then, including WPTF, WQDR, WRAL, and WRDU. Of course, we could pull in AM stations from Richmond, Charlotte, and Atlanta.

I don't know if they still keep the logs at RDU like we kept back then.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/13/08 - 19:21

No logs anymore....I can say this, I think I like the "watch" concept. I've worked for both; a department that didn't have a dedicated watch and one that does. The good thing, on those sleepy Sundays when someone comes by for directions, there's no debate about who has to handle it. The bad...being that guy when everyone else is tucked in the rack!!!

Silver ([Email](#)) - 08/15/08 - 19:11

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preferred)
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Yes

No

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Minneapolis Bridge Collapse One Year Later

08/15/08 103 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

Reporting from the Land of Lakes. One year after the catastrophic collapse of the St. Anthony Falls bridge in Minneapolis, here's what the site looks like one year later. Click to enlarge. Some facts: 15 months from start to finish; 100 years minimum expected life; 504 foot length of main span; 650 people building the thing; 1,000 miles of post-tensioning steel holding concrete segments together; 1,223 foot length of finished bridge; 48,700 cubic yards of ready-mix concrete; 141,000 cars crossed old bridge daily; 17 million pounds of reinforcing steel, roughly equivalent fo one KIDD-Class Navy destroyer. Read more about the bridge [from the Wikipedia page](#).



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Hot Line for Chest Pain: A Dangerous Idea?

08/16/08 153 W - + 11 - 10

[Found this in yesterday's Star-Tribune¹](#), about a University of Minnesota Medical Center chest pain hot line. Not sure if you should call 911? Call the hot line and talk to a nurse. They're there 24/7. Launched on July 1, the concept is questioned by experts. Will it cause delays in treatment, diluting the "hard-won public health message" to dial 911 in such situations? Is it just a marketing tool? There are also a couple dozen reader comments at the above link. Is this a window into the future of emergency response? A sort of consultative, pre-response? Can't imagine this hasn't been tried before.

¹Read the physical edition, no less, while enduring the cacophonous din of diners at a restaurant in Bloomington, MN. Nothing like a Saturday morning trip to Perkins to stimulate the senses. For added effect, be seated beside the restroom door.

It's been tried. Kaiser did something like this when they were big in NC. I have heard of it in other places as well. I think it is an attempt to rein in costs associated with ED visits. Not even counting the masses without insurance these days, those that do may call their doctor, and they get the standard "Call 9-1-1".

Nothing like the days of my youth when we called the doctor, got the answering service, waited for him to call back, and then tried any manner of treatment regimens (many OTC) before going to the ED.

I would think you are going to see more of this. I think the insurance companies are open to trying anything to keep costs down (and profits up).

Kind of reminds me of a program that the Dallas (TX) FD tried during the 80s with 'nurse screeners'. Ask former Nurse Screener Billye Myrick how that all worked out.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 08/16/08 - 12:21

Although not a "hotline for Chest Pain," here in Mecklenburg County MEDIC is now using something called an Omega level response which basically means they transfer a call to a Nurse Practitioner who goes through a series of questions based on the callers chief complaints. Apparently this process can take up to 10 minutes and is aimed at cutting down the number of "non-emergent" EMS calls that are responded to by local agencies. From my (limited) understanding of this, it is basically used for those people who are calling with complaints that would qualify as an Alpha (non-emergency) or below response (being the Omega level). At any point during the questioning, if the caller complains of specific "ALS" type complaints (Chest Pain, Difficulty Breathing, etc) the call is then handled by MEDIC and appropriate resources are dispatched.

Not sure how well this has been working out as it is still a new concept to us in Charlotte and I've only heard a few calls cancelled because they became an "Omega level" call. Although we did cancel a call the other day just to get the call again from MEDIC advising that they call had now been upgraded due to the patient complaining of Diff Breathing. One thing I do know is that we've been instructed **not** to interfere with the caller while they are on the phone with the Nurse Practitioner, we **must** cancel our response.

Interesting concept here for us, I'm still skeptical...

Luke - 08/16/08 - 20:09

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.

Hot Pepto-Bismol Pink

08/16/08 69 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Seen south of the Twin Cities on Highway 52, how's this for a future fire apparatus color? Or maybe just on chevrons? Call it... hot Pepto-Bismol pink. Guaranteed to get attention. Click to enlarge after donning protective eyewear¹.



¹To protect our underage readers, the exact nature of this establishment has been concealed. Let's just say it's a custom service for lightening the wallets of passing male travelers.

Us rednecks call them "Local Talent Shows"

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/17/08 - 15:09

but why on earth such an ugly color??? it does highlight the crabgrass really well though

cornerhydrant - 08/19/08 - 00:50

Could be a "temporary fire station." Already equipped with a fire pole!

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/20/08 - 10:27

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Red Wing Fire Stations

08/16/08 114 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

Research enough fire departments and every other old building begins looking like a former fire station. We happened upon three such structures while touring [Red Wing, MN](#). The top two pictured below are located in residential areas. The white building is a confirmed former fire station, built in the 1880s. The brick structure is probably one as well. The City Hall building, built 1909, was also easy to identify, with former bay doors on the east side of the structure. The final image is the present fire station, built 1983. Click to enlarge. Or read more about the [history of the Red Wing Fire Department](#).



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Red Wing Mystery Building

08/16/08 138 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

But then there's this building, located beside the Goodhue County Museum on Oak Street, in Red Wing, MN. At first glance, it looks like an early 1900s town hall structure, with a fire station and bell tower on the left side. The neighbors say its associated with the city's first hospital, however. Perhaps it had its own fire brigade? Checking the [RWFD history page](#), they note "The Champion Extinguisher Company #1 had quarters on the campus of the Red Wing Seminary on College Hill. The company [...] provided fire protection for the campus." Oak Street is on College Hill, it seems. Does that make it a match? Who knows. Maybe a future Googler will enlighten this blogger suffering from engine houses on the brain. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Stony Hill Fire Department Celebrates 50 Years of Service

08/17/08 84 W, 1 I - + 13 - 12

[This week's Wake Weekly](#) has a nice feature on the 50th anniversary ceremony conducted last week at Stony Hill Fire Department. The ceremony recognized charter members, retired and current personnel, junior firefighters, and auxiliary members. Speakers included Fire Chiefs A.C. Rich, Bill Bailey, and Novlen Perry, and Board President Wayne Woodlief. Congratulations Stony Hill, for a half-century of valued service. See photos from [Legeros](#) and [Wilson](#).



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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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Morning Report

08/18/08 134 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Still on vacation. Family reunion. [FireNews has great coverage on Moore County's major fire](#). Ten-plus alarms, or their equivalent. Five counties worth of resources. Harnett County sent a slew of personnel and apparatus last night, notes a reader comment. Dave Statter's been following F-bombs in Texas, [with this curious and occasionally pun-filled story](#). Here's a [great book on the f-word](#), BTW. Saturday's benefit ride for Jacob Pearce was [comprehensively photographed by Lee Wilson](#). Nice job there. Two articles on photography and photographs recently appeared in the *New York Times*, an interesting, inexpensive [bulk-scanning service](#) and a look at [trends in photo alterations](#). And watch for a photo tour of MAC Fire Station 1, an impressive, immense facility at Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. Neat place.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?

Yes

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

Pouring Bronze

08/19/08 80 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

Here's something you don't see every day. Monday morning we watched my [cousin Nick](#), a sculptor, pour bronze. The metal is heated to around 1,600 degrees, then poured into plaster molds resting in a sand pit. Though (probably) a day in the park for seasoned pros, 'twas a high pucker factor for Yours Truly. Just being in the same room was tough. High UV output as well.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Duluth Former Firehouses

08/19/08 132 W, 1 I - + 11 - 15

One of our (meaning my) favorite vacation activities is finding former firehouses in whatever city we're in. During 24 hours in Duluth, MN, [these historic structures were found and photographed](#). Most are retired. Chief sources were phone calls to fire stations, and a DFD history book browsed at Station 1. (Thanks for the help, guys! Thanks also to the Minnesota Fire/EMS/Safety Center library.) Left to right are Old 1 on E. 2nd Street (1871), Old 2 on W. 1st Street (1889), Old 1/Old 3 on E. 3rd Street (1890), Old 7 on 7th Avenue E. (1913), Old 8 on Central Avenue (1894), Old 8 #2 on Central Avenue (1916), Hall 5 on Minnesota Avenue (1931), Hall 6 on 51st Avenue E. (1911), Hall 10 on Commonwealth Avenue (1928), and Hall 11 on Woodland Road (1922). Oh, and the North Shore scenery was great, too.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Ask Anything of Cary EMS Chief Steve Cohen, The Responses

08/19/08 50 W, 1 I - + 13 - 14

[Here are the answers to 10 questions](#) posted by WRAL to Cary EMS Chief Steve Cohen. The questions range from billing to hiring to the prospects of consolidation. Neat feature. Maybe we'll see some fire chiefs some time.



WRAL photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Bloggers, Bans, and Other Consequences

08/19/08 152 W - + 15 - 11

[Firegeezer](#) and [Dave Statter](#) are reporting on a Roanoke firefighting blog that's been banned from city computers. 'Geezer describes the site as a "city-wide coffee table where all things RFD are discussed" [such as] "recent fires, recreational activities, members' welfare and scuttlebutt." Some days ago, [FossilMedic on Firegeezer](#) blogged about a blogger and a bombing blog. Specifically, the cautionary tale featured a volunteer firefighter, his personal expression on the Internet, and the collision course he appeared to be on, with his fire department. If you've seen the site, you know how it ends. Two stories, two blogs. It's a great thing, the freedom to speak our minds. But the people listening are people. They have feelings. They respond and react. They make decisions and take actions. And, at times, against the speaker(s). **What's your take on free speech, and consequences therein?**

(I just got back from the airport, so I'll wax poetic with my own profundities later. Need time to think on this one.)

Legeros - 08/19/08 - 19:49

I'm going to respond to this without even reading the story.....

Blogs are great for us Emergency personnel to vent and give our opinions. The problem is "certain" blogs are being censored. If John Q Taxpayer can't handle what opinions are, then that's a whole new problem. They respond and react to our blogs. Okay, they call 911. We respond and react to their emergency, without question. But on the flip side of that coin, the thread starters are asking for it. For example, when you put a photo of a "pink commercial structure" on a FIREFIGHTER'S blog, comments will fly. No offense Mike. You do a fantastic job with this site but C'mon man!

My take on free speech....

Those of you who know me know that I speak freely. There are consequences for some things that you say, trust me on that one.

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/19/08 - 20:41

On the subject of censorship and blogs— do not confuse with discussion boards, a governed or moderated collective versus the personality-driven platform of a blog— some blogs censor comments, and some don't. (They presumably censor themselves, as well. Retracting, rewriting, or deleting things they think about and deciding to pull a posting. It's done here. Maybe it should be done with the pink posting.) Why do I delete comments, or close threads? Almost always because they are stirring or stand the potential to stir too much trouble among readers. That is, the community of responders reading. Learned that lesson when the blog was young. Snowballs get too big.

Legeros - 08/19/08 - 21:15

On the subject of censorship, the Watch Desk allows a considerably wider range of comments. But that forum's never really taken off. Some even think, I believe, that Yours Truly moderates/controls the Watch Desk RDU forum. Not true. No affiliation whatsoever.

Legeros - 08/19/08 - 22:46

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Holly Springs Station 3* « **Bloggers, Bans, and O...** » *Holly Springs Car 2*
/ Wake Forest Station 3

Holly Springs Station 3 / Wake Forest Station 3

08/20/08 37 W, 1 I - + 15 - 14

Lee Wilson has photographed both Holly Springs Station 3 at [4112 Friendship Road](#) (note corrected address) and Wake Forest Station 3 at [1412 Forestville Road](#). Both are temporary facilities. [View the photos](#).



Lee Wilson photos

Man that Holly Springs Sta.3 looks nice inside and out,just build an add-on addition for apparatus bays and other necessities with the man house remaining the focal point and one day it could be a historical fire house...To tell the truth that looks nicer than some fire houses here in the metro Atl. area....Nice pics Lee

[jdkay2839] - 08/20/08 - 10:16

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Holly Springs Car 2

08/20/08 23 W, 1 I - + 13 - 7

New vehicle for Holly Springs Car 2, as photographed by Lee Wilson at Station 3. Click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

New Fire Stations and Nifty Features

08/20/08 97 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

[Here are pics of our Twin Cities airport fire station tour.](#) Built in 2001, the immense facility has a number of nifty features, such as telephone rooms for private conversations. You know that kind of phone call. There's a captain's office and working area that overlooks the runway. There's a hose tower that doubles as an all-weather training tower. And some interesting public-facing space, including a waiting area and a conference/presentation room. **What are some of your favorite features appearing in new stations these days?**



I wouldn't consider this a feature of new station but, I like how some stations purchase splitters and extra computer monitors for the CAD computer. It's kinda nice to have that in the kitchen or living quarters.

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/20/08 - 11:09

Given that in most places an emergency services station is where you spend 1/3 of your life, I think that Holly Springs is on track with more of a 'home' feel. Each shift has it's OWN fridge. Nice concept.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/21/08 - 14:40

What about the familiar fire pole? Love `em? Hate `em? Here's a Houston Chronicle piece from 2005 on their disappearance from new fire stations: <http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News..>

Legeros - 08/22/08 - 07:32

Here's a nice, new \$2.8 Million fire station in Bradenton, FL.

<http://www.firerescuetv.com/video.php?ca..>

Resembles a, ummm, country club house!

Luke - 08/28/08 - 02:19

Second Wake County Fire Commission Vacancy Filled

08/20/08 95 W - + 18 - 10

The Wake County Board of Commissioners on Monday night filled a *second* vacant citizen seat on the Wake County Fire Commission. They appointed Robert Stagg, a Raleigh resident with experience in security, business continuity, management relations, and conflict resolution. (To quote his resume.) [You can watch this appointment process on the web.](#) Starting watching the August 18 meeting at 3:27:51. Mr. Stagg is appointed over two other nominations. [Supplementary documents](#) are available on the agenda item page. And, as last time, there's quite a bit of laughter during the thing.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Great Old Video

08/22/08 30 W - + 13 - 12

Surfaced by Dave Statter, here's the Jericho Fire Department in Nassau County on Long Island. Love those old educational films. [Watch all five parts on Dave's site.](#)

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Firefighter Dies at Polk County Waterfall

08/22/08 120 W - + 14 - 12

[FireNews has details](#) on the death of a forest service firefighter who died Thursday after a fall from a waterfall near Saluda in Polk County. Curtis Jessen, 32, was critically injured after falling from Big Bradley Falls. He died a short time later. The site was the location of a quarter-acre wildfire. The accident occurred about 11 a.m. The retrieval of Jessen from the bottom of the falls and out of the wooded area took over five hours. Several agencies participated in the rescue attempt, including Saluda Fire and Rescue, Polk County EMS, Polk Rescue, the N.C. Forestry Division, Green River Fire and Rescue, Henderson County Rescue Squad, and the Valley Hill Fire Department.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Collapsed Like a Wet Taco

08/22/08 80 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

From CNN, [here's stunning footage of a historic firehouse collapse](#). The 1890 structure in Peekskill, NY, was being moved from its location under a metal bridge. The building had been vacant for 20+ years, and the plans were to move and convert the structure into a museum. Here's an earlier *New York Times* [article about the building](#). For extra credit, name the 1979 comedy film that features the "wet taco" phrase?



New York Times Photo

The In-Laws with Peter Falk and Alan Arkin.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/22/08 - 19:12

I could name another film, but there are younger readers.....

Beach ([Email](#)) - 08/27/08 - 22:24

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Could it Happen Here?

08/22/08 82 W, 1 I - + 15 - 14

From a reader, this is last weeks' [Conshohocken fire](#) before the exposures got going. Eight alarms at a condo complex outside Philly. 300+ firefighters and over 5.5 hours to control. Could it happen here? Last year's conflagration off Capital Boulevard-- multiple structures, versus one mammoth building-- was affected by a number of unique circumstances. Wind, fuel, exposures, etc. What conditions could lead to a "big one" like this one, albeit probably once in a lifetime.



WPVI-TV Photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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LAFD a Twitter Over Twitter

08/22/08 63 W - + 16 - 8

[Neat article from PC World](#) about the Los Angeles Fire Department and how it uses Twitter to post information about fires and other incidents. The resources for the service? Their PIO and another FD spokesperson work 12-hour shifts updating the blog, sending twitters, and doing other duties. Dream job, eh? Thanks to the Missus for finding this one.

It's amazing that there is so much technology out there today that could make our jobs (yes...EMS and fire) so much more productive without a lot of costs involved. I would have to think about the Twitter site, but I see some uses and potential benefits. I think Flickr and YouTube have unlimited benefits for our services. Many different training topics could be handled this way. Imagine viewing a video on YouTube about LP12s, RAD-57s, our radio system, or the latest in SCBA/PASS technology, then logging onto Blackboard for a quiz. How much could we address in this manner and free up classroom time for other topics.

It would be a fun job, though.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/22/08 - 19:36

Following Flickr contacts of the LAFD, also saw that the Red Cross is also twittering and flickering:

<http://www.flickr.com/people/americanred..>

and that the Library of Congress is flickering:

Search "fire" on the LOC – 84 great old pictures! I can't wait to go through them all tomorrow!

cornerhydrant - 08/23/08 - 03:36

Sorry, forgot the link to the LOC

http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_..

Fire pics:

<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=fire&w=8..>

cornerhydrant - 08/23/08 - 03:40

Knowledge transfer and Web 2.0. Draft a script on how to complete a task. Describe how to do something, as if telling to a person who was watching you. Then videotape yourself doing the thing. Get someone to tape you. Read your script. And keep it short. Couple minutes. People have horrible attention spans. Do a couple takes if needed. Take the best take and convert to a digital video file. Get help if needed. Lots of folks can do that these days. Post to YouTube. Send mail to peers, announcing the training video. Request that they watch, and mail you with questions. Or mail them a couple questions afterward. Instant knowledge transfer.

Legeros - 08/23/08 - 09:20

There are many easy options to facilitate knowledge transfer these days. Any organization with a private intranet can, say, host a Wiki site, which allows users to store and edit "bits of knowledge" in an easily indexed place. Internal discussion forums are also good facilitators of communication. Ditto for internal blogs. Basically, just think of what you want to happen— the user experience that the learners will have— and there's probably a technology or two that can be used. And probably pretty easily.

Legeros - 08/23/08 - 09:22

Short correction for LAFD:

The position you speak of is actually one of three persons that work a 24-hour shift at OCD (Operations Control Division, aka Dispatch). LAFD dispatchers work a 24 just line the line firefighters, and include one Public Service Officer there in the center. They staff the Info Desk from about 7:30 am until about 10 pm. If anything significant happens overnight, the dispatchers on the floor can wake the Info Officer who will then come to man the desk.

harkey (Email) - 08/23/08 - 10:08

Here's an interesting interview with one of the LAFD public relations officers, <http://www.social-marketing.com/blog/200..>

He notes LAFD has "three persons permanently assigned to the Public and Media Relations desk" and that they work "a 56-hour minimum work week" identical to line firefighters.

Legeros - 08/23/08 - 16:45

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Typo Vigilantes Banned From National Parks

08/23/08 93 W - + 13 - 10

Read enough e-mail or discussion board postings and you'll soon encounter the Grammar Police. Or perhaps you've been a member. It's a tempting compulsion, calling attention to bad words and wrong sentences. Taken to the extreme and you can *really* get in trouble. [This CNN story](#) reports on a pair of "self-styled vigilantes on typos" who defaced a 60 year-old, hand-painted sign at the Grand Canyon National Park. They were sentenced to probation, banned from national parks for a year, and ordered to pay a fine.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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LAFD Alert Example

08/23/08 162 W - + 13 - 11

Here's what a [Los Angeles Fire Department mail alert](#) looks like, as forwarded from a reader:

From: LAFD_ALERT@googlegroups.com [mailto:LAFD_ALERT@googlegroups.com] On Behalf Of [LAFD ALERT]
Sent: Saturday, August 23, 2008 11:35
To: lafdlistmaster@lacity.org
Subject: [LAFD ALERT] Structure Fire 8/23/2008

Structure Fire 17834 W. Tarzana St.; MAP 561-B3; FS 83; Fire in attached garage of a SFD. No injuires reported @ this time.; Ch:8,17 @ -d'Lisa Davies###

LAFD_ALERT messages are **not** official instructions or authorization to take action. We do not guarantee the timeliness or accuracy of LAFD_ALERTs.

Do not reply to this message. After-action reports of significant incidents can be found at: <http://lafd.org/blog>

For further information - or to join LAFD_ALERT: <http://lafd.org/alert>

To unsubscribe from LAFD_ALERT, send email to:
LAFD_ALERT-unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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ECC Employee Elected To N.C. NENA Hall Of Fame

08/24/08 54 W - + 15 - 8

Jesse Creech, a supervisor in the Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center, has been selected as one of the first inductees into the Hall of Fame of the North Carolina chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA). [Read the entire press release.](#)
Congratulations, Jesse!

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

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

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

SCBAs For Sale

08/24/08 92 W - + 13 - 10

The Wake-New Hope Fire Department has the following items for sale:

(14) SCOTT AP-50 SCBAs. Meet 1997 NFPA Standard. All packs contain integrated PASS. Included with each SCBA will be (2) 60 minute 4500 psi Carbon Fiber Bottles, (2) AV-2000 Facemasks w/voice amp clip, and (1) SCOTT Voice amplifier. The equipment is in good working order and full maintainance records will be included in sale. Every pack flow tested annually.

Asking price of \$1,500 per unit or best offer.

Contact Information:

Captain Aaron Bass
Wake-New Hope Fire Department, Inc
4415 St. James Church Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604

Station Phone Number 919 876 5882. A Shift. Thanks Mikey.

AB - 08/24/08 - 10:39

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Redesigned Beltline Signs

08/24/08 113 W, 1 I - + 15 - 15

[As today's News & Observer notes](#), the DOT is fulfilling their promise to pull the "Inner Beltline" and "Outline Beltline" signs they say have bothered people for too long. The southern 8 miles, from Exit 293 (US 1/US 64) to Exit 301 (the I-40 split) will be known exclusively as I-40. The northern 16 miles, passing Crabtree, North Hills, and New Bern Avenue, will be known only as I-440. The inner lanes called East, the outer lanes called West. Got it? For those still confused, Yours Truly has a navigation aid at the ready. [This guide to Getting Around Raleigh](#) was drawn around 1990. Eh, it works.

*News & Observer photo*

if you don't know the inner and from outer and can't figure it out, you don't need to be driving!!

lee - 08/24/08 - 18:03

From what I have seen the past few years, that probably applies to many out there...

DJ - 08/24/08 - 19:30

Favorite stories of can't get from there? Many years ago, for the occasion of, ahem, my first union, a group of family members found themselves somewhere toward Sanford while trying to get from a downtown Cary chapel to the reception at a restaurant at Crabtree. (The old KB Jr. place, since closed and burned.)

Legeros - 08/24/08 - 20:29

well, maybe i shouldn't be driving then, since to me, inner beltline would be 440 (northern belt/southern belt, or upper loop/lower loop), and outer beltline would be 540 – sort of like an expanded waistline

cornerhydrant - 08/24/08 - 20:44

what we really need is an electric rail line/network

cornerhydrant - 08/24/08 - 20:58

All those complaints come from transplants who cant use a map and see the "circular" shape of the interstate in question. What do you mean people cant tell the difference between "inner" and "outer"? Does that mean we will see "Outer Space" renamed, and "Inner Peace" re-designated as well? W-T-F!?

And as for the \$1 Million sign contract....I must be in the wrong business!

J.Boggs - 08/25/08 - 09:44

I dont' know if it is the transplants or not. I was born and raised here and I understand the concept of "inner" and "outer" loop. And this same terminology is used in places like Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD and they seem to do OK with it. There are just some people around these parts that just cannot understand the concept of a "loop". It was the same thing when durham had the various "loops" including what I think was the "Downtown Loop".

And these are probably the same people that have a cell phone glued to one ear and a Garmin/Magellan/Tom-Tom stuck to the windshield/dashboard...

DJ - 08/25/08 - 10:34

Easy Boggs, it's not just the transplants. I wish I had a nickel for every time when I was at #8 that I had to explain the concept to direction-seeking drivers (Northerners, Southerners, and Midwesterners).

To me, a good solution might've been one of those green overhead signs, with a diagram. Showing the loop, and how I-40 plays a role into and out of the loop. In Virginia, along I-95, there's a similar sign overhead that shows an alternate route around an inner city area in the form of a map, showing how it meets back with I-95. Put a few up around the the 40/440 area and be done with it!

Silver - 08/25/08 - 15:59

I'll go with that silver, Illustrated sign not a bad idea, just as long as they put up the famous Atlanta signs "Fender-Benders move to shoulder"....but given DJ's comment I dont see how people get so confused, especially when after I give them directions- they drive off and there sits the out of state plate (not to mention the first thing I notice IS the Garmin.)

Boggs - 08/25/08 - 16:36

Big Ole overhead signs, I think, would help out of state visitors. Show the whole loop around the city. The interstate concept is, that the 440's, 540's, 395's etc. connect I 40 back to I 40, etc. Sounds real simple to this displaced yankee. Just don't do what Taxachusetts did, leave the 395's (etc) in place and move the I95 route. I tried to use the "Inner" "Outer" method with my sister-in-law a few years ago and she wound up in Cary, rather than Pleasant Valley. I guess dispatch will have to send Beltline responses to eastbound and westbound in the future. That doesn't sound too bad either.

Retired Yankee - 08/25/08 - 20:26

Around and around and around and around and around an ar a...we go folks! I think that horse has a slight pulse cause he's kickin!

buckwheat - 08/25/08 - 21:28

Retired Yank, not sure what you mean, but, incidents in the city limits get atleast 2 companies on the beltline and interstates already.

One thing I wish they would put in on our highways is "emergency vehicle u-turn only" turnarounds; a place in the median for emergency vehicles to turn around, versus going all the way to the next exit.

Silver ([Email](#)) - 08/25/08 - 21:51

Good thought Jeff—The lack of turnarounds delays our response, and is one of the reasons for so many apparatus responding on the beltline. I can't begin to number how many times the given location is incorrect, necessitating a long drive around to get to the scene.

Goose - 08/29/08 - 00:01

Heck, that's an every day occurence...

Silver - 08/29/08 - 01:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

This Morning's Tanker Fire

08/26/08 180 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Updated again. Fully loaded gas tanker overturned on [inner loop of Beltline just before Rock Quarry Road](#). Exiting from I-40, rig reportedly lost control, rolled, and caught fire. Driver ejected, then pulled to safety by passers-by. Transported to WakeMed, then transferred to UNC burn center. Garner initially dispatched, then Raleigh E10. Also dispatched as house fire at the end of Rose Lane. Alarm time about 12:34 a.m. Engine 10 first on scene. Units included Raleigh E10, E12, E2, E7 (off Rose Lane), B2, C5, Garner E1, T_, B1, plus tankers from Eastern Wake, New Hope, Swift Creek, and Western Wake. Tanker shuttle operated from water point on Rock Quarry Road. Beltline closed as fire burned itself out. EMS with two units, supervisor, and Truck 1. Crews cleared by 5:35 a.m., and lanes opened at that time. Earlier tanker fires on Beltline include December 18, 1998 (driver killed after striking abandoned car on shoulder at Capital Boulevard) and August 6, 1977 (tanker rolls on ramp at New Bern Avenue). Photos from Lee Wilson forthcoming.



News & Observer Photo

Listen to radio traffic at <http://nc.scanamerica.us/modules.php?nam...>

Legeros - 08/26/08 - 07:37

Eastern Wake Tanker 3 in water shuttle with Pumper 1 standing by Garner Station 1 for coverage.

[ewfd27] - 08/26/08 - 14:17

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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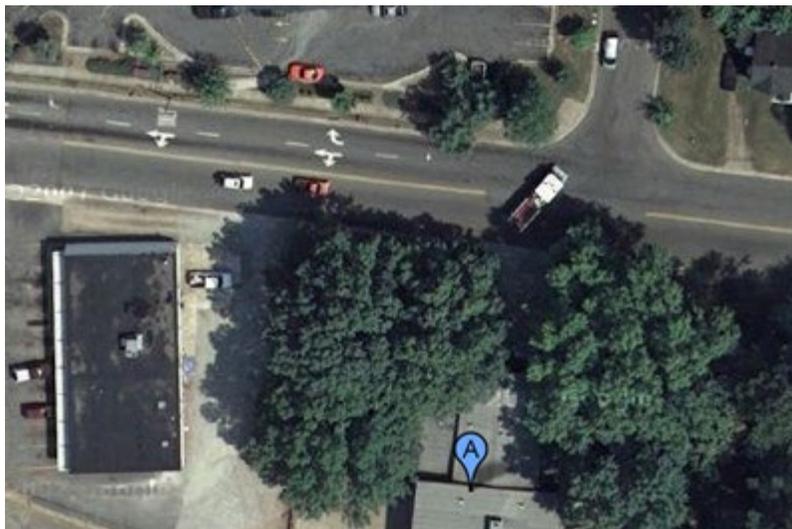
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Caught in the Act

08/26/08 40 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

Noticed by a reader, [here's Google's view of Fire Station 2](#) on Pecan Road. The satellite captured Engine 2 backing into the station. The Street View shows them in quarters, expectedly.



If you pan to the intersection of Fayetteville and Hargett on the same map you will also see Ladder 1 and most likely Engine 1 returning to quarters. Presumably I would guess they were on a fire alarm.

dispatch - 09/22/08 - 02:26

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

Remember personal info?

- Yes
- No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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See You in Winston-Salem

08/26/08 151 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Yours Truly will be wandering around Winston-Salem on Friday and Saturday at the State Fireman's Convention, or as it's known now, the [South Atlantic Fire Expo](#). 'Tis the second year for the convention in the Twin City, then they're coming to Raleigh! We'll have to treat 'em right in 2009. Look for Hawaiian Shirt Guy on the exhibit floor as usual, or scaring people away from the [FireNews.net](#) booth. When was the first annual convention? That one's easy, in 1889 in Raleigh. When was the first gathering of firemen from around the state? In the late 1860s and early 1870s, fire companies visited one another. In 1870, the State Fair included contests for steam and hand engines. Unknown if other towns than Raleigh participated. In 1873, a convention of colored firefighters was held in Raleigh. Companies came from Fayetteville, New Bern, and Wilmington.



And for those seeking historical sights, here are W/S's old engine houses, worth seeking out: [http://www.legeros.com/history/stations/..](http://www.legeros.com/history/stations/)

Legeros - 08/26/08 - 20:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

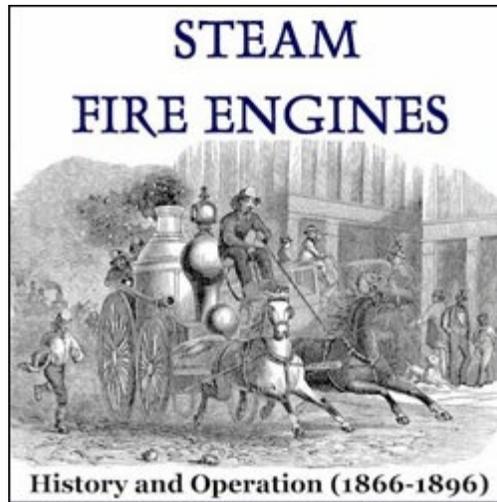
/ [Textile](#)

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Steam Fire Engine Books on CD

08/26/08 114 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

Question: How do you operate a steam fire engine? Answer: Very carefully. Have you been looking for a copy of Stephen Roper's *Handbook of Modern Steam Fire Engines*, published in 1889? The 400-page guide to the running, care, and management of steam engines and fire pumps? Yeah, common request, that one. The book is available on CD, along with two other vintage volumes at SharingHistory.com. Pretty cool service, and a pretty cool CD for history buffs. Nothing like old drawings! And if you're curious how many steamers served in North Carolina, [here's an excellent resource](#). Raleigh had a couple.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Maybe Digital Radios Aren't the Problem

08/27/08 53 W - + 18 - 12

Found on the [Carolinas Fire Page mailing list](#), here's an interesting article about digital radio communications on the fireground. The gist is that tests suggest that firefighters need better training on operating radios in high-noise environments. That is, before discounting the technology outright. [Read the article](#).

It seems to me that requiring additional training just to be able to understand/interpret a digital radio is ridiculous. Like it or not, there is a deficiency in digital broadcasting any time the signal is less than perfect. Analog traffic may not be as compact to broadcast and receive, but you can usually figure out what the voice on the other end of the scratchy transmission is saying. With digital, especially in noisy environments, or where the signal is degraded, it's nearly impossible to understand the bleeping bits coming out of the radio. By no means am I condemning the existing system, just stating the obvious. I find it funny that this article is attempting to say that we're just a few hours of training from being able to interpret degraded digital transmissions...

Squirt - 08/27/08 - 23:30

Here's additional interesting information, from the IAFC, and their efforts at resolving issues with digital radios and intelligibly:

<http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an..>

Legeros - 08/28/08 - 05:28

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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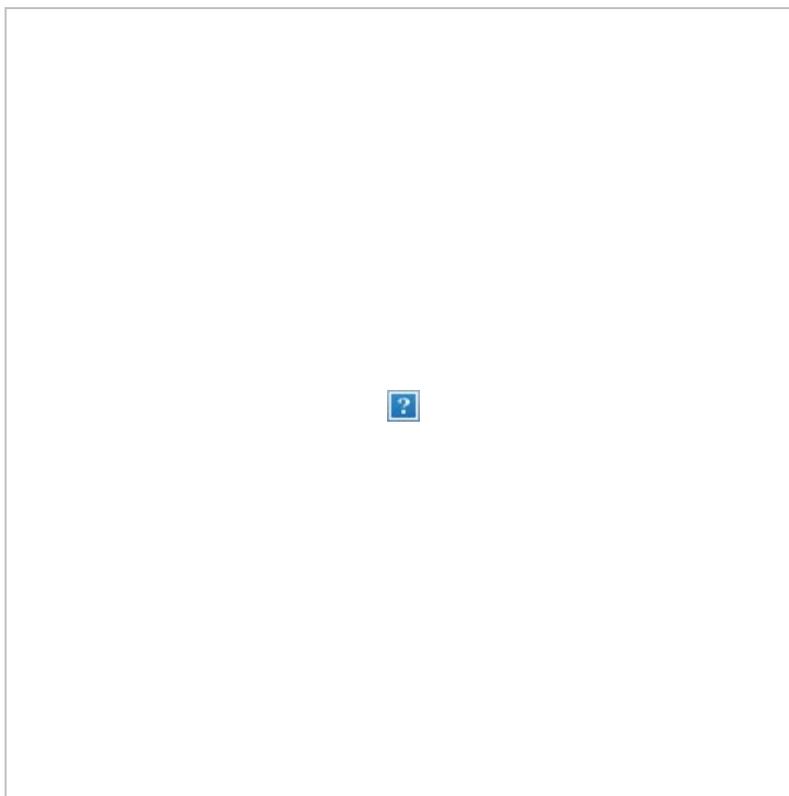
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Firefox 3, Firefox 2, Location Bar

08/28/08 120 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

[Firefox 3 has been released](#). The web browser upgrades the location bar with a different look and feel. To restore the Firefox 2 location bar that you know and love, [install this add-on](#). Other good add-ons, while we're on the subject? Yours Truly uses [NoScript](#) to block JavaScript by default. Thus no annoying actions on page loading. Since most pages also use JavaScript for navigation, it adds an extra step or two for first-time visits to site. Another good add-on is [Ad Block Plus](#), which does what it says. Blocks ads. Then weigh the ethical issue, since blocking ads can prevent your favorite web sites from making money, which may fund the very web site you're viewing!



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Plaque Unveiling At Keeter Training Center Smokehouse, Tuesday, Sept. 9

08/28/08 85 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

The City of Raleigh Fire Department is placing a bronze plaque on the Smokehouse at the Keeter Training Center. The plaque commemorates the history of the Smokehouse, the oldest facility on the grounds of the training center. The plaque will be formally unveiled on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 10 a.m. The Keeter Training Center is located at 105 Keeter Center Drive, just south of downtown. [Read entire press release](#). Or learn more about the [history of the smokehouse](#) .

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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The Troublemaker

08/28/08 32 W - + 14 - 11

Here's an interesting blog from the Triad area, found while browsing for something else. [Called the Troublemaker](#). Looks like a combination police beat and local government watchdog. Postings back to 2006.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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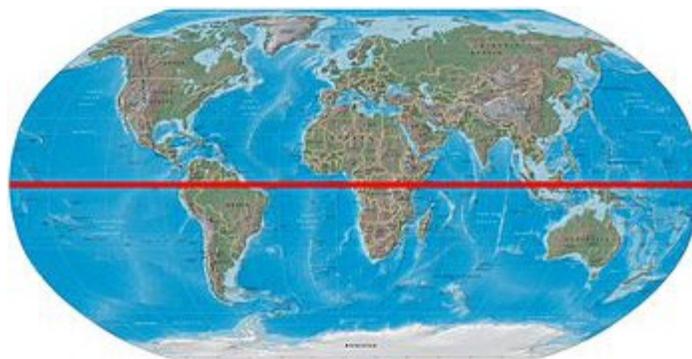
Waistlines

08/30/08 227 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Let's talk about a big topic. Let's talk about big bellies. Gather enough firemen in a single spot and you'll observe expanded waistlines. I've seen it in Baltimore. I saw it in Winston-Salem. I see it when I look in the mirror. Big belly. Forget weight, forget cholesterol. The latest word is waist size. That's what they say is the single best indicator of "at risk." Riding without a seat belt? That's at risk. Standing in traffic without a vest? That's at risk. Working a fire without PPE? That's at risk.

If you, or your bud, or your team member, or your family member has a big belly, they're at risk. Plain, simple, maybe brutal, maybe embarrassing. Many factors conspire to aid the expansion of waistlines. From our genes to our appetites, there are many reasons for girth growth. Regrettably, there's rarely a quick fix. It's lifestyle changes, maybe drastic, maybe small steps. But all pointing in the direction of better health.

Where should we go with this topic? Don't know. Seems worthy to raise. Firefighter, rescue thyself. Mike, get healthier. I'm interested in lengthening the likelihood of my time on this planet. Hope you are too.



You are right, there are no quick fixes, contrary to what you see on TV. Everyone that I know that has lost a significant amount of weight has usually gained it all back and then some. I have gone through that a few times. Over the past 3 years, however, I have gone from 365 to 285 by doing what I can- cut intake gradually. What have I done? Cut out most snacks, breads, candies, cakes, etc. And, get this, I have gone from margaritas at every opportunity to about 2-3 a year (did not even drink one for my birthday). Some of the things I do wrong (or don't do)-

1. I seldom exercise anymore. Too many 36 hour shifts, extra shifts, and late nights working on a degree. If I had the equipment available at work I might try, but call volume and move ups will prevent that on a regular basis.
2. While I never eat on my days off past 1800, trying for regular meals on work days is a test of the impossible. And what is available on the run? Yep, burgers, hot dogs, sandwiches, etc. Salads are better, but I have grown weary of throwing away the majority of a salad I just bought. Same goes for bringing food from home. After I re-heat it the second time and don't get to eat it, it goes in the garbage.

I have noticed a reduction in the 'gut factor' around some FDs, but it seems to remain consistent around EMS circles. Those that don't have them sometimes get them, those that have them seldom get rid of them. While many fire stations I go in have exercise equipment, it is a rarity that I see it in EMS stations in my travels, and even then there is seldom time to use it.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 08/30/08 - 18:12

I'm glad to see that physical fitness has been made more of a priority at the RFD then it has in the past. However, it has to be made a priority in "the minds" over cleaning the windows or cutting the grass.

I completely understand that these are things that have to be done. But, they aren't given an allotted time to be completed, whereas "PT" is; 0930-1100 or 1600-1730. The windows can wait, but your heart can't. Stop drinking a 2 liter of Coke a day, cut out the pack of cigarettes a day

because you're not helping yourself, your body will thank you if you did.

Get with the program, because you're going to become a statistic. How many more of our Brothers have to pass for you to realize that it CAN/WILL happen here?

Silver - 08/30/08 - 23:20

Crossfit it works!

addicted to pain - 08/31/08 - 00:02

cutting the grass is exercise!!! – oh, i forgot, you're riding, not like the manual, non-gas, non-electric manual model we had in the old days

but seriously, sleep deprivation and stress have been proven to be a contributor to weight gain

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/200..>

<http://www.webmd.com/diet/features/can-s..>

(and the \$1.98 chicken biscuit special at bojangles doesn't help either (special sign on the counter – wonder if it's still running?))

ordered cases of beans and rice that only need to be reheated (eden organic) to avoid the temptation and try to eat healthier when there's no time to cook

i need to get back on the treadmill daily

cornerhydrant - 08/31/08 - 04:16

i must switch back to green tea (w/o sugar) instead of coffee and that very addictive pepsi i've been drinking all summer (terrible habit), since studies have shown that catechins in green tea protect lungs from smoke, as well as being formaldehyde scavengers (which is a component of smoke anyway) – i've got papers on this somewhere – the component that is the most active in protecting the lungs is Epigallocatechin gallate (EGCg)

cornerhydrant - 08/31/08 - 07:01

Uh-oh. I can see it now. Someone, somewhere, is going to say that we do not need those expensive SCBA, just make the firefighters drink green tea with EGCg.

DJ (Email) - 08/31/08 - 08:21

What about diet drinks? Good, bad, otherwise?

Just-a-jake - 08/31/08 - 10:52

Well, I have heard good and bad. Too much sodium. And lately I have read that they make you eat more due to cravings. I don't drink too many diet drinks. What I did was cut down on sugar in tea- used to do 2 cups of sugar for 1 gallon, now I do 1 1/2 cups.

DJ (Web Site) - 08/31/08 - 11:53

43 years old and 183 pounds. Run 2-3 miles every other day, jog 3 miles with a 45 pound weight vest in 36 minutes twice a month and run steps with the 45 pound vest once a month. Perform strength training every 3rd day. No soft drinks; water and cut gatorade only. No junk food. Stick to vegetables, turkey, fish and chicken. No burgers or steaks. There are some very interesting diet facts on yahoo news almost weekly. They had a special on diet drinks about two weeks ago. Their advice: steer clear of them. They cause you to crave junk foods to satisfy your hunger. They stated that you might as well just drink a regular soft drink to soothe the cravings.

It seems that all emergency services agencies are experiencing the same waistline issues. Is it more classroom lectures and no practicals? Is it two, three and four times the workload that keeps one at a desk more often than out in the field? I read somewhere last month where I believe it is Bowman and Grey was issued a grant to study why firefighters refuse to perform physical fitness. Can't wait to read the results of this one. But I can say that we are getting better. I do see many fire, police and ems personnel performing PT. The paid staffs are fortunate to have a period to perform PT. Our volunteer staff is really suffering. You can't make them perform PT, only encourage them. At least get out and walk guys and gals!

Apache1 (Email) - 08/31/08 - 12:02

On the subject of walking, one of the most compelling comments I have read runs something like this: as you would no more skip a night's sleep, you should no more skip 30 minutes of walking a day.

Legeros - 08/31/08 - 12:11

I know a guy that drinks a 2 liter of Coke a day. I offered him help, buy two 16 oz. Coke's, drink one at lunch and one at dinner. Drink water in

between and hopefully you'll break the habit. I'm hoping he goes for it, and stays on the weights, because it'll help motivate others.

Silver - 08/31/08 - 21:09

For a chuckle, found this this morning. <http://laughlines.blogs.nytimes.com/2008..>

And for those who find themselves salivating, the State Fair is only a month away!

Legeros - 09/07/08 - 07:47

Not even going this year. It has changed very little the past 50 or so years, so I doubt I miss anything.

DJ - 09/07/08 - 10:27

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Stop!

08/30/08 40 W, 1 I - + 17 - 15

Here's an image from last week's house movings on North Blount Street, as shot by myself. More pics coming. See [Lee's photos](#). Or [read the N&O story](#). Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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New Doors for Station 17

08/30/08 37 W, 1 I - + 16 - 15

Higher doors have been installed in the bays at Station 17 on Pleasant Valley Road. The doors were raised to allow future accomodation of an aerial apparatus.



Does anyone know...is the aerial in next years budget or a couple years down the road?

I'm assuming another Pierce maybe?

jetexas - 08/30/08 - 17:07

When a ladder company is placed in service, the company is not necessarily going to be given a new apparatus. The latest word on the street; Ladder 16 moving to 17, Ladder 23 moving to 24, and the new "ladder company" going in service at #4. Supposedly one of the reserve aerial devices is going back to full duty, but who knows where.

With all the movement going on, it sure would be nice to adjust the numbering schemes (have Ladders 1 through 8, regardless of "station location"), rather than having to re-label/number everything, again.

Silver - 08/30/08 - 23:28

Silver's reallignment seems to make alot of sense, especially when "29" goes to NW Raleigh. (the city already owns a 17 acre parcel at about Leesville Rd. and "proposed" end of ACC Blvd.) Would really seem logical if the city ever completes ACC Boulevard through to Leesville Rd, making Station 24 response to that area easier. Battalion 4 could go to either 16 or 18 and still have good road access to its district area.

JonC - 08/31/08 - 10:08

Also, #29 is supposed to be a 2-company house.

Silver - 08/31/08 - 21:01

If they put a ladder at Station 4, my thoughts and prayers are with the lieutenant that has to deal with the short front pad and small turning radius. Good luck!

TJ - 09/02/08 - 11:10

Supposedly a shorter truck is going there. That'll be a good ride to be on if you're aggressive and if you like to see work....

Silver - 09/02/08 - 23:40

On that note what apparatus is expected for Raleigh this year?

Adam Brown ([Email](#)) - 09/03/08 - 01:02

At last check, only a replacement pumper was approved in the budget: <http://www.raleigh-nc.org/portal/server...>

Legeros - 09/03/08 - 19:31

I thought that 29 was coming down this way, around Auburn-Knightdale/ Rock Quarry Rd area?

Beach ([Email](#)) - 09/03/08 - 21:39

nope. harrington grove area.

wcff - 09/03/08 - 22:50

now all they need is a red stripe!!!!!!!

firemedic - 11/20/08 - 00:44

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

2008 World Burn Congress in Raleigh, October 1-4

08/31/08 95 W - + 16 - 12

One of the first events for the new Raleigh Convention Center is the [2008 World Burn Congress](#), scheduled for the first four days of October. Conducted by the Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors and hosted by the UNC Jaycee Burn Center and the OSFM, the annual international conference brings together more than 650 burn survivors, their families, caregivers, burn care professionals, and firefighters. The event is a forum for sharing stories, healing together, and learning about the latest developments in burn care. For more information, see the [event web site](#).

Retired fireman 85% 3rd burns from a crude oil tank "boil over" 17 years ago. Look forward to seeing all my old friends and meeting new friends at the WBC

Brad Johnson ([Email](#)) - 09/18/08 - 14:34

Just watched a show on the History channel last Friday about oil firefighting. Mainly discussed the techniques used to put out pipeline fires (e.g. – set off explosion to deprive the fire of oxygen, cut off broken valve, and cap). It also discussed fires in big tanks and included information about "boil overs." That was something I had never heard of nor seen. Pretty interesting stuff on the show, including the names of the "legendary" companies – Coots and Boots (those were their first names!).

I assisted with the Burned Children's camp in Wake Forest and those kids had some great stories, I can't even imagine how many interesting and powerful stories will be shared at the WBC. Stay safe.

Luke - 09/18/08 - 17:32

This PDF document is the conference schedule: <http://tinyurl.com/3kz5y2>

Legeros - 09/18/08 - 19:44

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Click to Watch a Train Wreck

08/31/08 83 W - + 16 - 12

This might be the same video that Dave Statter has linked in his [video round-up](#), just longer and with audio. Three minutes of riding the rails, then an open switch sends the coal train plowing into freight cars on a spur track. Occurred in Cactus, TX, on October 9, 2006. Two crewmen injured, 26 cars and 2 locomotives derailed, and damages greater than a million dollars. As the saying goes, it's hard to turn away from watching a train wreck.

lucky it was only carrying coal and not yellow phosphorus like the train derailment near Iviv, ukraine in 2007

cornerhydrant - 08/31/08 - 20:30

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - ***Postponed** Wake* « [Click to Watch a Trai...](#) » [Rain, Rain, Go Away](#) *County Emergency Training Exercise, Saturday, Sept. 6*

****Postponed** Wake County Emergency Training Exercise, Saturday, Sept. 6**

09/02/08 69 W - + 9 - 8

Speaking of railroad accidents, an emergency training exercise will be held near the New Hope Valley Railway in New Hill on Saturday, September 6, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. During the full-scale training exercise, emergency response personnel will be tasked with treating and removing injured passengers from a train and determining the cause of the incident. [Read the entire press release.](#)

Postponed until a future date due to possible impact from Hurricane Hanna.

Olson - 09/02/08 - 16:29

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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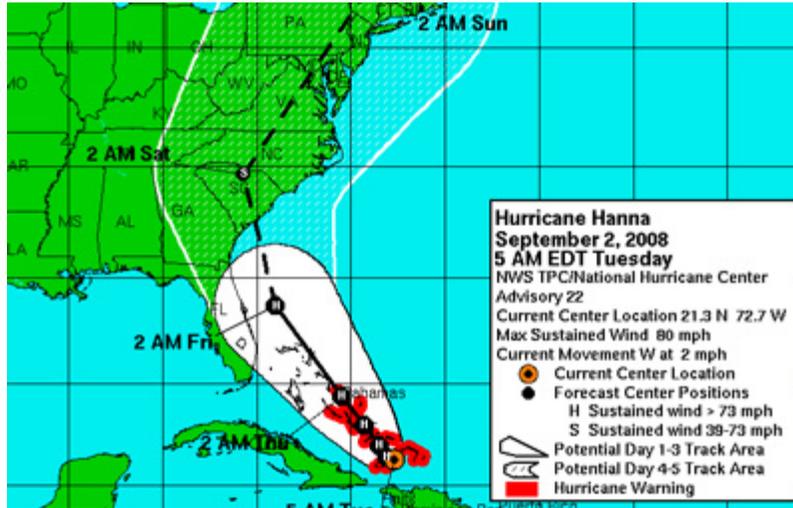
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Rain, Rain, Go Away

09/02/08 55 W, 1 I - + 13 - 7

Lots happening this coming weekend. [Raleigh Wide Open](#), including the grand opening of the Convention Center. [Brooks & Dunn and ZZ Top](#) at the Creek. The [aforeposted emergency drill](#). Hurricane Hanna seems poised to put a damper on everyone's fun. Here's the [latest forecast map](#):



This past weekend's storm got me to thinking: When, if ever did the state of N.C. ever provide the level of bus transportation / evacuation from the outer banks and barrier islands like what we saw this past weekend? Granted there's not over a million people but there is still a lot of people out there.

Just curious if anyone recalls a cat 3,4 or 5 STORM that was forecasted to strike where the state sent buses and trains to transport those who depend on the Gov't for their regular transportation day in a day out.

buckwheat - 09/02/08 - 20:40

Hugo was a cat 3 I think when it struck South Carolina. I don't recall evacuations however.

Yeah those poor people without a vehicle and unable to fend for themselves. Their just victims in all this.

What a joke!

jetexas - 09/02/08 - 22:41

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Groundbreaking in Apex

09/02/08 77 W, 2 I - + 11 - 8

Apex officials held a groundbreaking ceremony today for both Public Safety Station 4 and the police station renovation. The ceremony was held at the police location, though a bucket of dirt from the Station 4 site on Highway 55 was included. Here's a [prior posting about Station 4](#). Thanks to AFD for providing the photo below. [Watch their web site](#) for more. Click to enlarge:



Apex Fire Department Photo



Purchase Approved of Building For Temporary RPD HQ

09/03/08 89 W - + 11 - 9

The Raleigh City Council has approved the purchase of an office building at [6716 Six Forks Road](#) for \$6.23 million to serve as a temporary location for the Raleigh Police Department headquarters during construction of the Clarence E. Lightner Public Safety Center. The building will be the temporary headquarters for several divisions of the Raleigh Police Department that are currently located at 100 S. McDowell Street including the Chief's Office, Detective Division, Field Operations, and Administrative Services. [Read entire press release.](#)

Also, here's a profile of their PIO, from the News & Observer, <http://www.newsobserver.com/nrn/story/12..>

Legeros - 09/03/08 - 19:27

N&O story on same, <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/thursd..>

Legeros - 09/04/08 - 21:49

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Large Scale Incident Management by Mark Haraway

09/03/08 108 W, 1 I - + 16 - 8

Apex Fire Chief Mark Haraway's book, *Large Scale Incident Management*, has been published. The 288-page softcover volume [is available from Amazon](#). From the description: "The book places readers in the Incident Commander seat for the EQ chemical fires that occurred in Apex, North Carolina, in October 2006: an event that lasted three days, shut down an entire city, and displaced 17,000 citizens. Using this large-scale incident as a running example of how critical components of successful incident management are actually applied in real life, it provides detailed insight into important topics in the field." The publisher is [Delmar Cengage Learning](#).



Chief Haraway and his book are featured in today's N&O, <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/thursd..>

Legeros - 09/25/08 - 20:57

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Holding Our Breath

09/05/08 99 W, 1 I - + 8 - 11

As we hold our breath for Hanna, here's a fun photo from 2006. The remnants of tropical storm Alberto caused Raleigh's worst flooding in ten years. Crews conducted numerous water rescues, including these people from an office building across the street from Crabtree Valley Mall. That was a "C" shift day, with Ladder 16 and Rescue 19 among others at Crabtree. Weather was fine by that afternoon. Photo by Legeros, who had dried by that time. One large umbrella, however, was gone with the wind. See a few more here.



What preparations have the various fire and EMS departments put in place, that folks can report?

Legeros - 09/05/08 - 19:31

Raleigh called back some folks, both command staff and line personnel. USAR was also at the ready, with equipment staged at KTC. The morning brought a rash of downed trees, on power lines and houses. Some power poles required repair in Cameron Village after daybreak. Water rose in the usual places, with residents either notified or evacuated from apartments on McNeil Street, and homes at the end of Rose Lane. About 30 homes were impacted at the latter, water across the bridge at the end of Rose Lane. Most of the residents elected to remain home. Some roads were closed in spots early Saturday, notably Avent Ferry Road, Hillsborough Street, and Western Boulevard. Crabtree Creek, AKA Old Faithful, rose 17 inches above normal, reported today's N&O. Part of the mall parking lot was covered. Total rainfall was over 5 inches. Saturday, September 6, was also the same day that Hurricane Fran hit here, in 1996.

Legeros - 09/07/08 - 13:23

Raleigh police also made a save Saturday morning, http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/350..

Legeros - 09/07/08 - 21:45

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Indy Interview with Thomas Crowder

09/06/08 50 W - + 11 - 10

Part of their coverage of the new Convention Center, the *Independent Weekly* has an interesting interview with Raleigh Councilman Thomas Crowder. The architect and owner of an architectural firm tells what he likes and doesn't like about the Capital City's building designs. [Read the interview.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Brave New World of Digital Intimacy

09/07/08 139 W - + 9 - 8

Here's an [excellent article on social media](#) from today's *New York Times*. It's a long piece, from their magazine. Examines the effects of being connected online, notably in the lives and relationships of those who are constantly connected. e.g., through Facebook or Twitter. Numerous interesting points here. The ability to outsource your entire life, using social contacts to solve problems. The "dynamics of small town life, where everyone knows your business." Attitudes toward privacy, which become "simultaneously vigilant and laissez-faire." Self-awareness, and a "culture of people who know much more about themselves." And so on. Good stuff, and a great perspective into the world of constant online connections. Especially for us old farts, who watch the young 'un's work their keyboards and keypads day and night.

for even older folks like my mom, flickr has given her the ability to reconnect very strongly with her best friend from 73 years ago, all through her son's flickr page, when he started posting old pics of his family – this has led to an increase in e-mails – trans-atlantic phonecalls, and looking for and scanning even more old pictures to fill in all the missing memories from before and after the 2nd world war – now, that's a great thing!!! it has brought old neighbors that have been separated from across the atlantic closer together after decades of being apart

cornerhydrant - 09/07/08 - 13:47

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Housing Ceremony for Stony Hill Rescue 26

09/07/08 76 W, 1 I - + 10 - 10

On Monday, September 1 at 7:00 p.m., the Stony Hill Fire Department held a housing ceremony for their new Rescue 26. The Spartan/Hackney apparatus, delivered on July 24, was both wet down and hand-pushed (really!) into the bay. Durham Highway and Falls fire departments also participated. Here's a prior posting about the [origins of housing ceremonies](#). Stony Hill recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. Click to enlarge:



Stony Hill Fire Department photo

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

Remember personal info?

- Yes
- No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Former Fire Departments, Final Report

09/07/08 374 W - + 14 - 9

After a couple weeks of research, and with tremendous help from readers, here's what's found for former fire departments around the state. [See this page for the same list](#), and more details. Apologies for what I missed or recorded incorrectly. And there's undoubtedly still more to be found!

ALAMANCE: 87 South (merged), Burlington #2

BEAUFORT: Washington Public Safety,

BERTIE: Aulander,

BRUNSWICK: Holden Beach, Long Beach (renamed/merged)

BURKE: Broughton Hospital,

BUNCOMBE: Beacon (renamed), Beaverdam (merged), Biltmore Forest, Biltmore Village, Enka, North Buncombe, Oteen

CABARRUS: Fieldcrest-Cannon (merged?), Kannapolis Sanitary District (merged), Pillowtex-Cannon, Pitts (merged), Poplar Tent, Royal Oaks (merged), Winecoff (merged)

CARTERET: Cape Carteret (renamed)

CATAWBA: Fairbrook (merged), Maiden Rural (merged), Startown (merged), St. Timothy (merged), Viewmont (merged)

CRAVEN: Bridgeton

CUMBERLAND: Bonnie Doone, Cedar Creek, Fayetteville Airport (merged?), Lafayette Village, Lake Rim, Lake Upchurch (merged), Lakeview (renamed), Manchester, Raeford Road

DARE: Manteo (merged), Wanchese (merged)

DUPLIN: Community (renamed)

FORSYTH: Hanes, Mount Tabor (merged), Sedge Garden (renamed/reorg), South Fork (merged), Triangle

GASTON: Catawba Heights (merged), Chapel Grove (merged), Chestnut Ridge (merged), East Gastonia, Rhyne, South Gastonia (merged)

GUILFORD: Battleground (merged), Bessemer, 10-A (renamed), Colfax (merged), Deep River (merged), District 14 (merged), Guilford College (merged), Jamestown (merged)

HARNETT: Angier Rural (merged), Coats (merged), Grove Rural (merged)

HERTFORD: Cofield

HOKE: Tylertown (merged)

LENOIR: Moss Hill

MACON: Scaly Mountain

MADISON: West Madison (reanamed)

MCDOWELL: Cross Cotton Mills

MECKLENBURG: Carmel (merged), Derita, Hickory Grove (renamed), Moores Chapel (merged), Oakhurst, Pinoca (merged), Sharon (renamed), Statesville Road, Wilkinson Boulevard (merged), Woodlawn

MITCHELL: Altapass (merged), Estatoe (merged), Grassy Creek (merged)

NASH: Stony Creek

NEW HANOVER: Figure Eight Island, North Wilmington, Seagate, South Wilmington, Winter Park

PENDER: Scotts Hill

PERSON: Ca-Vel

RANDOLPH: Central Falls (renamed/merged), North Asheboro / Central Falls (merged), Hillsville

RICHMOND: Dobbins Heights

ROCKINGHAM: Draper (merged), Leaksville (merged), Spray (merged), Spray Rural

ROWAN: Centenary (merged), Mt. Ulla-Bear Popular (merged), Ellis Cross-Country, Julian Robertson, Rowan Mills, Spencer Shops,

RUTHERFORD: Danielstown (merged), Lake Lure, Oakland (merged), Shiloh (merged)

SAMPSON: Roseboro Area

STANLY: Oakboro Rural (merged), Rocky River (merged)

WAKE: Apex Rural (merged), Fairgrounds (merged), Fuquay-Varina Rural (merged), Holly Springs Rural (merged), Knightdale Rural (renamed), Morrisville Rural (merged), Six Forks (merged), Western Boulevard, Wake Forest #2, Wake Forest Rural (merged), Yrac (merged), Zebulon Rural (merged),

WARREN: Warrenton,

WAYNE: Fork Township (renamed), Hopeville (renamed)

Mike,

That is great information. It helps me with some questions that I had about some MIA departments in the state.

Apache1 ([Email](#)) - 09/07/08 - 15:24

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Tokyo Fire Museum

09/07/08 51 W, 1 I - + 8 - 7

This might be the cream of the crop for fire museums around the world. Found via Google, [here's the Tokyo Fire Museum](#) as photographed by "phillipma." Supurb artifact displays. Love the diorama of firefighting in the 1960s! Here's the [official site](#).



Tokyo Fire Department Photo

this is a great link – going to grab a coffee and look at it again – makes me want to renew my passport – wish we could organize a tour to go!!

cornerhydrant - 09/07/08 - 13:57

actually saw this type of gear used in kyoto during a night-time fire – very high visibility

<http://www.pbase.com/ercphilip/image/639..>

cornerhydrant - 09/07/08 - 14:01

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Mystery Booms

09/07/08 79 W, 1 I - + 17 - 9

WRAL reports residents in Clayton and Wendell are [reporting hearing loud booms that shook their homes](#). Emergency crews are searching for the source of the noise, they report. Seismic tremors? Military jets? Or is it something stranger? [Google "mystery booms" for more](#). Cue AC/DC.¹



¹*You Shook Me All Night Long*, of course. From *Back in Black*. New album October 20. *Black Ice*.² Be there.

² First single available at acdc.com. *Rock 'n' Roll Train*.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Police Demos, Particularly « Mystery Booms » Pink Ribbon Tour Stop... Canine?

Police Demos, Particularly Canine?

09/07/08 45 W - + 16 - 7

Posting for a friend, with a young son with a growing interest in the police department, and particularly canine units. Are any demos scheduled by RPD, Wake SO, or other LEO agencies in the coming weeks? Thanks for your help. Woof.

as is probably evident from my handle, i too am very interested in any K9 demos, so please keep us posted

cornerhydrant - 09/08/08 - 01:13

Hi Mike!

The Bay Leaf Volunteer Fire Department will be holding its annual Open House on Sunday October 5th, 2008, from 1:00p to 5:00p at our Station One, at 11713 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27614. We will have lots of fire trucks, food, displays, live burn demonstrations, and a K-9 Officer from the Wake County Sheriff's Office, named Congo, with his handler Deputy Greene. Come out, have a good time, and learn about how to prevent fires in your home!

Thanks, Mike!

Jonny - 09/08/08 - 09:56

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Pink Ribbon Tour* « **Police Demos, Particu...** » **State Trooper Dies Af...**
Stop, Sunday, September 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Pink Ribbon Tour Stop, Sunday, September 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

09/09/08 106 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

The [Pink Ribbon Tour](#) rolls into town this weekend. The Raleigh and Durham fire departments, along with Susan G. Komen for the Cure and Mix 101.5, will celebrate the tour's stop on Sunday, September 14, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the parking lot of Dick's Sporting Goods, [8021 Brier Creek Parkway](#). The tour, initiated by firefighters in Arizona, seeks to raise the level of breast cancer awareness through their coast-to-coast tour. They're also [blogging as they go](#). Plan to visit, and wear something pink. Such as, say, a hot pink tropical print.



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

Remember personal info?

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State Trooper Dies After Accident

09/09/08 96 W, 2 I - + 10 - 13

North Carolina State Highway Patrol Trooper Andrew Stocks, 43, died after an accident at [9200 Ten-Ten Road](#). Shortly after 1:30 p.m., his cruiser collided with a garbage truck. Fairview Fire Department responded, along with other units. Stocks was extricated and transported to WakeMed, where he passed away at approximately 4:30 p.m. The driver of the truck was treated at the scene. The road was closed until about 6:10 p.m. [WRAL has more information](#). Stocks death is the 60th duty death for the Patrol. [Learn more about that history](#).



NCSHP / WRAL photos

Rest In Peace Bro....Thoughts and Prayers to the family (both personal and agency) as well as the responders to the incident...

Silver - 09/09/08 - 19:25

AJ was a good friend. I met him when he came to the old Cary Area Rescue Squad back in 83-84. He left to go to the Marines and was trained as a firefighter. If I am not mistaken, he served at Cherry Point MAS and Bogue Field. Our paths crossed again years later in Chatham County when FirstHealth took over EMS there. He was my shift supervisor there, and without a doubt was one of the best. His concern for the welfare of his crews and for the public was head and shoulders above all. One day when I was working EMS203 he showed up on the scene and we talked and got caught up. A few weeks later I saw him at the HP's exhibit and my wife and I talked to him for a little while.

I have no doubt that he approached his job with the patrol the same as he did with the Marines and as a paramedic. SHP has lost one of their best.

Take care, AJ. We will miss you.

DJ

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 09/09/08 - 20:24

A memorial fund has been established at the State Employees Credit Union for the family of Trooper Andrew J. Stocks, who was killed in the line of duty on Tuesday, 9 September 2008 as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle collision. The name of the fund is "Liane G. Stocks to Benefit the Family of Trooper A. J. Stocks", Account # 60505061

Donations may also be mailed to the following address:

NCSECU
 Attn Sherri Cannady
 Po Box 450
 Garner NC 27529

DR - 09/10/08 - 15:03

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and to the NCSHP family. This is great lost to the State, County, Country and to the Emergency Service all around us. Rest in Peace Brother. Thank You for your Service to "God".

jj - 09/10/08 - 18:21

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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September 11, 2001

09/11/08 10 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Moment of silence, please.



From the city's web site: The City of Raleigh Fire Department will hold a moment of silence Thursday in remembrance of the civilian and uniformed victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Beginning at 9:55 a.m. fire apparatus and personnel at each fire station will be on each station's front aprons. At 9:59 a.m. the emergency communications center will initiate three minutes of silence in tribute to those lost during the attacks. The observance honors those who lost their lives in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D. C. The remembrance will occur at 9:59 a.m., which was the time of the first tower (South Tower) collapse.

Legeros - 09/11/08 - 05:30

Local events, as reported by WRAL: <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/352...> National observances: <http://www.familiesofseptember11.org/com..>

Legeros - 09/11/08 - 05:33

A timeline of 9/11/2001:

http://www.carolinasfirepage.com/fr_temp..

harkey ([Email](#)) - 09/11/08 - 09:32

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Durham Firefighter « September 11, 2001 » Orange Rescue Squad A... in Critical Condition After Jordan Lake Training Accident

Durham Firefighter in Critical Condition After Jordan Lake Training Accident

09/11/08 79 W - + 16 - 8

Durham Fire Department Fire Technician Eric Rozier was critically injured on Tuesday, suffering a serious head injury at Jordan Lake during a boat training exercise. He was listed in critical condition at UNC Hospitals on Wednesday evening, [reports today's Durham Herald-Sun](#). Rozier, a member of the department for over nine years, was participating in a USAR drill when the accident occurred. [FireNews.net is also covering the story](#).

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Orange Rescue Squad Answers Complaints

09/11/08 67 W, 1 I - + 11 - 7

[WRAL has the latest](#) in the story of Orange County Rescue Squad and their June 27 service suspension. On Tuesday, the OCES Director presented a report to county commissioners that cited several instances of the squad's inappropriate responses. The squad president has responded to those charges, and his six page response has been made available by WRAL. [Read their side of the story](#) .

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, Thursday, September 18

09/11/08 68 W - + 10 - 7

The next Wake County Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, at 7:00 PM, at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building at 4011 Cary Drive. I'll post an agenda ahead of the meeting, if one is made available. Come one, come all. Welcome the newest members. Soak up information. Offer comment. Learn.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Original Raleigh Rescue Boats

09/11/08 151 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

These beauties were recently returned to the Raleigh Fire Department, after being found at a city water facility. They're the original boats of the Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad, Inc., the volunteer-organized rescue service that started in 1953. The boats were placed in service that year, stored at Station 1, and pulled by Rescue 1. [See an old photo](#). The trailer was designed and built by squad members; the city provided the funds for the boats and motors. The boats were used for many recovery operations in and around Raleigh, such as the family of five that drowned after their plane ditched in Crabtree Lake on February 25, 1965. The boats were still on the roster in 1977, listed as "old rescue boats." Their registration sticker is dated 1982. They'll be stored at Station 28 for the time being, along with the department's others antiques. [See more photos from Lee Wilson](#).



Lee Wilson photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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32 Gig CF Card

09/11/08 8 W - + 9 - 9

Crazy. [Read all about it.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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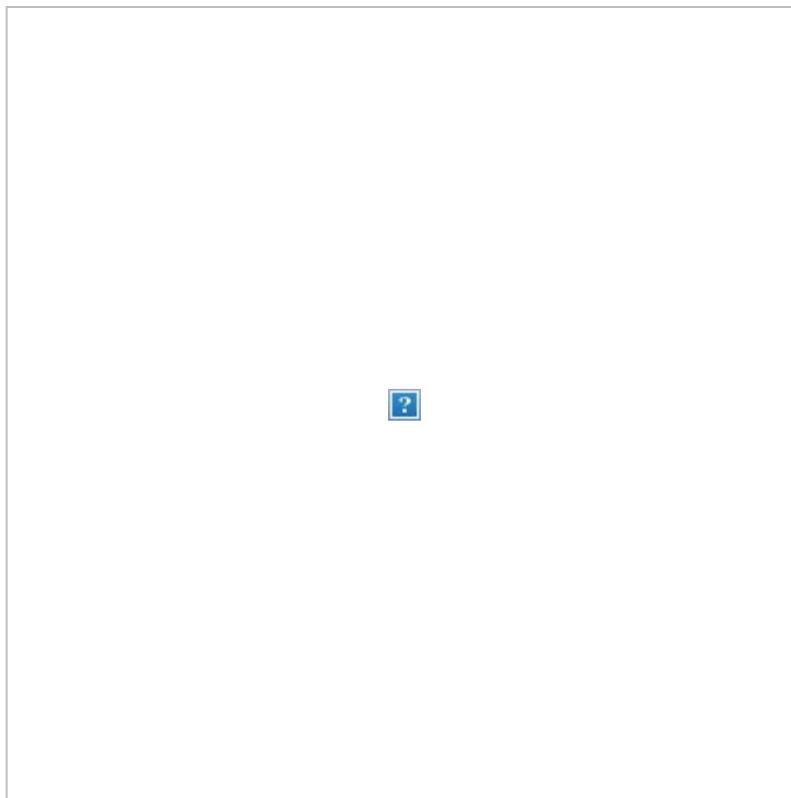
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Komatsu Demining Machine

09/12/08 95 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

For your Friday curiosity, here's an interesting marriage of heavy equipment and humanitarian purpose. This is the Komatsu D85MS-15 Demining machine, a bulldozer-based device capable of clearing some 500 square meters an hour. That's many times the speed of manual anti-personnel land mine removal. The remote-controlled machine uses a base bulldozer chassis weighing some 27 tons. It's been field-tested in Cambodia and Afghanistan. [Read all about it.](#) And how did this mega-machine catch this blogger's attention? A wee-sized version is being added to the regular range of [Tomica die-cast cars](#).



Komatsu Photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

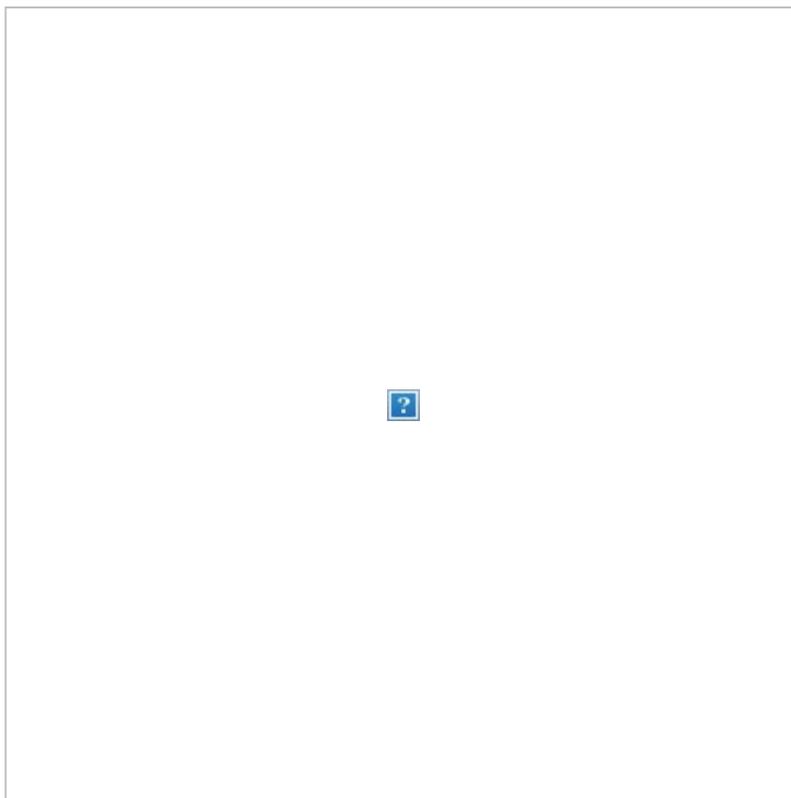
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Images From LA

09/13/08 63 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

Head-on collision of commuter train and freight train, yesterday evening. At least 15 killed, and at least 135 injured. Derailment with fire. [Strong AP images on this site](#), though viewer discretion advised. [Strong work from the LA Times](#), as well. That's their slideshow. Don't know when or what LAFD will surface on [their Flickr site](#).



Spencer Weiner / Los Angeles Times Photo

Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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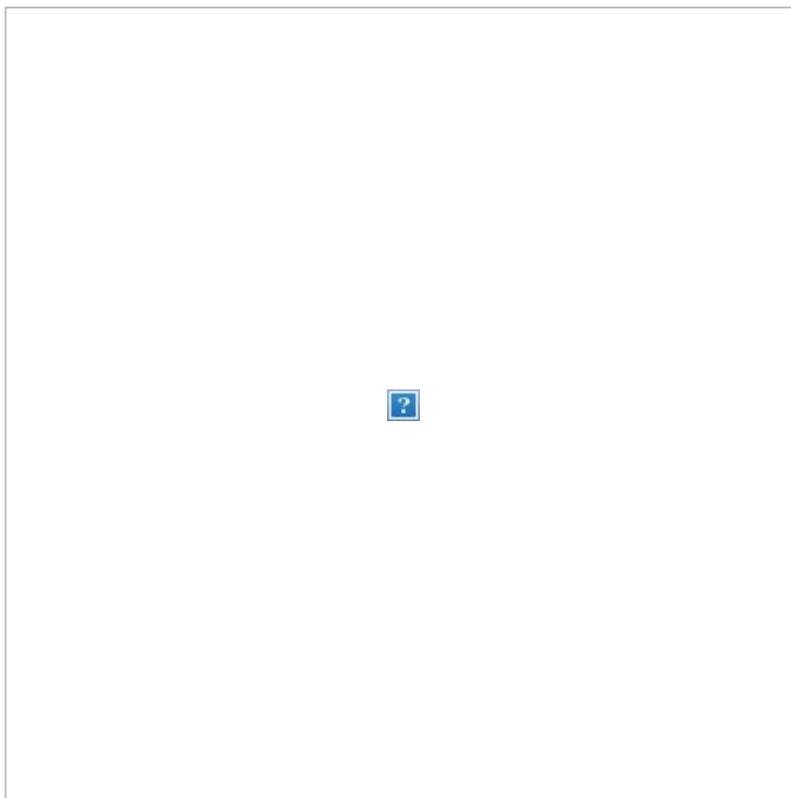
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Images From Ike

09/13/08 56 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

[Here's a Houston Chronicle slideshow](#), which includes the below image. Those are waves breaking over the memorial to the [Galveston hurricane of 1900](#), the deadliest natural disaster in the country's history. Landed as a Category 4 storm on September 8, 1900. Killed between 6,000 and 12,000 people, and rendered 30,000 homeless.



Johnny Hanson, Houston Chronicle Photo

Heaven, Hell, or Houston: <http://www.chron.com/news/photogallery/I...> Fourth largest city in the US, incidentally. I'm just passing through in search of the ever-elusive Thunderbird...

Legeros - 09/13/08 - 14:44

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Cumberland County Proposes Fire Station Funding Overhaul

09/13/08 88 W - + 11 - 10

[The Fayetteville Observer reported Friday](#) on a proposal to overhaul fire stations funding. The county fire chiefs agreed Thursday to pursue a special public safety sales tax. This would fund all city and county fire stations, and would replace fire district property taxes. The goal is a more equitable distribution of tax dollars, e.g. departments in poorer areas receive the same share as those in richer regions. The plan is expected to go before county commissioners in about two months.

Don't do it!!! It will screw your system up. Before long you won't be able to get anything without the county saying ok.

Mike - 09/13/08 - 09:41

Cumberland County is probably one of the most organized counties that I have been through. They do have a standardized apparatus numbering system, response plans with each other in the county plus the City of Fayetteville and Pope AFB/ Ft. Bragg FD's. I am all for the FD's in the rural areas as Godwin/Falcon, Bethany, etc... being able to receive the money and services as the rest of the county

Michael - 09/13/08 - 12:16

Yeah but it really helped screw up WC. Now depts can even hire people because they don't have the money that they would have had.

Mike - 09/13/08 - 21:32

In Wake, some see it as screwed up, but several departments are getting money they couldn't have dreamed of in the old system. I guess the same would be true for Cumberland County. Just depends on what side of the coin you're on.

Screwed Up? - 09/15/08 - 08:09

Bottom line, county-wide tax without county-wide department is gonna be a mess. Regardless of what anyone may try to say, people that have NO clue about the public safety world will be appropriating funds. Then we all know how that goes...

Squirt - 09/15/08 - 16:27

It's very interesting, but their intent is probably the best alternative for a rapidly developing county. If the process is properly planned from the start, with all actual or otherwise perceived aspects clearly laid out and certain responsibilities established, the change will be equitable for all. Wake may be viewed as an example of "what not to do" by some, however much of what has happened here since 1999 has been very positive and productive, although very often reactive in nature. No doubt, it has definitely been a learning experience for all involved. If Wake's progress and pitfalls are strategically evaluated, a productive transition can occur for Cumberland. In my opinion, a clear implementation plan, open communications with all involved, a strong leadership element, and standardized FD contracts will yield the greatest initial success. As with Wake, they too will have to adapt as they progress (to some degree).

A.Rich - 09/15/08 - 23:09

Someone is going to keep screwing around and end up in court. Wake County and the fire commission cant keep holding back funds and in essence, restricting hiring. Staffing is a major issue, the county is growing, with about 20 new kids enrolling in each of our schools every week.

Why isnt the fire service growing with the county??!!

People who live in the county are paying as much and in some instances more for fire protection and getting lesser of a service. I honestly got tired of it, and after 25+ years; recently moved out of wake county. I'm sick of watching these clowns waste our tax dollars.

J.Boggs ([Email](#)) - 09/17/08 - 11:34

Well I see that no one cares to beat a dead horse, but I challenge each of you fire service professionals to call your local school principal and ask how many new students enroll each week, thus depicting the weekly population increase in wake county. and I challenge everyone who reads this blog to avoid the fire commission and email or write directly to the county commissioner(s) and ask why the population increase has not been commensurate with the fire protection in this county. I also challenge the media that monitors this blog to research the fire tax

collection and distribution of wake county, and compare it with the disbursement of funds to each department. This is public record and if you encounter any "fuz", cite the sunshine laws.

J.Boggs ([Email](#)) - 09/18/08 - 23:04

Page 251 of this FY2009 county budget document shows the appropriations for each fire tax district appropriation by department:

<http://www.wakegov.com/NR/rdonlyres/1022..>

Legeros - 09/19/08 - 04:55

Mike is there anywhere on there to show how much was actually collected? I looked last night and couldnt find anywhere. I guess the next step is to call the WC revenue department.

very interested - 09/19/08 - 08:34

Its on the page he posted

JB - 09/19/08 - 08:39

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What a Gas

09/13/08 88 W, 1 I - + 12 - 8

Crazy prices all around, at least for a few hours on Friday. [WRAL has this story](#), for starters. The below sign was seen in Fayetteville. [The N&O also covers](#). The Governor declared a state of abnormal market disruption, allowed under North Carolina Law¹. And prices normalized by the end of the day.

*WRAL photo*

¹Price controls as [explained on this Wiki](#), including some interesting links with opposing perspectives. Disclaimer: This blogger is not an economist, nor plays one on television.

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Diamond Plate Decor

09/13/08 25 W, 3 I - + 10 - 8

From a reader, here are some interesting links: [DiamondPlateStore.com](#), [Elite Xpressions](#), [JNK Products](#), and [Texas Garages](#). Go nuts.



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

Remember personal info?

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 No

Comment:

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Very Old Raleigh Fire Helmets

02/26/12 190 W, 2 I - + 18 - 27

February 2012

Here's another very old helmet, this one one of two recently acquired by the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#). It's another Cairns helmet, perhaps another High Eagle model? The shield is believed to be original. The date or era is a mystery. Perhaps 1920s or earlier? Perhaps very earlier? The material is also metal instead of leather. Probably tin. Donated by Capt. Gary Amato, from the estate of Col. Bob Biggs. Here's a posting from 2009 on the [evolution of the Raleigh fire helmet](#). We'll work on updating that one as well. Click once or twice to enlarge:



September 2008

Here's a treat from an antique collector in Wake Forest. He took these pictures of a Cairns High Eagle helmet, circa perhaps 1900s. It was found in a local antique shop (!) and originated with a Raleigh fireman. No other information is know at this time. Such helmets were likely used at the turn of the century, and perhaps just by a few fireman. Maybe exclusively by fire company foremen. They also appear, here and there, in photos from the 1920s. Click once or twice to enlarge:



To clarify this posting, the item was obtained in a local antique shop, and is presently in possession of an antique collector. This person provided the photos.

Legeros - 09/18/08 - 18:56

I'm sure there are more folks out there that know for a fact, but if I'm not mistaken I would put the red helmet in the age of pre-1954, as it has a NY tag inside. Cairns moved to Clifton, NJ sometime in the (again, correct me if I'm wrong) mid-fifties. Very nice pieces, both. Congratulations on the acquisition.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/27/12 - 09:50

Some say '46-'47, others say '49-'50 is when they moved to Jersey.

Silver - 03/06/12 - 21:35

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Keypads For Fire Apparatus

09/13/08 35 W, 1 I - + 13 - 9

From a reader, who snapped this picture at a fire show up north. Keypads for fire apparatus doors. What will they think of next?



I saw that at Cary #1... Must have been a 1.5 years ago. It was on a Pierce velocity... It was not one of their trucks; I believe it was getting delivered somewhere.

Kermit - 09/13/08 - 14:47

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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French Ladder Truck

09/13/08 49 W, 1 I - + 17 - 6

Found this while Googling for something else. It's at a good angle and a large enough image to depict the many differences between Euro and American ladder trucks. What's the yellow box in the back, you suppose? Breathing air? Generator? Click to enlarge:



It's a generator. see pg. 35 <http://www.elektra-drole.si/uploads/File..>

RescueRanger - 09/13/08 - 21:27

Yes, it's a generator. The ladder on the picture is from Switzerland.

Dennis ([Email](#)) - 09/14/08 - 03:30

The generator is used to operate a ventilator, light, etc.

The type of the ladder is the low version.

Dennis ([Email](#)) - 09/14/08 - 03:44

ugly cab. looks like a duck head.

lee - 09/14/08 - 22:51

Looks like the bucket would almost come down to rest in front of the cab and restrict the view.

Luke - 09/15/08 - 02:15

trying to think if there's a reason for the elevated cab – added traction device for snow/ice banks??

cornerhydrant - 09/15/08 - 02:26

The reason for the elevated cab is very easy. Many cities in Europe and also here in Germany have castles and very small/narrow old towns. So there would be no way to come to with a regular cabin, because of their height.

A second reason of the elevated cab is the better center of mass. So the whole ladder has a better rideability during higher speed.

Dennis ([Email](#)) - 09/15/08 - 03:56

The bucket is stowed in a horizontal position for transport. Technical brochure: <http://www.iveco-magirus.net/files/prosp..>

Legeros - 09/15/08 - 07:35

Hello, it's not a french ladder but from switzerland.

The yellow box is a générateur.

The buider of the truck is IVECO and the builder of the ladder is MAGIRUS

David ([Web Site](#)) - 11/23/09 - 04:13

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Planning Raleigh 2030 - Community Inventory - Fire Services

09/14/08 44 W - + 10 - 10

From the [Planning Raleigh 2030 site](#), from the Community Inventory application, here's an [inventory of fire facilities](#) as well as a map. The inventory notes number of staff, number of vehicles, and floor area. Plus street addresses.

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

Remember personal info?

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Comment:

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Downtown Raleigh Developments

09/14/08 52 W, 1 I - + 13 - 13

Saw this poster posted downtown. It's a nifty map from the [Planning Department](#). Super overview of the big stuff that's coming downtown. Wonder how much those high-rise condos cost? And where the heck do people park? See more [Planning Department maps here](#). Click to view the PDF original:



RBC Plaza condos... sold out! <http://www.rbcplazacondos.com/>

Legeros - 09/14/08 - 11:28

High-rise condos, if they end up being anything like the ones here in Charlotte, usually go for about \$175,000 – \$1.5 million + (that low number is for about 550 sq ft) – UNLESS you can get the condos at “Phase 1” pricing which is usually before the building even breaks ground and when many of the investors purchase their units. Of course, buying before the building has broken ground is also a risk. We’ve only had 1 High-rise Condo project go belly-up in the construction phase thus far; alas it was an expensive one and many people lost a huge chunk of change (pocket change for them, I’m sure!).

Parking is another issue!! Most all of the ones Uptown give you parking spaces based on the number of rooms. If you’re a young married couple and only need a 1 room condo – Guess what? – you get 1 parking space!! This also leaves the problem for having parking available for any guests, usually the buildings don’t provide many (if any) extra parking spaces for guests. You have two options, park on the street and risk it or park in a pay lot, pay for it, and still risk getting broken into or vandalized!

All in all living at an Uptown location is really fun and always entertaining if you’re single or a young couple.

Luke - 09/14/08 - 18:03

Luke are you still single and living in uptown? I would like to live in a downtown/uptown building within walking distance of everything.

Apex Batt Chief - 09/14/08 - 22:31

I am. It is a lot of fun, but not somewhere that I’d like to settle and raise a family! Although there are some young families that live Uptown and also some “empty nesters” that reside in the more upscale (\$\$\$\$\$) buildings.

The biggest initial problem when people started to live Uptown here was the lack of common goods/entertainment readily available. Believe it or not, firefighters that have been Uptown for a while often talk about how after 5pm Uptown would become “dead.” There also was (and still

is in some ways) a lack of common "everyday" items such as grocery stores, family entertainment, and non-alcohol activities. Today there is a Harris Teeter Uptown, a Target, Home Depot, Lowes Hardware (cause you can't have one without the other!), and Best Buy all within either walking distance or 5 min drive. They are completing the new EpiCentre which already has partly opened some bars/clubs (that's where Jr.'s bar is - Whiskey River) and is also going to have a bowling alley, movie theater, various eating spots, Condos, and a hotel. With these new improvements the residential market Uptown is booming with many new Condo buildings going up. The projection is that within the next 4 years the population Uptown (within the loop) will be 20,000! It's crazy...

Luke - 09/15/08 - 02:05

Here's my quick review and opinion on some of the dots on the map:

#3: North Carolina American Institute of Architects, Center for Architecture and Design:

Of all on the dots on the list, will probably be the most significant in terms of national (and international) design impact and recognition. The project was selected after a lengthy design competition. We'll be lucky to have this downtown. By Raleigh Architect Frank Harmon.

#4: The Tucker:

Have you guys seen this? It looks like a fire watch should be posted 24/7. Amazes me the building code allows wood frame construction of this scale. Won't have a sprinkler system until the construction is done.

#5: 222 Glenwood:

I guess the east side just didn't need any design work....

#7: Bloomsbury Estates:

Give me a break. Perfect location if Herman Munster needs a condo.

#8: The West:

Nice elements of detail on this big guy. Right now it's out of scale with it's neighbors, but of course that could change in the next 100 or so years.

#9: The LaFayette:

Given the lending industry, might be one that only exists on paper and as a little model.

#10: The new Raleigh Convention Center:

All in all, a nice piece of architecture. Even though it was a collaboration of three firms, doesn't really feel like it was. Within five years, there will be talk of making it BIGGER. You heard it here first. (Will also be the home of the South Atlantic Fire Expo for at least the next four years.)

The progression of spaces from South Salisbury Street into the main lobby and the eventually onto the exhibit floor is quite nice. Those balconies are worth every penny. Also check out the ballroom at the top.

#11: Charter Square:

Pretty big hole in the ground right now. Let's hope it gets taller than the Soleil Center.

#12: Lightner Public Safety Center

Home of the Raleigh Police Department, with a guest suite for Fire. 911 will also be there. Wasn't this a golden opportunity for a new Station 1 that was horribly missed?

#13: The L:

zzzzzz

#14: Wake County Courthouse:

Definitely needed. LEED certification is architect-speak for a "green" building.

#15: RBC Plaza:

Would be an interesting design if it was 1982 and Boy George was on the radio. But it's not, and that crown is a dopey solution. Looks like a naked christmas tree.

#16: Green Square:

A whole block of tree-hugging fun!

#17: Blount Street Commons:

With 500 units over several blocks, this project may have the greatest impact on this part of downtown since the state tore down most of old Raleigh to build the big pack of cigarettes (the Archdale Building).

#18: Hue:

Never thought I'd see something like this going in downtown Raleigh. Glad to see it. Notice the change in the west side of Dawson Street as you drive south. Big changes.

#19: 301 Hillsborough:

See #9.

#20: The Edison:

See #9, oh yeah.....

#21: City Plaza:

Nothing on the scale of a Plensa; might be kind of like the area at North Hills outside of the movie theatre. There's already a Chick Fil A at the Sir Walter.....

During "Raleigh Wide Open," this was ground zero, and deserves to be a really good space. Let's hopes it is.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/15/08 - 22:11

I emailed the RBC plaza looking at prices. They still have some stuff open. Just an FYI and a little bit of the lower end price range.

"Brian,

We have one bedrooms that range from \$257k-\$401k; two bedrooms \$484k-573k. There is a one bedroom with a den for \$312k. The website has floor plans for you to view. If these prices seem right for you, let me know what plan you like and what your price range is and I will see what we have for you. Hope all is well in Iraq!"

Kermit - 09/16/08 - 02:32

Harkey, how do these developments compare with the major buildings in Charlotte, Greensboro, Durham, Fayetteville, etc.? Or is that an apples `n` oranges question?

Legeros - 09/16/08 - 05:33

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E-mail: (optional)
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The Power and Problems of Those Anonymous Posts

09/14/08 94 W - + 9 - 14

Whatever your opinion of the reported comments of a high-profile law enforcement officer in last week's *News & Observer*, reader responses caused quite a problem for those moderating comments on the web site. [Friday's paper offered this perspective](#). Anonymous comments can indeed be a bear. Fingers fly, readers return fire, and a big honkin' stew of negativity can result. We're better at e-mail, having learned over the years to curb instinctive emotional responses when necessary. Maybe we'll eventually get better with postings, even when they're anonymous.

Anonymous posts give people a sense of independence and power. Emotions usually flare, and, well, all you have to do is look at the comments that were posted on N&O and on WRAL and you get the picture. I think that the anonymity of the postings allow a person to say what's on their mind, even if they did not think it through completely. And it also gives a chance to express themselves in a manner they cannot otherwise do. No matter where your personal feelings are, many people cannot express their feelings without a fear of backlash. Again, looking at the cited example, if any of us actually agreed with the comments made, how many of us could actually express that, in the open, without some sort of negative consequences?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/14/08 - 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.

Engine 13 and Engine 13

09/14/08 112 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Here are Durham E13 and Raleigh E13 at a shopping center at Brier Creek, for the occasion of the Pink Ribbon Tour. Durham's Station 13 opened in 1998, though Engine 13 was placed in service elsewhere at an earlier date (correct?). Raleigh has no station numbered as such and Engine 13 was placed in service at Station 1 by November 26, 1974. The second engine at Station 1 was previously numbered Engine 15, Engine 10, and Engine 9. The two trucks are a 1994 E-One and a 2004 American LaFrance, left to right. Triskaidekaphobia, by the way, is the fear of the number 13. Origins of the superstition range from Christian theology to Mesopotamian numerology. [Read more on that.](#)



Mike Legeros photo

in japan, a similar fear of the number 4, which is pronounced "shi" which means death (even though the ideogram is different, and 9, which is pronounced "ku" which means suffering, so when giving gifts to japanese, make sure to give sets of 5 dishes, or 5 mugs or anything else, never sets of 4 – there are other gifts superstitions, too numerous to go into here, but i have quite an interesting story

cornerhydrant - 09/14/08 - 18:38

engine 13 was placed in service as engine 3 in 1994 then moved to station 1 when the hasmat team was moved sowntown. when station 13 opened the hasmat team went to station 13.

charlie - 10/09/09 - 08:08

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Dear Adobe

09/16/08 148 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

Here's a compelling concept in consumer feedback. DearAdobe.com. Type a gripe or some praise, and, bang, it's right there. The entire purpose of the site is for compiling quick and unfiltered feedback on Adobe software products. [This blog posting explains the concept](#). The site was created by a couple people unaffiliated with Adobe. Now imagine extending that concept to other types of products or services. Say, public services? Don't know if it would work on a local level, but perhaps regional or higher. And there's no telling if those delivering public services would pay attention. That is, if change would be effected using such a tool. Stakeholders in school systems would certainly love it. Such animals probably exist. Public safety? Probably two types of comments would happen, outsider praise (citizens) and insider criticism (responders). Cool concept, for sure.

The screenshot shows the 'Dear Adobe' website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Gripes', 'Top 100 Gripes', 'Top Gripes by Application', and 'Dear Adobe Blog'. Below these are buttons for 'Agree', 'Disagree', 'Inaccurate', and 'Next gripe', along with a search box labeled 'See gripes for:'. The main content area displays a submitted gripe:

Dear Adobe:

Please tell the People in INDIA that Acrobat 7 PRO does work on MS Vista. They refused my validation code as I was reloading my hard drive (after an hour of complaining, I finally gave up.

Gripe #5241 is filed under 'Acrobat' **incorrect?**

Below the gripe is a dark grey submission form with a 'Dear Adobe' label, a text input field, a 'Select application' dropdown menu, and a 'Submit Your Gripe' button. At the bottom of the form, it says 'Built by the Team at Legeros.com for Adobe, Microsoft & FireFox'.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Study Finds That 35 Percent Of« Dear Adobe » E.R. Patients Often L... BlackBerry And PDA Users Would Choose Their Device Over Their Spouse

Study Finds That 35 Percent Of BlackBerry And PDA Users Would Choose Their Device Over Their Spouse 09/16/08 87 W - + 15 - 9

Found on Drudge, here's something that won't surprise Blackberry users. [From a WCBS story](#), a "study of 6,500 traveling executives says 35 percent of them would choose their PDA over their spouse." 'That's a tough call,' one said. 'Oh you don't want to go there,' another added." There's a reason they call 'em "crackberries." Are there nicknames for Nextels, that other highly popular (still?) mobile device?

I love my BlackBurriry (if anyone listens to Opie and Anthony on XM, they know how to pronounce it)....

Silver - 09/16/08 - 11:12

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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E.R. Patients Often Left Confused After Visits

09/16/08 59 W - + 14 - 13

While we're citing studies, [here's an interesting New York Times article](#) about the communication gap that is being increasingly recognized in hospitals. Patients are discharged without fully understanding what happened, or what's happens next, researchers found. Doctors are harried, patients are anxious, etc. Not an environment necessarily conducive to clear communication.

Part of the problem is how the patients are talked to. Healthcare professionals who have all of those initials after their name seem to forget that they are not talking to other healthcare professionals. The average Joe or Josephine does not understand a lot of the medical terminology, and what I have learned is that if you do not explain it in easy to understand, leave no doubt terms, you are not communicating, you are making noise.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 09/16/08 - 13:31

a lot may have to do also with a "holier than thou" attitude and an assumption that the patient does not know anything – much more listening necessary both ways with no assumptions, no patronizing

cornerhydrant - 09/16/08 - 14:21

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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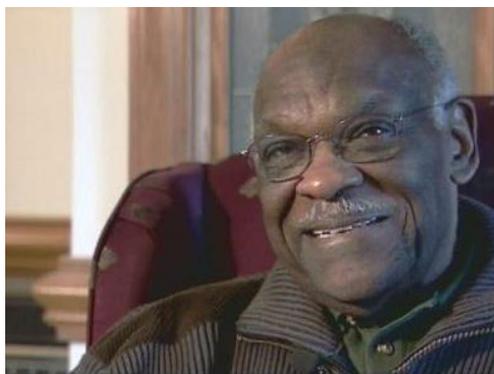
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

John H. Baker Jr. Public Safety Center

09/16/08 82 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

A renamed Wake County Public Safety center was dedicated on Monday, [reports today's News & Observer](#). The complex that houses the Sheriff's department, the Fire Marshal's office, Wake County EMS, and the hoosegow is now the John H. Baker Jr. Public Safety Center. The \$56 million facility opened in 1991. Baker, who died in 2007, served as the state's first African American sheriff. He served in that office for 24 years. [Read more about John Baker.](#)



WRAL photo

What's a "hoosegow"?

Silver - 09/16/08 - 11:13

Main Entry: hoose'gow

Pronunciation: `hüs-?gau?

Function: noun

Etymology: Spanish juzgado panel of judges, courtroom, from past participle of juzgar to judge, from Latin judicare — more at judge

Date: 1909

: jail

Boss Hog - 09/16/08 - 11:27

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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The Watch Desk Has a New Look

09/16/08 50 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Or at least it has new colors. Still more banners than postings on the [Raleigh-Durham forum](#). Don't know why the discussion board hasn't sustained interest. There have been 214 threads started since the first posting in May 2004.

The screenshot shows the Raleigh-Durham forum interface. At the top, there's a red header for 'Sub-Forums : RALEIGH-DURHAM NC' with a search box. Below it is a table of sub-forums:

Forum	Last Post	Threads	Posts
Working Incidents Raleigh-Durham NC	6-20-07 Working Fire/County... by Duhon 06-29-2007 09:44 AM	18	19

Below this is a 'NEW THREAD >' button and another red header for 'Threads in Forum : RALEIGH-DURHAM NC' with a search box. The main content is a list of threads:

Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Last Post	Replies	Views
Announcement: HOGS AND HEROES POKER RUN Mach (Super Moderator)		Views: 9,924 08-23-2008		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sticky: Raleigh F.D. - Hiring Update (1 2 3 4 5) A.Rich		07-17-2008 05:35 PM by TruckLife20	61	6,699
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment Opportunites firestopper1		08-30-2008 12:01 AM by StonyHill429	3	697
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCBA's For Sale ABass		08-24-2008 09:51 AM by ABass	0	164

At the bottom, there is another 'NEW THREAD >' button.

Thus far it has pretty much been used as a gripe board. Sure, some 'progressive' ideas have been brought forth (numbering systems and solid stream nozzles), and there has been some productive discussion, but for the most part it has always gone into a 'we vs. they' mentality. I think that forums such as TWD have enormous potential to share ideas, but someone has to make the first move. And there is always the problem with 'misunderstanding' something put forth- people get defensive if it is suggested that they are doing something wrong.

Example- everyone knows by now (or should) that I am a paramedic here in the county. What happens if I point out something that I see done a lot that really is not quite right. Do people say "Thanks, I didn't realize that" or "Who the @*#! does he think he is?"

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 09/16/08 - 10:29

I've tried, but people take offense by what can be made into a learning lesson or want other topics. When I ask ; "hey friend, provide something to discuss then", nothing is brought up (usually the ones' whining are of the anonymous type).

Sure, I've aired frustration on there, and sometimes it's nice to see that others are frustrated with the same thing (and sure it's great to be corrected when one might have the wrong impression or understanding of an issue). I can say this, atleast it doesn't get as ugly as some of the other locations (Baltimore, PG County, MD).

More than likely, everyone knows me. Some like me and some don't, no problem, it's called "life", no hard feelings. But I can promise you this, I'll call it like I see it, usually un-sugarcoated. Some like that, some don't....but no matter what, it won't affect our work relationship on the fireground and/or when the "SHTF".

Stay safe...

Silver - 09/16/08 - 11:30

lack of postings may have a lot to do with the general design/navigation of the site (name bars between postings too deep means lots of scrolling – top bar too deep means i can barely see any posts on my tiny laptop screen – it is so easy to post here, so easy to navigate – may come down only to an ease of use issue

ps Silver, i look forward to your posts!

cornerhydrant - 09/16/08 - 14:14

Thanks!! Send me an e-mail so we can chat!!

Silver ([Email](#)) - 09/16/08 - 15:08

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

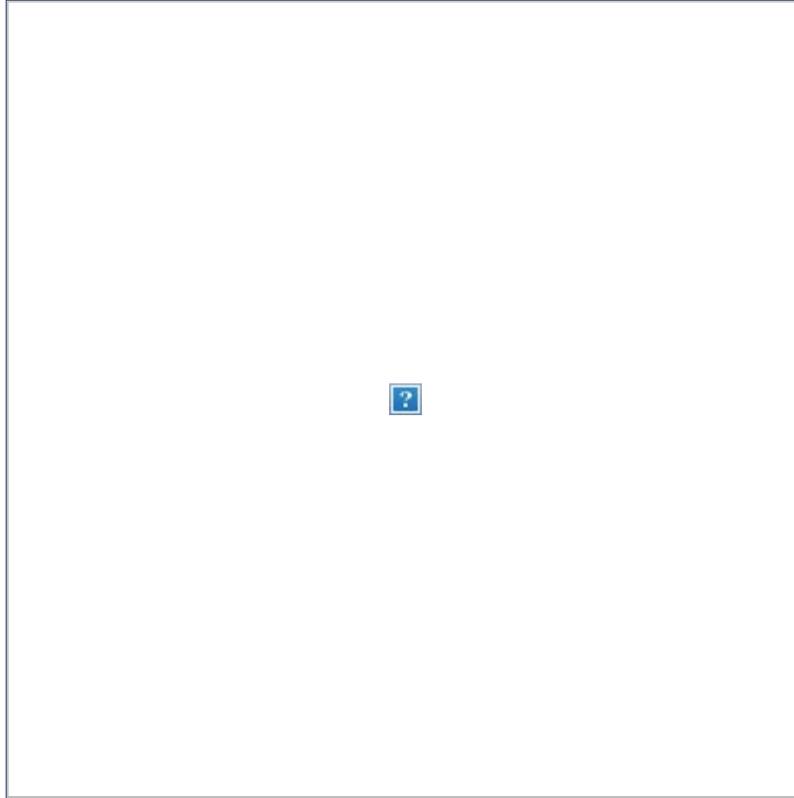
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Mayor Honors Heroic RPD Officer

09/16/08 54 W, 1 I - + 14 - 8

Mayor Charles Meeker presented a commendation to Raleigh Police Officer K.A. Thompson during today's City Council meeting. Officer Thompson was honored for his recent life-saving actions when he pulled a driver from a vehicle that had overturned into water. [Read entire press release.](#)



City of Raleigh photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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New Zebulon Fire Department Patch

09/17/08 13 W, 1 I - + 14 - 7

ZFD has a new patch. Click to enlarge:



WOW, this patch looks just amazing, great design and good quality as well... great work !

Butler Patches

Oswald ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/07/11 - 03:55

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Public Safety Day, Leesville High School, Saturday, September 20

09/17/08 62 W - + 13 - 9

It's that time of year again! One of the season's first Public Safety Days is scheduled on Saturday, September 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Leesville High School, [8409 Leesville Road](#). Planned participants included fire departments from Wake and Durham Counties, EMS providers, RPD, SHP, and the Red Cross. Fun for the whole family!

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Third Annual Tartan Ball, Friday, November 7

09/18/08 110 W - + 12 - 11

The Third Annual Tartan Ball and Bagpipe & Drum Concert is Friday, November 7, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight, at the Downtown Raleigh Sheraton. The sponsors and headliners are the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes & Drum. The guest band is the Chicago Police Emerald Society Pipe Band. There will be dancing, raffles, door prizes, and other fun. Appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased online at www.forourfallen.org, at Tir Na Nog, or from any band member. Highland or business casual attire is requested. [See the band web site](#) for more information.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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This Evening's Major Fire / Tall Pines Court

09/18/08 128 W, 1 I - + 12 - 8

Two alarms at [5063 Tall Pines Court](#). Engine 9 first on scene at a two-story, wood-frame condominium building with 1,546 square-feet (in one unit). Working fire with interior attack. Second alarm requested by Battalion 4, approximately 10 minutes into incident. Kitchen fire that extended into attic and through the roof. Ladder 16 set up, and utilized for roof access. Alarm time 6:12 p.m. Fire under controlled at 7:17 p.m. Three units damaged. No injuries. Cause determined as unattended cooking. Red Cross assisted several displaced residents. First alarm units: E9, E15, E16, L16, R9, B4, C5, C20, A8. Second alarm units: E19, E11, E17, L11, R7, B1. Also EMS 3, EMS 5, EMS 15, EMS 33, EMS D3, EMS D1, EMS T1. [See photos by Lee Wilson](#).



Lee Wilson Photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Nash County Disaster Drill Photos

09/18/08 112 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

[FireNews has posted photos](#) of a Nash County Emergency Services disaster drill at Rocky Mount-Wilson Airport on September 11. The scenario simulated a midair collision of two planes and approximately 45 souls, with crash sites some 300 yards apart on the airport property. Participating agencies in the evening included the airport fire department, West Mount Fire Department, Coopers Fire Rescue, Sharpsburg Fire Department, Nash County EMS, Nash Health Care, Nash County Fire Marshal's Office, Nash County, Emergency Management, Nash County Health Department, Wilson Memorial Hospital, and the SBI bomb squad. [Read the FireNews article](#), or view slideshows from [Jay Gardner](#) and [Jeff Harkey](#).



Jeff Harkey photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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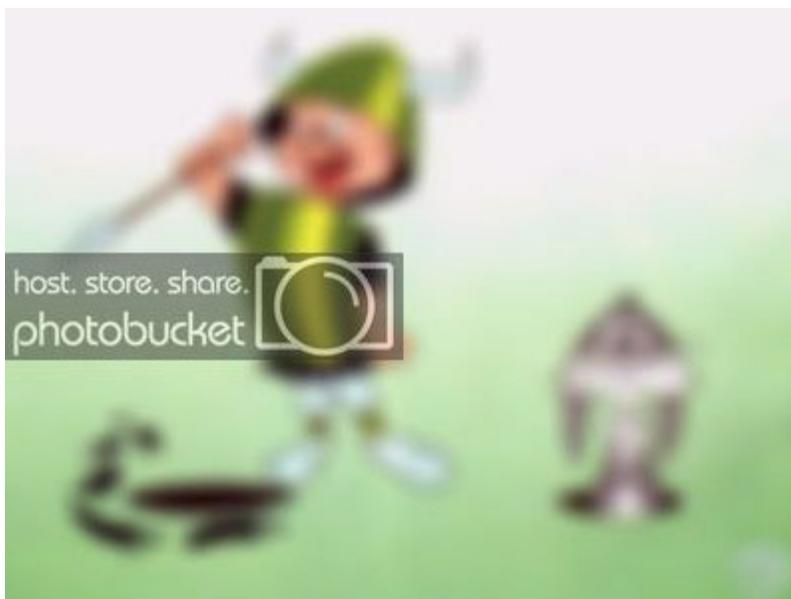
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

It Ain't Over...

09/18/08 127 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

...till the fat lady sings. Common expression, meaning something ain't over until it's over. [Wikipedia cites the origin](#) as "the impression by many of Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (aka the Ring cycle) as a lengthy opera finally concluding in an aria sung by a heavy-set woman dressed like a valkyrie." (Said cycle is a quartet of operas lasting about 15 hours!) Why are opera singers fat, you ask? [This online article](#) offers a couple theories, (a.) that a large amount of fatty tissue surrounding the voice box makes a better voice, (b.) that singers need a bigger, badder diaphragm to project their voices in grand opera halls, and (c.) that opera singing induces appetite and metabolic changes. Fascinating. Happy Friday.



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

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 No

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Fire Commission Meeting Highlights

09/20/08 703 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Here is some of what happened at Thursday's Fire Commission meeting. Here is a [PDF scan of the agenda](#) . First, some disclaimers. Yours Truly departed before the end of the meeting. The below summary is very brief and probably biased. Comments, corrections, and clarifications are welcome. The audio recording is available as always from the Fire Marshal's office. There were also a host of paper handouts. I'll look into getting these posted somehow.

An ad hoc committee presented recommendations to the current rules of procedure for Fire Commission standing committees. The changes seek to ensure fair representation in the membership of standing committees. A couple points were discussed at length, including the recommendation that Fire Commission members are not Standing Committee members and that Citizens are not representatives on established Standing Committees. It was noted that these recommendations apply to membership, NOT attendance at these meetings, which are open to everyone, citizen and FC member.

The Apparatus Committee provided updates on a Western Wake small vehicle issue (resolved, no longer an issue), apparatus replacements through 2015, and fuel consumption measures. They presented a recommendation for a replacement plan for apparatus and small vehicles. They also attached a revised replacement schedule. The committee also presented an estimated cost of the 2009 NFPA 1901 changes, which they estimate as \$8,075 per apparatus. This excludes cost of installation, I believe.

Coming replacements included engines in 2009 for a Bay Leaf, Falls, Fuquay, New Hope; engines in 2010 for Fuquay, Wake Forest; tankers in 2009 for Fairview, Garner, Morrisville, Rolesville; tankers in 2010 for Fuquay; Service trucks in 2009 for Garner, Holly Springs, and Zebulon; no aerials or brush trucks in 2009 or 2010; small vehicles in 2009 and 2010 for Eastern Wake, Fuquay, Garner, Morrisville, Rolesville, Wake Forest, New Hope, and Wendell. The schedule also notes revenue from apparatus and vehicle sales: \$25,968 in 2009 and \$45,500 in 2010.

For fuel consumption, they presented recommendations that they seek to send to all fire chiefs. These would be recommended actions, but not required. They include (a.) starting talks with Raleigh, Cary, and Durham County, to try to stop sending multiple units on first responder calls, (b.) that the FC adopt and enforce a policy that no department adds themselves to another dispatched department's call unless requested by the initial unit, or unless a chief officer requests same, (c.) review an attached document showing call types and number of units sent. In particular, in regard to fire alarms, they recommend each department adopt ISO standard for fire alarm response (two units, correct?), (d.) utilize brush units or admin. Vehicles for first responder calls, in lieu of larger apparatus if possible.

The Budget and Management Services requested authorization to perform Fire Tax District Capital Fund clean-up, which involves (a.) removing excess budget appropriation from completed capital projects with a funding source of "debt to authorized" and (b.) transfer excess budget appropriations (cash) from completed or delayed capital projects to contingencies/grant matches and uncommitted funds.

The Facilities Committee provided updates on the fire station dormitory renovation project (continuing to move forward), the status of land purchase for Garner Station 4 (see below), the Wendell Falls fire station project (no action since last FC meeting), Fuquay-Varina Station 1 renovation project (no status change, CIP project docs still pending), Hopkins FD renovation (new CIP request regarding maintenance and repairs).

Regarding Garner Station 4, there was a very long discussion-- perhaps 45 minutes-- on an Interlocal Government Agreement (ILA) that has been developed with the town of Garner. Items in the ILA include that the land will be owned by Wake County, the town will cost share the land purchase, and cost share payment terms. The discussion revolved around the percentage of cost share to the town, which is 15%. Some FC members felt that the town should pay more, as the station will certainly benefit the town. But it was noted that the county is driving this station, not the town. The county is correcting the problem of rural residents who are paying the fire tax, not receiving the reducing insurance rates that everyone else in the area (entire county?) receives by paying the fire tax. Facts, figures, maps, and opinions were offered. The ILA was ultimately approved.

Under fuel consumption, it was asked why both a city and a county unit are sent on some first responder calls. The Fire Marshal's office

provided the answer. I paraphrase. In the old days, before closest unit, a call in the county but across the street from a city fire station would not be dispatched as a city call. Or vice versa, a call in the city but just down the road from a county fire station. When closest unit was implemented, BOTH a city and a county unit were dispatched. That way, the arriving city unit could render help immediately. Upon arrival of the second unit, the county unit could take over for the city unit, and the city unit could go back into service.

Legeros - 09/20/08 - 08:55

Regarding your fuel consumption paraphrase, does that mean the county unit should immediately get back in service when it is dispatched with a city unit and the city unit "beats" them in?

RescueRanger - 09/20/08 - 19:05

I understand the need for fuel consumption, but it is BS sending 2 people on a first responder call and leaving the third person of the crew at the station to bring the eng if they get another call. For one you often need that 3rd person on ems calls, some of us run many back to back calls where we leave one call to go to another. So if you need that eng now you are putting 2 vehicles on the road instead of 1. Besides it really isn't safe for 1 person to be driving an eng by themselves without the extra set of eyes. I don't want to hear the argument that volleys can come cover the station and make up for the manning, because that just doesn't happen. You know what fuel consumption is called the price of doing business just like vehicle replacement and turnout gear replacement. You don't hear about the City of Raleigh, or any other major city dropping their manning from a 3 man eng company to 1 so that they can send 2 people on an first responder call.

The county should be pushing for more important things, like that standardized responses, and more staffing. You want fuel consumption, don't send 4 vehicles to a mulch fire in a median or 2 vehicles on a 1st responder call, or 4 vehicles to a vehicle fire.

Tired - 09/20/08 - 19:07

Regarding my fuel consumption paraphrase, no, the county unit is envisioned proceeding to the scene, taking over patient care, and thus freeing the city unit to return to service, and go back into the city.

Legeros - 09/20/08 - 21:08

Uuuuuggggghhh!!! What is it with departments in this area that love to break up a 3 or 4 man company, sending two people on a medical? Will we ever see the need to leave a company intact? Before all else, we were FIRE DEPARTMENT's FIRST. Improper staffing levels have been cited as contributing factors in firefighter LODD's, the commission needs to realize this. I guess fuel is more important....well put "Tired".

Silver ([Email](#)) - 09/20/08 - 21:38

Legeros, my question was regarding the county unit coming into the city. A lot of times a county unit still has a contracted area of the city. The city and county unit will be dispatched to the same call within the city limits and the Raleigh unit will beat the county unit in. Shouldn't the county unit return to service?

And I do agree with Tired and Silver. A fire engine was designed to run calls. First, staff the damn thing and when the buzzer hits roll it staffed. Breaking up the crew is just nonsense just to save a little on fuel.

RescueRanger - 09/21/08 - 11:55

Take a four person company, send to on a medical call, get one volunteer response and now you have a 3 person engine company back at the station.

Consider this - 09/21/08 - 21:15

Ok, I am not sure the Fire Commission always works the best, but that is the system we have in Wake Co, at least for now. I also don't see it changing anytime soon. I have seen a lot of good ideas posted here and a lot of good ideas talked about among firefighters. I also hear a lot of how it should be. Sometimes I agree and sometimes I don't. No big deal.

However, I do have a problem with folks just "stirring the pot" and not actually trying to fix the problem. I believe if you have a cause worth fighting for, start at home. Start with your department, your Chief, somewhat of a grass-roots effort.

Once you have the support back home, take your ideas to mutual aid departments and get them to buy into the plan. Come to a Fire Commission meeting. Get on a Fire Commission sub-committee. Be an active member of the fire service in the county.

There are lots who do. I surely don't know everyone who posts here, but I can say not many of you were at the last several Fire Commission meetings, because there are only a few there whom I don't know. Once you take away all the Chief Officers, and a few other government officials and Mike, there are only a handful of people and I know some of them. I know some of you put your names in the ring to fill the citizen's spot. Good for you.

If you don't like what's happening, come out and let's work to change it. Posting and arguing here can only do so much. Sorry, Mike. This is a great site, and I love the pictures and like the sharing of ideas, but we have proven that just posting here about a subject won't cause any change. Think about all the dead horses we have beaten. We are still talking about some of the very same things we were talking about years ago.

Like I said, the Fire Commission may or may not be the best system, but it is the system we have. If you want to make some changes, come to a Fire Commission meeting and see how the system works, albeit slowly at times. It can be a slow and painful process, but you can have some influence if you are involved. I have seen it first hand.

Griggs - 09/21/08 - 21:56

Griggs for President.

Got my vote - 09/22/08 - 07:20

Do you have to live in Wake County to be on the Fire Commission or on a sub committee?

Mike - 09/22/08 - 09:39

I am not 100% sure, but I would guess you have to live in the county to be a citizen rep, but as long as you have a fire department affiliation you could serve. For example, if you are a Captain for a department, but live in Johnston Co, I would think you could be on a committee.

As Mike noted in his summary, there is in the works some changes to the standing committee structure. The current proposal for the standing committees would be a five member voting committee, one member from each region plus the chair. Each region would have an alternate also. The Chair of the committee would only vote in the case of a tie. These 5 members are the only voting members, but the meetings are open to fire service members as well as citizens. There were some other recommendations for standing committees, but I do not recall the details. At this point, these are only recommendations and there was discussion about them. I am guessing the ad hoc committee will rework the proposal based on the feedback and then make another presentation.

Griggs - 09/22/08 - 12:28

Hey Sam and Mike – You do not have to live in Wake Co. to be a member. I live in Granville Co. (by about 100yds) and served on the original Fire Commission as the N. Region alternate and later as the N. Region primary representative.

A.Rich - 09/23/08 - 13:15

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E-mail: (optional)
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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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Open Houses / Public Safety Days / Fire Prevention Week

09/20/08 228 W, 2 I - + 10 - 12

What's happening where? Here's the latest list, updated 10/02:

Sunday, September 28

- Stony Hill Fire Department open house, SHFD Station 1 ([see map](#)), 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday, October 3

- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.

Saturday, October 4

- [Cary Fire Department Fire Prevention Day](#) - Fred G. Bond Park, 801 High House Rd. ([see map](#)) - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Garner Fireman's Day](#) - GFD Station 1, 503 W. Main St. ([see map](#)) - All day, starts 11:00 a.m.
- [Morrisville Fire Department Fire Safety Day](#)  - Park Place Shopping Center, 9500 Chapel Hill Rd. ([see map](#)), 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.
- Zebulon Fire Department Fire Safety Day - Zebulon Crossing Shopping Center, 841 E. Gannon Ave. ([see map](#)), 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 5

- [Bay Leaf Open House](#), BLFD Station 1, 11713 Six Forks Rd. ([see map](#)), 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.
- Raleigh Fire Department open house, at all fire stations.

Monday, October 6

- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.

Tuesday, October 7

- Raleigh Fire Department history presentation, Cameron Village Public Library, 1930 Clark Ave. ([see map](#)), 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 12

- Fairview Fire Department Open House - FFD Station 1, 4501 Ten Ten Rd. ([see map](#))
- [Morrisville Fire Department Open House](#)  - MFD Station 1, 200 Oak St. ([see map](#)), 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Garner Fireman's Day Sat. Oct 4th 2008. BBQ all day, live burn demo, extrication demo, drug dog demo, parade, live music, drawing for truck. Garner Station One 503 W. Main St. See <http://www.garnerfire.com> for schedule.

Johnson ([Email](#)) - 09/20/08 - 16:05

One correction to above – Zebulon's is at Zebulon Crossing (aka Wal-Mart Shopping Center) located on E. Gannon Avenue and US 264.

Chris - 09/20/08 - 19:06

What about Fairview and Knightdale's day? anyone anyone

lee - 09/21/08 - 11:52

Fairview's is On October 12th at Fairview Station one;4501 Ten-Ten Rd. Don't know about times.

4447 - 09/23/08 - 17:22

Stony Hill's event this Sunday is at Station 1, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Legeros - 09/25/08 - 18:45

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preferred)

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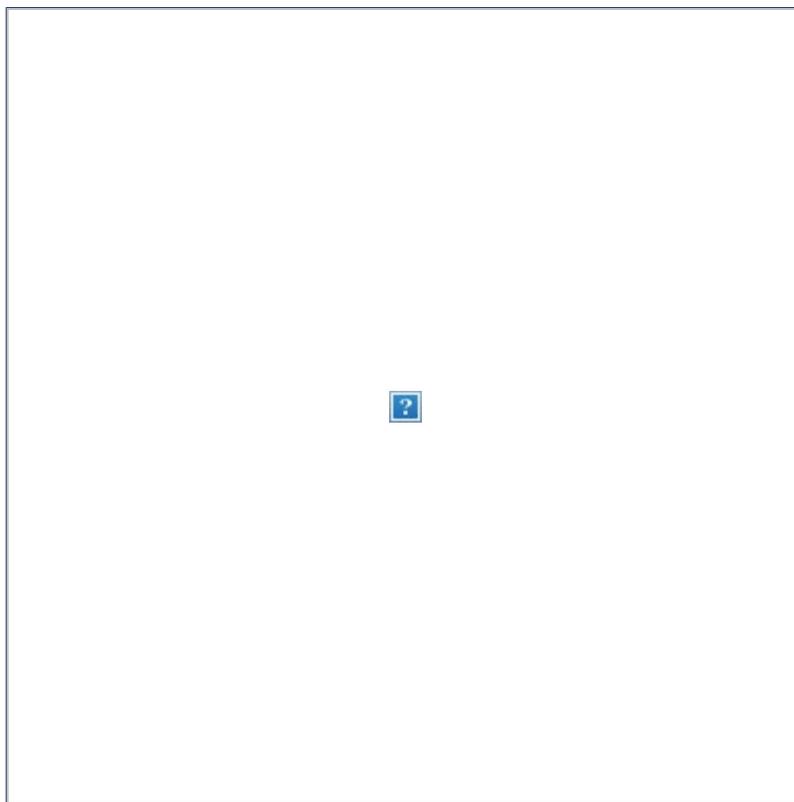
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Legeros Photo Wins IAFF Media Award

09/20/08 93 W, 1 I - + 17 - 9

The below photo by Mike Legeros has won honorable mention in the [2008 IAFF Media Awards](#), in the category Fire Service Photo Published on a Web Site. [See all the winners](#). The panoramic image of an airport mass-casualty drill in March 2007, appeared on FireNews.net. It was submitted by Raleigh, NC Local 548. This is the second IAFF media award for Legeros, who won Honorable Mention last year in [Best Story on Web-Based News Site](#). Here's the honorably mentioned photo, click to enlarge:



FireNews / Mike Legeros photo

I am glad to see you get the recognition for the super job you do with the fire pics and your many web pages all year long!!! I am sure this will be the first of many national recognitions for you.

stretch - 09/20/08 - 17:37

Congrats Mike!

Griggs - 09/20/08 - 19:57

Posting updated. Also, there were other winners in the Carolinas, including one in Chapel Hill. The full list of NC and SC winners:

NEWS STORY (Circulation Under 100,000)

FIRST PLACE: "Trapped: The Story of Nine Charleston Firefighters' Deaths"

This narrative two-page story examines the crucial first hour of the June 18 Sofa Super Store fire that claimed the lives of nine fire fighters. The building had no sprinklers. The fire started at 7:00 p.m. By midnight, all nine fatalities were known.

The Charleston Post & Courier, Written by: Glenn Smith and Ron Menchaca, Submitted by: Charleston, SC Local 61

NEWS STORY ON A WEB SITE

SECOND PLACE: "The Charleston Fire Department"

Would a fatality have been averted if the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department had been at full strength? This article probes the alternatives for getting to a realistic minimum staffing level.

Firefighterhourly.com, Reported by: Jay Lowry, Submitted by: Charleston, SC Local 61

BREAKING TELEVISION NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: "The Charleston Fire"

Nine fire fighters lost their lives in the Charleston, South Carolina, furniture store fire in June 2007. Correspondent Osunsami and producer Goldberg developed this coverage in the aftermath.

ABC World News, Reported by: Steve Osunsami and Harvey Goldberg, Submitted by: Charleston, SC Local 61

AFFILIATE SPECIAL/ONE-TIME PROJECT

"Heroes of Today, Heroes of Yesterday"

The 111-year history of the Chapel Hill Fire Department comes to life in this multimedia museum exhibit, which opened August 23, 2007, at the Chapel Hill Museum and remains as a permanent exhibit. Local 2580 supported the exhibit and film, which benefited largely from the collecting and archiving efforts of member Christopher Bradley.

Produced by: Chris Bradley and Traci Davenport, Submitted by: Chapel Hill, NC Local 2580

FIRE SERVICE PHOTO PUBLISHED ON A WEB SITE

"Airport Drill"

More than 25 agencies participated in a disaster drill on a closed runway at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Arriving units found dozens of "victims," many of them portrayed as seriously hurt, in and around a commercial jet.

FireNews.net – Photo by: Michael J. Legeros – Submitted by: Raleigh, NC Local 548

Legeros - 09/20/08 - 21:17

I second the CONGRATS! The panoramas are just great!

cornerhydrant - 09/21/08 - 06:03

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This Evening's Major Fire / Hammell Drive

09/21/08 279 W, 2 I - + 15 - 7

Updated 9/23. Three alarms at [1022 Hammell Drive](#). Engine 1 first on scene with heavy smoke from two-story, block/metal warehouse building with 31,634 square-feet. Major working fire declared by Engine 1 on arrival. Heavy fire conditions encountered inside. Defensive attack initiated within minutes. Engine 1 and Ladder 1 flowing deluge as fire started vented through roof. Ladder 20 positioned behind building, also flowing. Fire spread to rear of building. Ladder 11 later set up and flowing. Ground deluge guns and two-inch hand lines also utilized. Four+ hydrants supplying water. Long lays required, due to distance from hydrants. One supply laid through two residential yards, over a fence, and down an embankment. Water plant also boosted pressure. Car 2 in command, assisted by Bat 3, Bat 2, Car 5, and Car 1. Alarm time 5:34 p.m., arrival at 5:39 p.m., third alarm at 6:26 p.m., and under control at 9:35 p.m. No injuries reported.



Lee Wilson photo

Building built in 1950 and housed several businesses and at least one residence. No alarm system or sprinklers. Cause under investigation. First alarm: E1, E13, E2, E10, L1, R7, B3, C5, C20, A8. Second alarm: E8, E5, E6, E20, L20, R14, B2, C2, C1. Additional ladder (L11) special called. Additional rescue (R19) dispatched, due to possibility of two subjects inside structure. Third alarm: E22, E4, L16, B4. Plus EMS 1, EMS 11, EMS 13, EMS 20, EMS 31, EMS D1, EMS D2, EMS T1. Numerous move-ups as well as county coverage at city stations during first hours of incident. Crews remained on scene through the night. "B" shift working, with "A" shift companies on scene on Monday. Incident details from Legeros, Wilson, [FireNews](#), and media reports.



Mike Legeros photo

This fire was particularly interesting from our perspective in the dungeon. We had the cameras on top of the Wachovia building zoomed in on the fire. We rarely get to see RFD live in action. While it could only zoom in but so far, seeing several ladder companies flow that many steams on the fire as it kept venting the roof was a pretty cool sight. Having a live shot gave us a better understanding of what truly was going on at the fire scene and let us know that it was going to be an extended operation and to relocate apparatus accordingly.

dispatch - 09/22/08 - 02:51

Any county units utilized for coverage or move ups?

wcff - 09/22/08 - 07:20

Dispatch:

When the new PSC is built, you'll be located on upper floors, correct? And with windows?

harkey ([Email](#)) - 09/22/08 - 08:26

Western Wake at RFD 5

Fill-in, move-up - 09/22/08 - 13:16

Garner Engine 3 at RFD 2

4447 - 09/22/08 - 15:39

Day after coverage, <http://www.newsobserver.com/print/tuesda..>

Also, photos now posted by both Lee and Mike. How many did they take? Mr. Wilson shot 578, and posted 243. Mr. Legeros shot 800+, and posted 199.

Legeros - 09/23/08 - 05:24

Yes...about the 15th floor or so. Building is still in the design stages so that could change. I dont know if we will have windows directly in front of us to look out from where we are sitting but at least we will have natural light from high set windows and access to a window view just a few steps away. It cant come too soon for me!

dispatch - 09/23/08 - 12:41

The guys on B-Shift did a good job in the face of a tremendous water supply deficit and a well advanced fire. As I understand, the structure was heavy timber, 2 story, very cut-up and segmented, with multiple types of fire load (and just general junk). A potential death trap for interior work. An early call to go defensive was made. No one was injured and everyone went home !!!

For our brothers and sisters at ECC – That’s an interesting perspective using the cameras. Thanks for all that you do and it is always comforting to know that although you are a distance away and a voice on the radio, you are constantly contributing to our safety. I am glad the technology has advanced to allow you to better assist us in the field more than ever before. I personally appreciate all that you do for all responders in Raleigh and Wake County !!

A.Rich - 09/23/08 - 12:51

“Rich Tha Man” said it well. Dispatch does not get enough credit...ever. Thank you guys and gals at Central, (or rescom), We owe alot to you. Thanks for what you do. You do a great job!!!

Agree - 09/23/08 - 16:51

As reported today, cause determined as undetermined. <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/story/1..>

Legeros - 10/09/08 - 21:22

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preferred)

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Strange Bedfellows

09/22/08 58 W, 1 I - + 13 - 14

From the [candid camera of Lee Wilson](#) comes this curious sight captured Saturday at Durham Highway's Public Safety Day. That's a Bethesda firefighter on the left, Mr. Wool E. Bull in the center, and some guy on the right disguised in a ball-cap and t-shirt. Keep back indeed.



Lee Wilson photo and possible broken lens

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Web Site: (optional)

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No

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Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Softball Tournament, September 27 - 28

09/22/08 80 W - + 10 - 10

The First Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Softball Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, September 27 and Sunday, September 28 at the [Walnut Creek Softball Complex on Sunnybrook Road](#) in Raleigh. The event is open to fire and police personnel only. There's a three-game guarantee, with prizes for the top four teams. Come one, come all. Swing a bat, and support a great cause. See www.ncusssa.com/firetourn.htm for more information.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

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Charleston Fire Chief Hopefuls

09/23/08 128 W, 7 I - + 17 - 9

The Charleston *Post and Courier* reviews the seven finalists for Fire Chief [in this article today](#). One is a familiar face from Wake County, our former Public Safety Director. The seven spent Monday meeting with city council members, community leaders, and firefighters. The finalists were announced last week, and are being discussed and dissected on [Venting The Roof](#). That's a new web site covering the Carolinas, and from the Firefighter Hourly guy. No punches are being pulled on VTR. And that's not a surprise, given the passions and interest surrounding the Charleston Fire Department. Welcome to the Web 2.0 age, where every Internet reader can add their two cents and then some.



Post & Courier / Brad Nettle Photos

Some of those same people are being discussed on TWD by people from their former/current departments. Just like about anything else on TWD, anything goes... in terms of punches being thrown. One of those (former) Chiefs has been the target of many disgruntled posters. I wish Charleston the best of luck in their search!

Luke - 09/23/08 - 12:33

BREAKING NEWS The new Chief of Charleston has been named....the guy from Montgomery County, MD got the job. Good luck guys, hope all goes well. Glad to see you got him over a few of the others....

Silver - 09/29/08 - 12:27

Tom Carr got hired? WOW. I can't believe he is leaving Monky Co for a much much smaller Charleston FD. Well then again he only has a few years till retirement and his parents live in Charleston. Good luck to him. I know that he has made some good changes in Monkey Co.

Mike - 09/30/08 - 11:24

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 No

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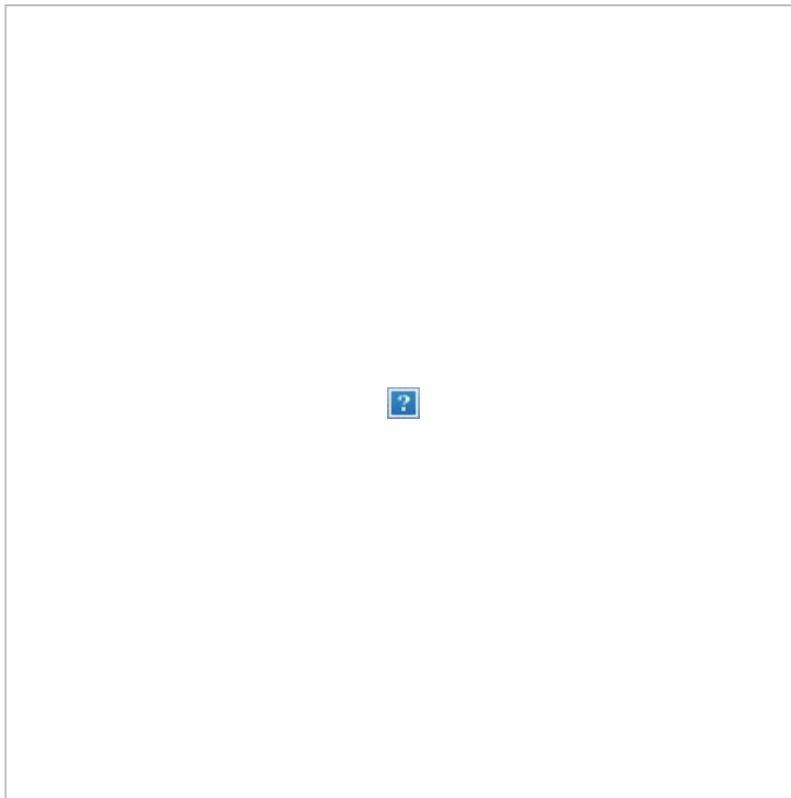
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Police Camera Captures Plane Crash

09/23/08 105 W, 1 I - + 8 - 11

From the Carolinas Fire Page mailing list, [here's dashboard camera footage](#) from the September 19 plane crash in West Columbia, S.C. Okay resolution, but good sound. Listen to the roar of that arriving crash truck. The footage is hosted by *The State*. [Here's the related article](#). Four people were killed and two were injured when the Learjet crashed about quarter-mile from Columbia Metropolitan Airport. [Here's that story](#). From a quick search of the web, it looks the nearest fire departments to the crash site were South Congaree FD and the airport fire station.



The State / Tracy Glantz Photo

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North Carolina Paramedics Have Trouble Finding Gas

09/25/08 32 W - + 14 - 7

From WSOC-TV by way of Firehouse.com, here's a Gaston County perspective on the fuel shortages that are happening around the state. [Read the article.](#)

It is crazy how people are acting when it comes to fuel in this area. Trucks are coming in from TN and SC to supply stations in the Charlotte area because when they get fuel at 5am, it is gone by (no later than 10am)!! I got back into town today and passed 4 gas stations all with at least 75 cars backed up into the road with only a few pumps operating. All of this for, well... no one really knows. Some blame the media for hyping the situation up, some blame other drivers for going "crazy" and filling up when they don't need to, and some blame the gas stations. People getting into fights in line, gas stations refusing to open to avoid the problems, everyone else having to deal with the traffic problems, and police getting tied up directing traffic at these gas stations. Police are having to fill up at city Fire Stations during shift change, MEDIC has their own pumps, and I'm not really sure why Gaston EMS doesn't have their own pumps.

When Hurricane Ike actually hit TX CMPD was still able to find gas stations that would, A. have fuel and B. take fuelman/fuelman system was up and operating. There were actually some gas stations saving fuel for "Public Safety" personnel only during that time. Not sure what happened this time, I don't think anyone knows! I'm sure this initial story didn't help, "Drivers around Charlotte lined up at gas pumps Tuesday night, but no drivers could explain why to Eyewitness News.."

No problems with gas while I was in the Thomasville/High Point area this week.

Luke - 09/26/08 - 01:03

Today's N&O offers a perspective, <http://www.newsobserver.com/662/story/12..>

Legeros - 09/26/08 - 06:40

A lot of agencies (government-based and others) do not maintain their own pumps anymore. Part of it had to do with liability issues related to tanks leaking. Part of it had to do with 'new management philosophy' that sought to discard 'expensive' infrastructure (It was deemed too expensive to maintain the pumps, tanks, etc., or being able to embrace technology (for record keeping purposes) without the investment. At any rate, many agencies (EMS, FD, and LE) do not have their own pumps.

And it doesn't matter where your politics and/or social beliefs stand; I think this may be a sign of things to come. I can see the day in the not too distant future that the way we do business, whether it is EMS, FD, and LE, is seriously changed in the name of fuel economy.

DJ (Email) - 09/26/08 - 08:12

...a good thought exercise. Imagine your fire, police, or EMS agency can respond only 75% or 50% of the time. Now, which calls do you answer?

It makes - 09/26/08 - 08:34

I don't think it will go that far, but I do see that non-response activities will be curtailed. And I can see 'non-essential' travel being cut back, as well. Think about it- most emergency vehicles do not get good gas mileage. Fire trucks get what, gas 'yardage'? Ambulances are in the 6-15 mpg range (and the idling for the radios, computers, and climate control for the drugs pulls that down further). And what about the Crown Vics, Chargers, and SUVs that a lot of LE agencies use?

It could be that smaller, more efficient emergency vehicles are in our future. Maybe European designs that seem to be more efficient. I don't think you see many 1,500 – 2,000 GPM engines/pumpers over there, nor do you see huge 'quints'. But then they don't seem to have the staffing issues- I see pictures with four and five member pumper crews.

Maybe the days of the 'big American' ambulances are coming to an end. That will require a rethinking of what we carry and how we operate. Check out Flickr and search for ambulances. The European units are easy to spot (literally) with their safety oriented paint schemes. If you look

you see smaller chassis ambulances, even some on Mercedes and Volvo CAR chassis. That's our future, folks.

And the LE cars all look to be 4-cylinder, maybe 6. And a lot more motorcycles, too.

Think about this as the way of the future- fire trucks stay in the station except for calls (this will change the way FDs train, eat, and interact with the community), LEOs assigned to more stationary duties or much smaller cars (Dodge Avengers, Chevy Malibus, and Honda Elements) and more motorcycles (with prisoner transport in specially assigned Sprinter vans, not the patrol cars), ambulances with a mandate to not bypass the closest appropriate hospital or to transport to the nearest appropriate hospital always.

The times are changing and the writing is on the proverbial wall. We have to meet these changes and that will mean getting away from our comfort zones (big fire trucks, big ambulances, big police cars). We have to be viewed as proactive. If we don't meet the changes, then we will become irrelevant and someone else will replace us.

And if you want to see a good example of irrelevancy, check out the admirals in charge of the battleships on the afternoon of 12/07/1941. The world changed before that day, they just were not paying attention.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/26/08 - 10:16

Here's a sci-fi scenario for you. Imagine drastically reduced resources for firefighting. Say, nearly no fuel. Or super-inflated operational costs. How would a community then protect itself against fire? First, I guess, you would compel citizens to minimize fire risk. First perhaps charging fines for all fire responses. Then, perhaps fining for any uncontrolled fire on private property. Make the fine large enough and people would start thinking about those candles, that unattended cooking, and so forth. On the operational front, with working fires, I guess departments would pump less. Once search and rescue was done, switch to defensive mode and let it burn, with only exposures addressed? And no idling apparatus between pumping? Perhaps demolition would return as a solution, with a burning structure imploded to prevent its spreading. Heck, take a cue from wildfire control and physical exposure control could become the new norm. Revised construction codes no longer permitting structures so close, for starters. Wider streets in new communities. Large brick fire walls erected on property lines, perhaps. And you can go on, imagination running wild. Cast Mel Gibson in the movie version.

Legeros - 09/26/08 - 19:19

Well...on the positive side, that could solve the parking problems in Raleigh (and Apex).

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/26/08 - 21:14

Hey DJ. Your ideas are very good. For me, who's living on the other side of the atlantic ocean - Germany - these discussions are always very interesting.

The gas price here is higher than yours. Ok, we have liter, you have gallons. But when I'm right in maths, our actual gas price is 8,27 \$ a gallon! And yes, we have more efficient ambulances and fire trucks. But we don't carry less things with us. I could see when I visited Wake EMS.

When my wife's relatives were here in Germany last June we found out that a Yukon XL needs as much gas as a bus of the city here. Our ambulances need around 3,5 gallons for 63 miles.

If you're interested in more details or pictures of cars and equipment, post it here.

Dennis ([Email](#)) - 09/27/08 - 11:35

Thanks, Dennis. I was over on your side of the pond many years ago, and I was amazed at the differences. Of all the fire apparatus, ambulances, and police vehicles, there was not a V8 amongst them.

You mention what is carried about the same complement of gear on your ambulances. Does that include protective clothing (similar to firefighter turnouts) and other PPE (chemical suits, boots, gloves, etc.)? I have noticed that our ambulances tend to have more external storage space.

And what is the average pump size for pumpers 'over there'?

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 09/27/08 - 12:14

Yes, we also have protective clothing. We have to wear the "heavy" boots the whole day. The pants are like your regular pants. Jackets and helmets are stored in the ambulance. We don't have chemical suits, that's part of the fire dept. But of course we have special suits for infectious transports like meningitis, tuberculosis, etc.

Some of the ambulances in Germany have the same storage space like yours. That's different from manufacturer to manufacturer.

The average pump size is 423 gpm, with the possibility to work with a very high pressure (80 bars in Germany, but I don't know what it is in psi). The "heavy" pumpers have a 634 gpm pump. And that's enough.

The average pumper has a cabin with 6 seats, the engines have 9 seats. But most time the crew has 6 members, also the engine crew.

Dennis ([Email](#)) - 09/28/08 - 05:51

Google yields a great article from Fire Engineering on US versus Euro fire apparatus: http://www.fireengineering.com/display_a..

Legeros - 09/28/08 - 06:32

This is really a great article

Dennis ([Email](#)) - 09/28/08 - 11:09

There is a really good metric calculator at <http://www.worldwidemetric.com/metcal.ht...> 80 bars is over 1,100 psi (reminds me of the old John Bean high pressure units). Me personally, for years, I have thought that we were buying more pump than we needed, and that anything over 1,000 gpm (3,800 lpm) was sort of a waste of expense, but that's just me.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 09/28/08 - 15:50

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

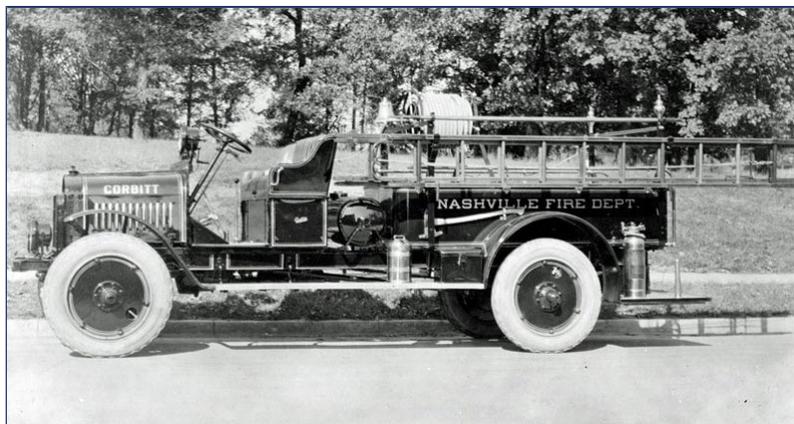
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Nashville's First Fire Engine

09/26/08 138 W, 1 I - + 12 - 10

For your Friday enjoyment, here's a photo courtesy of the North Carolina State Archives (N.80.3.61) showing the first fire engine in Nashville, N.C. It's a combination hose and chemical car built on a Corbitt chassis. [Read more about Corbitt.](#) The Nashville Fire Department was formed in 1787 (!) [says their web site.](#) In 1917 the town had two hose reels. In 1923, they had the above truck which was equipped with a 35 gallon chemical tank and equipped with 700 feet of cotton, rubber-lined hose. The volunteer fire department had 22 men, alerted by an air whistle at the Court House, a steam whistle at the power plant, and a bell at the fire staton. That information is from Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. The town had a population of 1,200 that year. Click to enlarge:



North Carolina State Archives photo

Corbitt trucks were made in Henderson

rln ([Email](#)) - 09/26/08 - 21:27

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

National Restaurant Association Recognizes Barry's Café with Award

09/27/08 121 W - + 15 - 9

[Barry's Café](#) in Raleigh, N.C. has been named this year's Restaurant Neighbor Award winner in the small business category, the National Restaurant Association announced this week. Owner Barry Doyle was presented the award and a \$5,000 donation to the restaurant's cause during the Association's annual Public Affairs Conference in Washington, D.C. on September 23. Now in its 10th year, the award celebrates the philanthropic spirit of the restaurant industry and serves to inspire others to actively get involved in their communities. [Read entire press release](#). Congrats to Barry! There's also a nice video about Barry and his efforts [on this page](#), or viewed below:

Thanks Barry and family for all ya'll do for the emergency services departments around here. Everyone needs to go eat at Barry's and support the restaurant.

Nice video. Some good pic's in there.

lee - 09/27/08 - 22:10

WRAL story on same, <http://www.wral.com/news/local/noteworth..>

Legeros - 10/05/08 - 10:34

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

RFD & RPD Apparatus Bids

09/27/08 114 W, 2 I - + 13 - 9

The city of Raleigh recently awarded fire apparatus bids to Triad Fire, a Pierce dealer. The bids were for two engines, and two 100-foot platforms. The latter ladders are rear-mounts. Timeframe for delivery is probably 12 months. The Raleigh Fire Department presently has three platforms on the roster, a 1999 American LaFrance (L20), a 1995 Simon-Duplex (reserve), and a 1988 Pierce (reserve). Also awarded earlier this summer to C. W. Williams was the bid for a police special operations support vehicle. Something similiar to EMS Truck 1, perhaps? For many years, RPD has utilized retired RFD rescue units for special ops support, as shown below. [Read all about recent apparatus and equipment bids.](#)



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

RFD & RPD Job Applicants, 1944

09/27/08 93 W, 1 I - + 13 - 7

Random history bit. On January 29, 1944, written civil service examinations were given at Memorial Auditorium for jobs in the Raleigh fire department and police departments. Two positions were open in each department. The applicants totalled 62. By way of contrast, 24 positions were open in the fire department last year and the number of test-takers totalled about 380. With some simple math, that's 31 per position then and 16 per position now. Though not quite apples to apples. Annual starting salaries for firefighters were \$1,500 (or slightly higher) then and \$31,117 now.



News & Observer photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Recruit Academy Starts Monday

09/27/08 90 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy #35 starts on Monday with 29 future firefighters. Twenty-nine on the twenty-ninth! They firefighter recruits will fill both retired positions and a new ladder company. They'll graduate with certifications in EMT, Firefighter I and II, and Rescue Technician VMR. Recruits will also receive training on haz-mat operations and awareness, fireground procedures, high-rise operations, rapid intervention teams (RIT), accountability systems, safety companies, engine and ladder company operations, and firefighter safety and survival. Congrats, good luck, Godspeed. See you on the drill pad.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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

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

Stony Hill Open House Today

09/28/08 22 W - + 14 - 14

Visit Stony Hill Station 1 ([see map](#)) from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. today for their open house.

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Questions From Visiting Fireman

09/29/08 52 W - + 13 - 16

A firefighter from Cleveland, NY, is visiting this week and would like to be pointed in the direction of any sharp rural fire departments. His interests are rural water supply, tankers, LDH, etc. What are everyone's top picks in Wake, Johnston, Harnett, etc. counties? Thanks for your help.

Send him to Buies Creek in Harnett county, 6am- 6pm weekdays or 7 pm on thursday night

Truckie864 ([Email](#)) - 09/29/08 - 21:14

Be sure to stop somewhere that has the new county spec tankers. They are good water haulers!

Must see - 09/29/08 - 21:43

Stony Hill has always been good at water hauling and rural water supply. I think they might have one of the new tankers.

WCFireman - 09/30/08 - 11:18

The county spec tankers were designed after the New Hope tankers, so look at them too.

wcff - 09/30/08 - 16:59

I'd recommend going by Archer Lodge and Clayton

JBoggs - 10/01/08 - 10:33

Mico was the topic of american heat august rural water supplies video. Micro along with Bethany Selma Nahunta Pine Level and Kenly

wsherrod ([Email](#)) - 10/07/08 - 15:36

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Bahama Fire Truck Overturns Monday Night

09/30/08 81 W, 1 I - + 16 - 10

The *News & Observer* reports that a [Bahama fire truck overturned in Durham last night](#). The rig rolled on a curve at East Club Boulevard and Glenn Road ([see map](#)) just before 10 p.m. Four firefighters were aboard and all were transported for evaluation. The driver suffered broken bones in his hand, the most serious injury. They were each wearing seat belts. [WRAL also covered the story](#), and their photo is below.



WRAL photo

I really hope those guys are ok. I've seen a custom truck flipped on several occasions and it's no fun no matter the circumstances. This just helps me remember that I've got to watch myself because we're no good to anyone if we don't make it to the scene or back home safe. Speedy recovery to those guys!

Squirt - 09/30/08 - 10:03

I don't know what the driver's side looks like, but that cab held up really well. Speedy recovery to the brothers.

Mike - 09/30/08 - 11:20

The driver side was a lot more banged up than the passenger side. When it rolled over it struck a tree on the driver side. The driver of the truck has a broken arm and a broken bone in his hand, he'll be out of work for 6-8 weeks. Get well soon Trey.

Joe - 10/08/08 - 12:40

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Jewelry Store Scatters Gift Boxes Around Raleigh

09/30/08 52 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Okay gang, while you're out and about in the Capital City, watch for wee black-and-white striped boxes with red ribbons. These are freebies from Bailey's Fine Jewelry, as [this News & Observer article reports](#). Find one and give something to Sweetie.



In present age not only gifts have importance but the gift boxes also have their values.

Jewelry ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/14/08 - 09:59

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Room Blazes as Man Calmly Reads in Bed

09/30/08 77 W - + 20 - 8

The March 6, 1940 edition of the *News & Observer* reported on a fire in the room of Phillip Brockwell at 322 S. McDowell Street. Embers from an overheated fireplace started the fire, as Brockwell read in bed. The brother of Sherwood Brockwell, a senior fire engineer for the DOI and Raleigh's first full-time Fire Chief, didn't know the room was ablaze until he "smelled clothes burning." Damage estimated at \$200.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Moving the Mail

09/30/08 32 W, 1 I - + 18 - 10

Here's another newspaper item, also from 1940. This amusing advertisement for Kellogg's All-Bran Cereal appeared in the *News & Observer*. Click to enlarge and remember to eat enough fiber.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Date Night Fund Honors Firefighters

10/02/08 90 W - + 16 - 8

Two Chick-fil-A franchise operators in Raleigh are honoring Raleigh firefighters, reports [this article in today's News & Observer](#). Inspired by the new movie *Fireproof*, they are raising money for Raleigh firefighters to have a night at the movies. [They've started a blog](#) and calling their effort "Fireproof Raleigh." They want to each Raleigh firefighter to have a pair of movie tickets, a free dinner at Chick-fil-A and two free hours of child care. [Read this related N&O article about the film.](#)

Great movie. I actually got free tickets too but would have gladly paid to see it. The first few minutes will about give you a heart attack.

Screech - 10/02/08 - 13:25

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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World Burn Congress Firefighter Cook-Off

10/02/08 74 W, 1 I - + 9 - 13

Expect sweet smells today and tonight in the vicinity of the Raleigh Convention Center. Some dozen-plus North Carolina fire departments will be cooking pig 'n' chicken for the World Burn Congress. The international event opened yesterday. The cooks will be smoking their stuff in a nearby parking deck. The sampling and serving will be held in Ballrooms B and C, from 6 to 10 p.m. [View the entire WBC program](#) .

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Yesterday's Haz-Mat / Globe Road

10/02/08 117 W, 1 I - + 10 - 14

Chemical spill at industrial facility at [10411 Globe Road](#). Cary Engine 1 first on scene¹. Haze reported visible in air and nearby buildings were evacuated. Entry team found 55 gallon drum of muriatic acid with anestimated 30 to 45 gallons spilled. Crews contained spill using lime. Alarm time about 11:10 a.m. Companies started clearing about 3:00 p.m. Units included Cary E1, B2, Raleigh B4, HM8, HM15, HM2, L22, L20, Decon 1, C72, C5, FC1, Cary EMS D5, Six Forks EMS 123, Wake EMS 32, T1. "A" shift working. [See photos by Legeros](#).



¹Address is within Cary municipal limits, but postal address is Morrisville. [Here's a GIS map](#) showing Cary's city limits.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

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Kids to Kick Off Fire Prevention Week at Cary's Bond Park

10/02/08 116 W - + 14 - 14

For the first time, the Town of Cary is hosting Safety Day at Bond Park, [801 High House Road](#), on Saturday, October 4 to help jump start National Fire Prevention Week that runs October 5-11; this year's theme is "It's Fire Prevention Week: Prevent Home Fires!" From 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, Cary Fire and Police, Cary EMS, and Wake Co. Safe Kids Staff will provide games and educational activities in the open field across from the Bond Park Community Center to help educate children and their parents about the dangers of home fires. [Read entire press release.](#)

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Propane Leak, Fire, « Kids to Kick Off Fire... » Fire Prevention Week ... Explosion Video

Propane Leak, Fire, Explosion Video

10/02/08 70 W - + 11 - 13

[Dave Statter surfaces this surveillance video](#) from Laurel County, KY, of a propane leak in the back of a pick-up truck that causes an explosion, fire, and bigger explosion. The final blast, he notes, was felt inside a nearby retail store. That's a 100-pound propane tank leaking, then burning. The driver was treated and released with burns to his arms, hand, and face.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Fire Prevention Week Starts

10/02/08 151 W, 1 I - + 18 - 8

Here are this weekend's events, as reprinted from the [prior posting](#).

Friday, October 3

- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.

Saturday, October 4

- [Cary Fire Department Fire Prevention Day](#) - Fred G. Bond Park, 801 High House Rd. ([see map](#)) - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Garner Fireman's Day](#) - GFD Station 1, 503 W. Main St. ([see map](#)) - All day, starts 11:00 a.m.
- [Morrisville Fire Department Fire Safety Day](#)  - Park Place Shopping Center, 9500 Chapel Hill Rd. ([see map](#)), 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.
- Zebulon Fire Department Fire Safety Day - Zebulon Crossing Shopping Center, 841 E. Gannon Ave. ([see map](#)), 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 5

- [Bay Leaf Open House](#), BLFD Station 1, 11713 Six Forks Rd. ([see map](#)), 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Raleigh Fire Department display, Crabtree Valley Mall.
- Raleigh Fire Department open house, at all fire stations.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Lowering the Flag for Fallen Firefighters

10/04/08 12:1 W, 1 I - + 11 - 15

From a reader, did you know that the law requires the U.S. flag be lowered in observance of the [National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service](#)? On October 16, 2001, President George W. Bush approved legislation (Public Law 107-51) requiring the U.S. flag to be lowered to half-staff on all Federal buildings to memorialize fallen firefighters. Thus, U.S. flags across the country will be lowered on Sunday, October 5, 2008. Remember to lower the U.S. flags at your home, fire department, and business. Lowering your flag on Sunday recognizes the brave men and women who died protecting their communities from natural and man-made emergencies and disasters, as well as those who carry on the proud tradition.



Wake & District PS Pipes & Drums sent 8 members of the band to participate this year in the memorial services. It was truly a great honor and privilege to be able to take part in this special event. I encourage everyone to try and attend the Sunday ceremony at least once in their career. The Sat service is closed to the public as it is just for the families of the FF's that are having their names added to the wall, but Sun is open to all. In fact 2 Raleigh FF's should be having their names added to the 3200 names next year. This was our first time being apart of the services and we will definitely be making this an annual trip again and again as it is in our mission to Honor Our Fallen.

WAND - 10/06/08 - 14:26

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

History Presentation, Tuesday, October 7

10/04/08 72 W - + 11 - 13

Historian Mike Legeros presents a history of the Raleigh Fire Department on Tuesday, October 7, at the Cameron Village Regional Library, [1930 Clark Avenue](#). The 7:00 p.m. event will feature a 45-minute presentation about both the volunteer and fully paid-eras of the fire department. There will also be a discussion of the city's largest fires. Arrive early and watch color film footage from 1950, which will start playing at 6:30 p.m.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Warren County Fireman's Day Parade Photos

10/04/08 61 W, 1 I - + 17 - 13

From photographer John Franks [by way of this FireNews article](#) comes this rare Brockway Seagrave that serves as Norlina Engine 22. It appeared in the Warren County Fireman's Day Parade in Warrenton on Saturday, September 27. See more of John's photos from the Flickr site linked in the article.



John Franks / FireNews photo

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Getting Organized Before the Big One

10/04/08 58 W - + 11 - 12

Speaking of FireNews, Editor Jeff Harkey offers a perspective on pre-arranged alarm assignments in his editor's blog. His map showing domestic flights is a sobering reminder of the potential for "big ones" regardless of community size. [Read the Editor's Blog posting](#). Then join the discussion in the reader's comments section.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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View of Old Station 1

10/05/08 83 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

For a Sunday surprise, here's a newly uncovered photo from the [North Carolina State Archives Flickr site](#). The picture is part of their [Raleigh, NC set](#), and shows the Revene Building at the corner of Morgan and Salibury Streets. To the left is the original Station 1, built 1896. The photo nicely shows the perspective of the station's size. The picture is from Carolina Power and Light (CP&L) Photograph Collection (Ph.C.68), and circa 1930.



North Carolina State Archives photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Henderson Fire Department Anniversary Celebration, Thursday, October 9

10/06/08 222 W - + 7 - 16

The 100-year anniversary of Henderson Fire Station No. 2 and the Henderson-Vance Fire Department Fire Prevention Open House will be observed together on Thursday, October 9. The event takes place at Station 2, [205 Garnett Street](#), from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is "Prevent Home Fires." Participating agencies include:

- All Vance County volunteer fire departments
- Vance County Rescue Squad
- NC Underwater Recover Team
- NC Highway Patrol
- Henderson Police Department
- Vance County Sheriff Department
- NC State Parks
- Vance County 911
- Maria Parham Medical Center
- UNC Critical Care Transport
- Vance County Chapter American Red Cross
- NC Forestry Service
- Henderson-Vance SAFE KIDS Chapter
- Safe Kids Van
- WIZS
- Henderson/Vance Chamber of Commerce
- Royall Harris Character Antics
- Vance County Boys & Girls Club
- Maxim Healthcare
- NC Cooperative Extension 4-H Agent
- Franklin Granville Vance Child Care Resource
- FGV Partnership for Children
- Vance County Girl Scouts
- Five County Mental Health Authority Substance Abuse
- YMCA of Henderson
- Vance County Health Department
- F-V-W-Opportunity Head Start

Activities will include a safety smoke house, a live fire safety demonstration, fire trucks and other vehicles on display, Sparky, McGruff the Crime Dog, Smokey the Bear, a magic show, moon walk and slide provided by Character Antics. Free hot dogs, chips, and snacks will also be provided. [Read more about the Henderson Fire Department.](#)

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Corrections

10/07/08 77 W, 1 I - + 19 - 7

The Edenton Street Methodist Church burned in 1956, not 1958. The correct date is July 28, 1956. The story goes that Cary and Garner firemen also assisted, either at scene or for coverage. The IGA Grocery Store burned on December 20, 1992, and not December 19. Future FireNews Editor-in-Chief Jeff Harkey captured stunning images at the three-alarm fire. Corrections to [history pages](#) forthcoming. These and other fires will be featured in tonight's history presentation at Cameron Village Regional Library.



Jeff Harkey photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Oldest Active Fire Stations?

10/07/08 59 W, 1 I - + 15 - 19

After Henderson Station 2, built 1908, what are the other oldest active fire stations in North Carolina? They include Asheville Station 1 (1924), Charlotte Station 5 (1929), Charlotte Station 6 (1929), Roseboro's station (1930s), Lillington's station (1935), Charlotte Station 7 (1935), Pinehurst's station (1936), Fayetteville Station 2 (1942), Charlotte Station 8 (1948), and Raleigh Station 6 (1949). There are probably others out there. Source: [Former and Historic Fire Station Database](#).



Henderson Station 2

Faison Fire Department in Duplin County, the 2 story EMS section was built as a store originally in 1910 and remodeled to join with the fire departments new station in 1968.

car3550 - 10/07/08 - 09:16

Although not presently operating as a true Fire Station, old Charlotte Fire Department Station 2 which currently houses our Arson Task Force was built in 1948. Also, Old Fire Station 4 (Built in 1925) currently serves as the Fire Museum.

Luke - 10/07/08 - 10:16

City of Durham Fire House #2 1950 currently houses Tower 2, Engine 2, Squad 2, and the Batt chief.

BULL - 10/07/08 - 19:38

Changed the call sign from Ladder 2 to Tower 2?

Silver - 10/07/08 - 23:48

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Cherry Hospital

10/07/08 63 W - + 13 - 10

The mental health facility in Goldsboro had a fire department at one time. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from 1924 indicate an "organized fire department of 9 employees" with "3 hose reels carrying 600 feet of 2 1/2-inch hose and 800 feet of 2-inch hose." The facility at the time was called the State Hospital for the Colored Insane. [Read about its history.](#)

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

The Last Mack... For Sale

10/08/08 77 W, 1 I - + 16 - 12

Last-minute notice. With 18 hours left before the auction ends, here's your chance to acquire the last Mack CF pumper that the city of Raleigh is selling. It's a 1982 model, one of two delivered that year. It's sister is still on the roster as an antique. The truck for sale served as Engine 3, 9, 14, 21, 31, 103, and 123. [Click to view the auction](#). Or read about the [truck's history](#). Good luck and happy bidding!



Govdeals photo

Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

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USFA Lauds Apex Firefighters

10/08/08 74 W, 2 I - + 15 - 8

[Today's News & Observer reports on the technical report](#) from the U.S. Fire Administration on the EQ chemical fire of two years ago. They gave high marks to AFD and officials, who handled the "potentially devastating situation" with "the highest levels of skill and expertise". [Read the USFA press release](#). Or go directly [to the report itself](#) .



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

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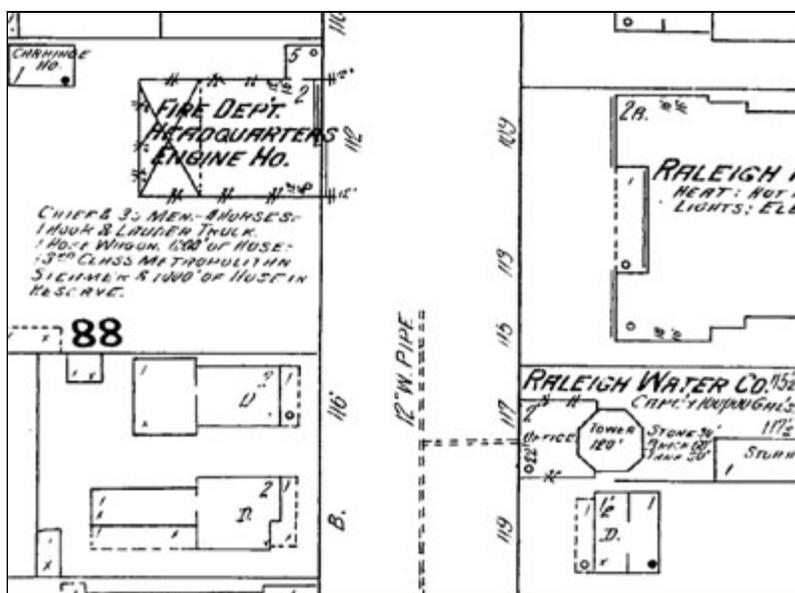
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UPDATED: Digital Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

04/07/13 258 W, 1 I - + 18 - 13

April 2013
 These instructions were originally posted in October 2008. Then they became obsolete, as access to the maps was apparently removed. The maps are back, and the below posting has updated. If you have a Wake County library card, these are some great resources for historical exploration. (Yes, you can also see digital Sanborn Maps on the [North Carolina Maps site](#), but only those made before 1923. That said, they are in color, which was their original format. Both sites are good.)

October 2008
 Sanborn Fire Insurances Maps, one of the best tools for urban historians and particulary urban fire historians, are available online for Wake County library patrons. To access the collection of North Carolina maps, visit this Wake Counties Libraries [research page](#). Click the link for **View Full List of Databases**. Enter your library card number and PIN. Scroll down to **Sanborn Maps North Carolina**. Click that link and you're good to go! And here's a tip. Once you've reached the map viewer window, click **Download** to see a full-page map sheet.



Sanborn Map, Raleigh, 1909

Maps are available online for 162 communities in 83 of North Carolina's 100 counties. Most cities and towns were surveyed several times over several decades between the 1880s and the 1950s. Best of all is the ample information about fire departments, building construction, life hazards, and water supplies. [Learn more about Sanborn Maps](#). Or read a series of articles by Yours Truly, [presenting "then and now" information about fire departments](#), as based on Sanborn Map information.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department To Add Two Aerial Ladder Trucks To Fleet

10/09/08 103 W - + 14 - 10

At its meeting on Sept. 2, the Raleigh City Council agreed to waive competitive bidding requirements in order to piggyback on a bid from New Hanover County for the purchase of two new fire trucks. By piggybacking on New Hanover County's purchase, the City is able to purchase the trucks at a reduced rate. The new vehicles are 100-foot aerial platform ladder fire trucks. Constructed by Pierce Manufacturing, Inc., the trucks will cost more than \$844,000 apiece. The trucks are capable of pumping 2,000 gallons of water per minute. [Read entire press release.](#)

That's great. It's about time. Raleigh needs to be building fire stations in between their current ones, to catch up with growth and construction.

AB - 10/09/08 - 18:22

I doubt you'll see any new fire stations between the current ones...at least not anytime soon. After they build the stations in the outline areas, I think you can expect to see renovations to many of the current stations that are in need of updates or repair.

fire dude - 10/10/08 - 06:34

Here's what is going around....can anyone verify this? Ladder 16 relocating to #17, Ladder 23's apparatus going to #4 and in service and the company of Ladder 23 relocating to 24 putting a reserve in service temporarily. One of the new platforms will then go to #24 and the second platform going in service at #27.....anyone?

Truth? - 10/10/08 - 10:29

Who cares really

False - 10/10/08 - 18:01

Ladder 17, Ladder 4 with Ladder 23's truck, Ladder 24 with reserve. Ask about platform in twelve months.

Consequences - 10/10/08 - 19:38

Those that work for the city, I would think, care. But, there are some that are there just for the check, which is nothing new.

Silver - 10/11/08 - 12:25

It appeared that RFD had moved away from the platform aerials as of late. I think it is a good thing to add some new platforms to the fleet to remain diversified with the types of aerials.

Water can - 10/12/08 - 08:36

Couldn't agree more...sticks and platforms both have their pro's and con's, as long as they're placed strategically according to the territory they serve (tillers in tight areas).

Silver - 10/12/08 - 10:18

I heard that the second platform was going to be a replacement ladder to replace Ladder 20 and not a new ladder with staff. Can anyone tell me if this is true or just rumor. There are FF's out there dropping some false rumors.

firebug - 10/15/08 - 19:59

This is true. However, when the current L-20 goes to reserve status it's placement there would only be temporary. When the 2nd additional ladder company is added, it will go back in service.

RescueRanger - 10/15/08 - 21:09

We on L-20 have been told that we AREN'T receiving a new piece....that might change, but that's the latest we've heard.

Silver - 10/16/08 - 00:21

The current lifespan figured into budget for fire vehicles is 10 years/100K miles which ever comes first. Obviously it's hard to keep up with the engines so there are a few out there over 10 years old but I'm sure the mileage is below 100K. L-20 is a '99, correct?

RescueRanger - 10/16/08 - 08:42

Yup yup...

Silver - 10/16/08 - 12:54

E-20 is a '97....

Silver - 10/16/08 - 12:55

Any rumors of where Battalion 4 will relocate to, yet ? Be a wee crowded at 17.

Jon C - 10/16/08 - 19:02

we've heard 23...

Silver - 10/16/08 - 20:12

So, if Ladder 23 is moving to Station 4, where is the mini-pumper being relocated to?

Wondering - 10/16/08 - 23:08

Who knows?

Silver - 10/17/08 - 04:08

Mini Pumpers could go anywhere. Just look back at their history.

Station 16 would be logical, as it would be closer to the Malls at Crabtree and North Hills with their parking decks. By the way, where is Ladder 23 ? Old Ladder 16, the reserve platform, has been their for about a month, unless it came back this week.

Jon C - 10/17/08 - 07:31

If this is true about the platform then the LT's list will be ran out or close to it next year. If my calculations are right then there will be 16 LT's promoted by January 09' if everyone leaves that said they were going to. Can you say BIG transfer list!

firebug - 10/17/08 - 15:15

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Frederick County Versus TriData Report

10/09/08 127 W - + 14 - 9

[Dave Statter reports on what's happened in Frederick County, MD](#), with regard to a report by TriData Corporation providing a comprehensive review and master plan for county fire and EMS services. Or, specifically, the report of the report's implementation committee. Got that? He's linked to a copy of the report on the report, along with footage of County Commissioners discussing the thing. One of the recommendations was a county Fire Chief. That didn't pass muster. Watch the footage, listen to the discussion, and you'll see many similarities with our own situations. Heck, who can forget the frigid response-- on the fire side, that is-- to TriData's Wake County Fire/EMS Capital Facility and Equipment Study? Four years ago, that was.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
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City Inspectors Close Raleigh's Velvet Cloak Inn

10/09/08 84 W, 1 I - + 21 - 12

Today's *News & Observer* reports that city inspectors closed the Velvet Cloak Inn late last week. The Hillsborough Street hotel was deemed an "imminent fire hazard" after an October 2 inspection found "bare electrical connections, an inoperable fire alarm and a nonfunctioning sprinkler system." The hotel, built in 1963, had been refurbished in recent years, with half of rooms repurposed as condos. At least 39 had been sold.
[Read the entire story.](#)



Wake County photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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No

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This Weekend's Events

10/10/08 55 W, 1 I - + 9 - 16

Saturday, October 11

- Fuquay-Varina Fire Department Open House - FVFD Station 1, 301 South Fuquay Ave. ([see map](#)), 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 12

- Fairview Fire Department Open House - FFD Station 1, 4501 Ten Ten Rd. ([see map](#))
- [Morrisville Fire Department Open House](#)  - MFD Station 1, 200 Oak St. ([see map](#)), 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Name: (real name preferred)

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St. Louis Fire Department and Seat Belt Safety

10/11/08 75 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Inside [Firegeezer's coverage of yesterday's apparatus accident](#) in St. Louis, he notes an interesting aspect of the fire department's safety program. Several times each day, SLFD dispatchers broadcast the reminder "all persons riding on fire department apparatus shall wear seat belts at all times." All eight firefighters in yesterday's collision were belted, and thus likely escaped serious injury or death.



KMOT-TV photo

Dave Statter surfaces another video of this accident, showing a close-up view of collision: <http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blog..>

Legeros - 10/19/08 - 10:55

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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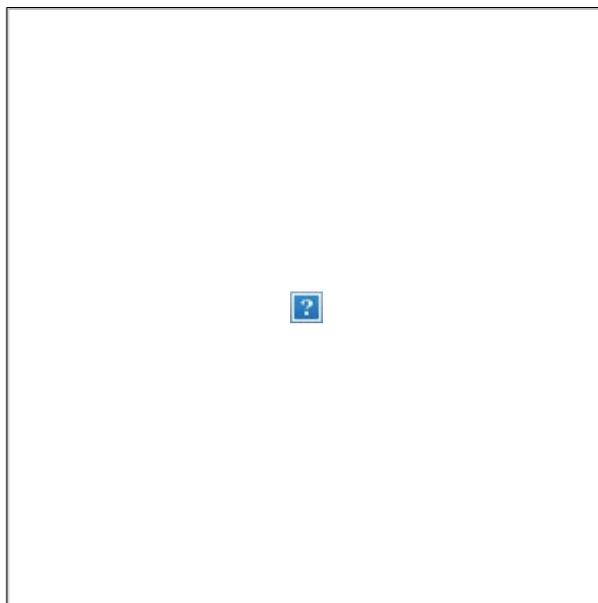
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Chevrons, Their Background and Discussion Therein

10/11/08 83 W, 1 I - + 10 - 15

[In this FireNews article](#), Charlotte Fire Department Health and Safety Officer Robert Tutterow presents a perspective on the new NFPA requirement for chevron striping on the rear of position. Though mandating the striping met virtual no opposition, he notes, there was considerable resistant to specifying the striping colors and size. [Read the entire article](#) to learn more about the requirement. Readers are also weighing in, some making more sense than others. Join the conversation.



FireNews photo

bright yellow stands out the most for those that are colorblind

cornerhydrant - 10/12/08 - 04:15

standardization would benefit the older driver (proven for signs), and color perception differs in the elderly as well, so the brightness contrast must be especially high to help compensate for acuity loss

cornerhydrant - 10/12/08 - 05:55

Do any of the RFD units have chevrons yet? If not is there a plan to retrofit existing apparatus?

stretch - 10/13/08 - 19:43

As far as I know the the field comm unit is the only one.

adam brown ([Email](#)) - 10/13/08 - 21:06

police vehicle in the uk – now that’s conspicuous!!

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/27805160@N0..>

cornerhydrant - 10/14/08 - 01:32

That’s a good example of a Battenburg pattern on the side.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battenburg ..](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battenburg_..)

Named after the cake of the same name :)

<http://www.grubreport.com/photos/battenb..>

paul - 10/15/08 - 12:02

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Bucket Brigade Halts Flames at Carpenter's Station

10/13/08 109 W - + 17 - 7

From the *News & Observer* of June 22, 1940. Quick-thinking residents probably saved 2,000,000 feet of lumber at the Chandler Lumber Company at Carpenter's Station, after a fire destroyed the boiler plant and shaving chute the night before. The fire started shortly after the plant had closed for the day. Nearly the entire population of the Carpenter's community formed an old-fashioned bucket brigade. They fought flames from 6:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The plant foreman said "there was no time to call fire apparatus." It was located 15 minutes from Raleigh, and on a dirt road 8 miles from Apex. Damage was estimated at about \$1,000.

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

Remember personal info?
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No

Comment:

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Improvements at Station 7

10/15/08 76 W, 1 I - + 41 - 15

Recent weeks have seen improvements at Station 7, including a white wooden fence out front, a small concrete pad in the rear, and painted front doors and flag pole as seen in this picture from Lee. [See more pictures on his Flickr site.](#) Earlier photos of the station work [are also available.](#) Station 7, located at 2100 Glascock Street, was built in 1959 and is the fourth oldest fire station in the city.

*Lee Wilson photo*

I think a thin red line looks good on your vehicle, but on a fire station? Not so much.

Citizen - 10/15/08 - 14:00

I guess its a good thing that station 7 isn't your firehouse then. I am sure those guys and gals could care less what color your front door or shutters are.

Mike - 10/15/08 - 14:14

Good job bros and sisters at 7, way to add a lil' character to your firehouse versus the plain ol' "fire station brown" that's used...

Silver - 10/15/08 - 15:23

i agree with silver – it's an honour!!

cornerhydrant - 10/15/08 - 15:30

Great job guys and gals. As long as the brother and sisterhood approve its great to see the thin red line on the doors. Bravo Mike!!!!!!

Joe - 10/15/08 - 18:19

Until you are a brother or sister firefighter, regular citizens won't understand the meaning of the thin red line displayed at your station. Looks great and a very good reminder.

car3550 - 10/15/08 - 18:27

for those that don't know the meaning of the thin red line, please read: <http://www.ncfff.org/Memorial/Redline/ta..>
honour, pride and respect and gratefulness from those of us that are not in the fire service!!

cornerhydrant - 10/15/08 - 22:43

It looks ugly.

Jake - 10/16/08 - 18:52

GREAT job!!! i hope more stations follow this concept!!

nozzlehawg - 10/16/08 - 22:06

i too agree that it is a great tribute to all the wonderful guys/gals that are willing to sacrifice their lives for us everyday and would like to see it on more stations!!! – perhaps those that do not see this have not personally been in any fires and saved by the fd (twice)

cornerhydrant - 10/16/08 - 23:06

How do you guyd feel about the idea of painting company logos on doors and general station personalization? I personally believe that it instills more "esprit de Corps", you know, the whole "Pride and ownership" idea.

knightsofMalta - 10/19/08 - 13:47

I agree

Silver - 10/19/08 - 14:28

Me personally, I think it does lead to "pride and ownership", which translates into things being taken better care of. There is no way to measure it, so a lot of folks will dismiss the notion, but if it is 'yours' (stations, trucks, equipment) you are more likely to take batter care of it. And if you have a company (or unit) logo, you do your job just a little bit better. People like for their 'logos' or 'emblems' to stand for something.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 10/19/08 - 17:01

well put DJ

Silver - 10/19/08 - 19:32

Having things personize, leads to better feeling, better feeling leads to better work and performance.

rnln ([Email](#)) - 10/19/08 - 20:38

It is a concept that I have seen in a few firehouses around the country, and even a very small handful of EMS stations. They seem to mostly be 'up north'. For whatever reason, unit logos or personalization has failed to catch on around here. There is even very little personalization of helmets around these parts as well and it seems that it is almost discouraged, if not prohibited by local rules/regulations.

I don't know...I said above that you couldn't measure it, but maybe you can. If people have pride in their trucks and stations, maybe they take better care of them, and maintenance costs drop a little (or maybe a lot, who knows). Maybe you don't stomp on the accelerator everytime you start off or drive the (urine) out of them all of the time. After all, who cares about a truck you may not have but for a few months (or weeks), or a station that you are nothing more than a transient occupant for a brief time.

DJ - 10/19/08 - 23:00

Here is a slightly different angle, working in Communications it might suprise you how many citizens call in and request help from their neighborhood station by requesting "the guys from Fort Apache" (Charlotte Station 5) or "Shamrock #15" (CFD Engine 15). Granted several of the stations have their personal logos painted on the front of their station or on their apparatus, but it seems as though the citizens even take part in feeling "personal ownership or pride" in their local station.

For example, this afternoon MEDIC was still on the line when Engine 15 arrived on scene and the caller stated (quoted directly from the tape), "Shamrock number 15, I ain't seen no badder truck than that one, that's the baddest truck I've ever seen. They've been here before so they know the routine." I'll give it to them, the large Shamrock on each side (on ladder rack) and the words "Shamrock Express" give it a personal touch for the citizens and something that is unique to their neighborhood. They know that when they see the "Shamrock number 15" that it is "THEIR" fire truck.

Luke - 10/20/08 - 01:47

Why are things sometimes seemingly different "up north" you ask? Here's a perspective told to me. The nation's first fire departments formed in the north east. When those departments made the transition to paid departments, the volunteer fire companies— those with many decades of service— often changed to social clubs. Thus, there persisted these dedicated groups of people interested in the fire service, which influenced the... raw collective of interest and participation in all aspects fire departments "up north." Which translated into several generations of buffs and boosters and the like. That's one explanation, at least told to me.

Legeros - 10/20/08 - 06:41

Demographics and age are another factor. There are many large and older departments "up north." Thus they have decades and centuries for their large numbers of firefighters to tinker with the fire service experience, such as branding for companies, houses, etc. Coupled with the

urban density "up north," and things like branding might quickly spread among closely pack departments. Thus trends are born.

Legeros - 10/20/08 - 06:44

Im personally really VERY glad to see the Lucky Seven taking pride and ownership of their house. I hope others do the same.

KnightsofMalta - 10/20/08 - 09:06

I would agree that the branding of units started because of the reasons stated by Mike. But, The last time I did a whirlwind tour of FDNY I was intrigued by the names of the firehouses (La Casa Grande comes to mind) and the logos on the trucks, many times highlighting something that was in their first due area. And the pride that the members felt in their company helped provide creature comforts in the stations and other 'necessities' on the trucks (adding AM/FM/CD players, Roto-Rays, secondary and/or mechanical sirens, specialty tools, etc.).

At my old company in Maryland, Odenton VFC #28 (<http://www.ovfc28.org/>) we had a logo that was on our station, on all of our trucks (including the ambulance, brush truck, and even emblazoned under the tip of the ladder on TRUCK 28), and was on our uniforms (If you click on the link, scroll all of the way down, the emblem is on the left side of the page). Our motto was "Force of the Fourth". But not only do the vollie companies have their logos, so do the paid stations.

Some of the smaller companies I have seen during my travels through the North East take their company name from the local high school mascot, or of a college mascot if the community is host to a college. There is not an EMS or fire unit based anywhere in Wake County (even the EMS PAU units) that does not have something, somewhere within their primary response area that could be representative of that unit and station.

The possibilities are endless-

RFD E5 and WC EMS8- NCSU theme (doesn't E5 already have something on it now?)

FVFD and WC EMS9/14- Road Runner theme (FVFD already has that one)

WWFD and WC EMS4- Fairground or Dorton Arena theme

RDU CFR already has the Casper theme

Some of the others I can think of are E11/L11 (Brentwood's Bravest), E9 (Eye of the Storm), E7/R7 (Lucky Seven), E3 (War Wagon), etc.

What could it hurt? And what could be gained?

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/20/08 - 10:29

Going back to Luke's comments. While in Charlotte for a class a few years ago, we were taken by station 5 and it was explained to us how they got their name. The neighborhood tagged the firehouse as Fort Apache after they put up a fence around the parking lot in the rear. The neighborhood people said that it looked like "Fort Apache" and it stuck.

Mike - 10/20/08 - 11:19

DJ, WWFD already has an NCSU wolf/firefighter logo that was designed by a Cardinal Gibbons HS student in support of us having Carter-Finley Stadium in the district. It is emblazoned on Engine 191's high-side doors.

RFD E-5 has the Struttin' Wolf on the back of the rig.

Wake Forest FD has some logo's and sayings for their stations as well.

Cary FD Station 2 (E-2/R-2) has a "Deuces Wild" theme including a patch and logo, but it's not on the rigs. Station 7 has a "Lucky 7" logo as well that adorns the kitchen tables and t-shirts

I think a lot of it around here is just simple ignorance of what company pride entails. Administrators are afraid of letting the guys/gals personalize the rigs as it doesn't fall into what the municipalities have outlined their vehicles (city wide) are supposed to look like. They are afraid of anything out of the norm and how the public at large will perceive it. Amazingly to me in my years of doing this I have never had anybody say, "wow you guys look bad and unprofessional in a t-shirt and work pants", I have had several to comment on neat or interesting things we have done to trucks or logos, etc. I guess it's a fundamental difference in perception and fact. /rant

CFP 7021 - 10/20/08 - 19:05

Crew at 7 is being told to repaint the doors....so much for pride and dedication. Shev, I don't get it either. If anything, I've seen more people throw up the Wolf symbol using their fingers, or give a thumbs up when we rode Truck 8 and had a Wolfpack flag on one side and a Hurricanes flag on the other.

Silver - 10/21/08 - 11:50

Really not surprising. Personalizing helmets is frowned on. Makes sense they frown on station personalization as well. The latter being even more visible than the first. Its all good though. Whether my doors are painted or not, when I come on shift, thats my truck, my tools, my crew and my neighborhood. They can have the doors. PTB-EGH.

KnightsOfMalta - 10/21/08 - 16:56

Silver, any reason why they have to re-paint the doors?

DHFD - 10/23/08 - 11:24

One big one, and really the only one that matters; because the Chief said so....

Silver - 10/23/08 - 11:56

it really shoots morale down in the dirt...rfd sucks when it comes to giving their employees a pat on the back. but if you mess up, they are right on top of it...we have no individuality in this dept.

firemedic - 10/23/08 - 12:24

Firemedic, I think bad attitudes shoot the morale down in the dirt more than having to repaint a door. Perhaps going through the proper chain of command in the first place would have prevented such a dilemma. You have to look at the situation from a management or chief's point of view. If they allow St 7 to paint the doors as they see fit, then another station will come along and have a different idea and so on. Before you know, you have a variety of mismatched doors on stations. You might as well let the firefighters decide what color the fire trucks should be while you are at it. Look at the rear apparatus decal process you have to go through now. It is in place for a reason, to keep the personalization to a standard and keep everyone on the same page.

If you want a pat on the back from RFD, get a promotion...it's called a promotion ceremony which is just that, a pat on the back. If you want a pat on the back for doing what is expected on a daily basis, perhaps a change of occupation is in order.

wcff - 10/23/08 - 14:43

Ahhhhh....being promoted shouldn't be the only way to get a pat on the back. Don't care what you say...that's some of that ol' school garbage. It did kill the morale of the group at #7, I spoke to someone there. They built a fence and a concrete pad, but the doors weren't nice? These are capital improvement projects, ones' that the city should pay a contractor to come in and perform. The alternative would be to sit on their butt's, let it look like crap, and wait on the city to come in and paint it. They saved the city money by doing these projects themselves; add to it their pride, heart, sweat and customization.

I heard of a plan they had to put up their own flag pole; a true flag pole incorporated into a fire hydrant that one of the brothers owns. Not a flag pole that is mounted on the front of the firehouse, and when at half mast the flag lays on the roof. What's the initiative to do it now? I can see how their pride is squashed...

Silver - 10/23/08 - 16:06

Its compliance through fear of retribution. And personally, thats no way to build morale or 'esprit de corps'. What it does accomplish is a force willing to do just enough to not get fired and constantly walk on eggshells, because of once again, compliance through fear of retribution. Negative reinforcement.

KnightsOfMalta - 10/23/08 - 19:06

At a service that I have worked at before, the paramedics wanted to paint the station (it looked like crap). They offered to paint it themselves if the agnecy could provide materials. One of the spouses had already agreed to make curtains and they even had new blinds ready to be donated. They wanted to paint the day room and bedroom white, with a strip around the middle that matched the stripes on the ambulances. They were told that "we can't have paramedics painting the station".

I went by there not long ago and it still looks like crap. Same colors that are dirty with thumbtack holes all in them...

So who won out in that episode?

DJ - 10/23/08 - 20:33

However, I did want to clarify something that a few people have misunderstood from what I said eariler. I think it was Firemedic that mentioned the lack of pats on the back. My promotion comment was to only say that the creation of the promotional ceremony was one way that RFD does pat those who get promoted on the back. Now sure, this isn't the only way firefighters should be patted on the back, but just an example one way in which RFD does pat us on the back. Remember the pre-McGrath days the promotion ceremonies didn't exist and pats on the back were even harder to find.

I think we can all agree that the administration should do more in giving us pats on the back, but to say they don't do this at all is just not true. What is to say that pats on the back can't come from your Captain? Recognition for good work doesn't always have to come from the top.

wcff - 10/26/08 - 22:38

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

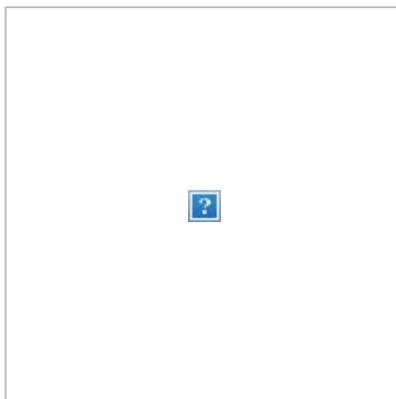
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Black Ice

10/16/08 111 W, 1 I - + 11 - 19

For those about to rock on Monday, when Wal-Mart stores and only Wal-Mart stores¹ begin selling AC/DC's first album in 8 years, here are a handful of reviews of *Black Ice*. Three out of five stars [from the Guardian](#). A positive spin [from the BBC](#). High fives from [from the Observer](#). B minus [from Entertainment Weekly](#). Three and a half out of five stars [from Spin Magazine](#). Same number of stars [from Rolling Stone](#). You can preview a number of tracks [on the band's site](#). They sounds great, and Brian Johnson-- 61 this year!-- sings like he's twenty years younger. Rock on.



¹ And Sam's Club stores, of course.

ROCK ON INDEED!!!!!!

T loy - 10/16/08 - 21:54

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Understanding Disabilities When Designing a Web Site

10/16/08 85 W - + 11 - 19

From Digital Web magazine comes [this exceptionally informative article](#) about designing web sites to accommodate users with vision, hearing, physical, cognitive, and learning disabilities. Stats provide some context. In the US, 10M people have vision impairments, 28M have hearing impairments, 8M have physical disabilities, 6.8M have learning disabilities, and 25M have dyslexia. The article is worth reading, and the ideas are worth implementing. How does one check web site accessibility? Try the [WAVE 4.0 site](#). You might be surprised.

thanks mike!! this is a great link and i see i have a lot of work to do

cornerhydrant - 10/16/08 - 23:12

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

State Fireman's Convention Vintage Photo

10/17/08 162 W, 1 I - + 21 - 10

For your Friday fun, here's a vintage photo of a state fireman's convention in Raleigh. From the clothing, the year is probably 1936. The Capital City hosted the North Carolina State Fireman's Association only four times between 1888 and 1955, in the years 1889, 1902, 1916, and 1936. That's the State Capitol in the background. Who's who? That's **might be** State Fire Marshall and former Raleigh Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell kneeling in the front row on the left, wearing a gray suit. Or maybe that's him standing on the far right, with the striped tie? Veteran or perhaps charter members are likely the ones standing in the center. That year, Raleigh Fire Chief W. Ernest Holland was elected President of the association. He was the first RFD member to hold the title. Click and be patient to see a **much larger version**. After loading you may need to click again, if your browser automatically adjusts the image to the width of your screen.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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FDNY Log Book on eBay

10/17/08 115 W - + 13 - 14

Here's something you don't see everyday, an [FDNY log book for sale on eBay](#). Same is Hook & Ladder Company 13, from 1919-1920. Starting bid was \$5.00. What's the origin of the word "log book" you ask? In days of old, when knights were bold, the speed of a ship was calculated by tossing overboard a piece of wood. e.g, a "log." Same was attached to a rope, the amount of rope was measured over time, and the measurements recorded in a "log book." Along, of course, with other aspects of the journey, weather, location, etc. [Here's a picture of a "log line"](#).

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

Remember personal info?

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 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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World's Fair Fire Departments?

10/18/08 135 W, 1 I - + 10 - 15

With fairs and expositions on our minds, what World's Fair Fire Departments have been organized over the past decades and centuries? Google finds a few quick hits. Here's a nifty page on the [1964-65 World's Fair Fire Department in New York](#). Another site has [more about their fire engines](#). Information about the Ahrens-Fox pumpers that protected the 1939 World's Fair in New York are [included on this page](#). Here's some information [about fire protection at the 1915 Pan-Pacific Exposition in San Diego](#). The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago had a fire department. [Here's a PDF document](#) about the fire that killed 14 firefighters on July 10 of that year. [Here's a nifty simulation of the exposition grounds](#), as well. Finally, [here's a Wiki page](#) with all World's Fairs listed.



Photo courtesy Gary Urbanowicz

As a total side note, the Chicago Fire Department had numerous rigs based upon the Jeep COE chassis (pictured). I read an article once that referred to the station where many of them were housed as "Disneyland". Seems like at least one of them was a 'smoke ejector' unit. I remember many, many years ago seeing a fire truck somewhere (I can't remember where) that was on one of these chassis. I think it was sort of a mini-pumper (I was 4 or 5 at the time). I always thought those trucks were kind of cool.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 10/18/08 - 14:50

All it took was a little searching....

<http://www.film.queensu.ca/cj3b/Photos/F..>

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 10/18/08 - 14:55

Here's a must-see Chicago Fire Department site, <http://www.chicagofd.org/>. Same highlights the history of the city's Civil Defense services. Great apparatus photos, in particular.

Legeros - 10/18/08 - 21:29

What ever happened to the pumper that was built by the NYC shops for the 1939 worlds fair. It was lettered for engine 324. I checked it in "wheels of the bravest", but didn't give info past it production.I am using this info in a question of the month in a column I write for the local FDs

Thomas Parson ([Email](#)) - 02/23/09 - 22:48

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Highway Patrol Mobile Command Unit

10/19/08 28 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

The North Carolina Highway Patrol has a new mobile command and communications unit. Seen at the State Fair today, click to enlarge:



Anyone know how often they actually deploy this thing (besides every year around in October :-)

Native Charlottean - 10/22/08 - 20:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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High-Rise Assignments

10/20/08 184 W, 1 I - + 24 - 11

Early birds heard high-rise assignments dispatched about 4:28 a.m. to a structure fire at [509 Glenwood Avenue](#). That's a nine-story, brick structure with apartments for elderly residents. Glenwood Towers was built in 1971. The fire dispatch was Engines 13, 1, 3, 6, 7, Ladders 1, 11, Rescue 7, Battalion 3, and Car 5. The medical dispatch included EMS 13, 11, 1, Districts 1, 5. No fire found, pot on stove.

New procedures took effect July 1 for reported fires in high-rise buildings. Five engines, two ladders, one rescue, a Battalion Chief, and a Division Chief comprise the initial dispatch. The EMS response includes three EMS units, two District Chiefs, a Major Operations Support Unit, and a Logistics Officer. Arriving companies have pre-designated duties based on order of dispatch, including fire attack, fire floor support, lobby control, elevator control, and Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).

High-rise buildings are defined as those in which total emergency evacuation is not practical, and in which the fire must be fought internally. A high-rise building has occupied floors located more than 75 feet above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access. [Here's a WRAL story from May](#) about the preparing for the procedure.



Glenwood Towers

Doesn't Raleigh City have running assignments on everything from a high rise to a local dwelling box? 1st due vs. 4th due assignments whether you are a ladder or a wagon????

joe ([Email](#)) - 10/20/08 - 19:05

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Yesterday's Fire / East Lane Street

10/20/08 78 W - + 17 - 7

Two alarms at 925 East Lane Street. Engine 3 arriving with a working fire at a two-story, masonry apartment building with 2,688 square-feet. One subject in upstairs window, rescued. Second alarm requested, dispatched, but units quickly returned to service after fire controlled. First alarm: E3, E1, E7, E13, L1, R7, B2, C5, C20, A8. Second alarm: E5, E10, E6, L20, R14, B3. Alarm time 8:28 p.m. One victim with smoke inhalation. Cause determined as deliberately set.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Wake Expects to Lose \$17M in Slow Economy

10/20/08 58 W - + 12 - 9

County officials said today that they're expected millions in losses in the coming months. The County Manager has implemented an across-the-board hiring freeze. He's also cancelled all non-essential travel by county employees. Spending cuts were also unveiled. [Read the WRAL story.](#) The *News & Observer* is [also covering the story.](#)

Does this put a freeze on the firefighter positions or have the money for their salaries already been allocated?

Applicant - 10/20/08 - 22:54

Watch the County Manager's presentation to Commissioners yesterday at <http://wake.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.p..>, which starts at 35:00.

Legeros - 10/21/08 - 06:31

Funds may already be 'allocated' in the budget, but that is dependent upon those revenues coming in. They don't come in, as apparently they are expecting them not to, potentially, then the money cannot be spent. We'll all have to wait and really see just how this problem is going to affect what we do and our ability to do it.

DJ (Web Site) - 10/21/08 - 13:55

DJ is exactly right. There is a freeze on new firefighter positions until a plan can be established to sustain the recommended positions over the next few years. Lower fire tax revenues are expected as growth has come to a virtual halt. So even though the positions have been approved in budget, the approvals were based on an anticipated revenues and growth based revenue increases this FY. Well, those revenues are not going to "come in" at the expected levels, so now a new approach is in order. Trust me, the Fire Commission and Wake County staff are working hard to assemble a recommended plan to meet the county manager's requests and to provide the much needed firefighter positions. We'll have to wait for now as this is indeed a crisis we all will have to work through slowly.

A.Rich - 10/22/08 - 13:11

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Every Day is a Big « Wake Expects to Lose ... » North Carolina Fire F... Day

Every Day is a Big Day

10/21/08 37 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

This North Carolina State Fair advertisement appeared in newspapers in October 1940. Fireworks! Harness races! Hippodrome acts! The Famous Roxyettes! Lucky Teter and his Hell Drivers! And more! Click to enlarge:

EVERY DAY IS A BIG DAY AT....
YOUR 1940 N. C. STATE FAIR
OCT. 8-9-10-11-12

FIREWORKS

HIPPODROME ACTS
 GREAT AND WILD
 TUMBLES AND
 SPECTACULAR
9
 The Finest Talent Available

The N. C. STATE FAIR YOUR FAIR
 N. C. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
 W. KERR SCOTT, CHAIRMAN
 DR. J. A. WATSON, SECRETARY

\$17,500.00 In AGRICULTURAL PREMIUMS
 With Prizes Money Limited
 Slightly to North Carolinians!
 Showing the Cream of
 North Carolina Crops!

Be Certain to See The Gay, Glittering
Musical Revue
"The FAMOUS ROXYETTES!"
 Glamorous Girls • Gorgeous Scenery • Beautiful Effects
EVERY NIGHT AT 7:30!

World's Greatest MIDWAY
 Max Linderman's
WORLD OF WIRTH SHOWS!
 A Complete New Array of
 SHOWS - RIDES - ATTRACTIONS
 25 Thrilling RIDES... 20 Shows

Auto Races
 Held Under Auspices of
 AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION
Saturday Afternoon
 Start Time: **12:30 RACES 2 P. M.**
 For the Automobile Show on Day and Night, please consult our map for
 the location of the show.

MOTORCYCLE RACES
 Sponsored by American Motorcycle Association
THURSDAY - 11 A. M.
 in SATURDAY

ARMY-NAVY DAY
 in SATURDAY
 Shows of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, with the participation of the
 22 States, 22nd and 23rd Air Groups, and other military units of the Army.

Lucky Teter Hell Drivers
THE CRASH ROLL!
THE STUNT THAT
FIRST MADE
Lucky Teter Famous!
 See the Buckle Up! Lucky Teter jumping a
 load across 12 to 15 feet in the air over the top
 of a huge passenger liner then attempting to land
 the landing car in a narrow landing platform.
 More Thrilling Than Ever Before!
TWO WHEELED RACED HORSES
 Wednesday Only... Starts 2 p. m.

Harness Races
FESTIVAL DAY OF THE
BEST HORSES AND LEADING DRIVERS
 Tuesday - Thursday - Friday
HARNESS RACES
WELL START AT 2 P. M.
 North Carolina
SCHOOL CHILDREN
Admitted FREE
ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11
 Other Shows: Horse Shows, Circus, etc. See Map.

INTERESTING AND EDUCATIONAL
 Agricultural Industrial
 and Commercial
EXHIBITS!

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

North Carolina Fire Firefighters Association

10/21/08 129 W - + 17 - 12

Here's another interesting item from October 1940. The first state convention of a group named the North Carolina Fire Fighters Association was held in High Point on October 29, 1940. The NCFFA was an affiliate of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). The elected officers were President K. J. Smith (Raleigh); Vice Presidents C. M. Goss (Durham), W. C. Martin (High Point), C. H. Boone (Charlotte), and Secretary-Treasurer W. E. Cherry (Washington). One of their immediate initiatives, reported the October 31 edition of the *News & Observer*, was seeking a statewide civil service system and a reduction of the firefighter work week to 72 hours. The time on duty in Raleigh, they noted, was 84 hours. Did they succeed? And what became of the organization itself? To be determined.

On July 24, 1945, a two-day meeting of the North Carolina Division of the International Association of Fire Fighters opened in Durham. The fire departments of Durham, Charlotte, Raleigh, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem were represented by some 45 members. J. B. Keeter, of Raleigh, was the President. Source: N&O, July 24, 1945. Wonder how long the group stayed active, and if they were formally renamed from the NCFFA to the NCD/IAFF.

Legeros - 05/09/09 - 11:11

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

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Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

New, Lighter SCBA

10/23/08 78 W, 1 I - + 13 - 16

[Firegeezzer surfaces this new concept](#) for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Weighs only 8 pounds, has a profile less than 2 inches thick, and is compatible with existing air supply hoses. How cool is that? Poses some interesting questions, as well. Subtract 20-some pounds from "standard gear" and what happens next? Do you re-add that weight with additional equipment? Do you recalibrate the strength requirements for prospective firefighters? Makes an interesting thought exercise...



OK. They save 20 lbs. in weight. Water weighs 8.33 or so lbs. per gal. So each member can carry roughly 2 1/2 callons of water. So, with a crew of 3(4) that is 7 1/2(10) gallons of water.

Who needs big fire trucks. Buy a crew cab Smart Car.

Yeah, that's the ticket.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/23/08 - 22:57

Absolutely amazing. Cant wait to see what the working model looks like. I wonder how long it'll take for us to get our hands on them?

KnightsofMalta - 10/24/08 - 00:39

The article said it would be commercially available in about two years, so figure you can add about a year to that. If it is a viable concept, you will probably see them around in about 3 1/2 years or. Probably in a military model first.

DJ ([Web Site](#)) - 10/24/08 - 15:53

Mike, not sure if you have been on Firegeezzer lately, but he re-posted about the new SCBA. He mentioned you in the article. Thought it was pretty cool. Your famousness, for lack of a better term, is growing! Haha.

DHFD - 10/26/08 - 14:32

All kidding aside, the pictures and video are impressive. From my point of view, it will be easier to carry an injured firefighter out of the hot zone and on a LBB. I can slo see the advantages to storage in cabs or compartments. This also may provide a viable means of 'seat mounting' in smaller vehicles, such as SUVs, mini pumpers, and ambulances.

Now if they would only work on making the LP12 lighter...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/26/08 - 15:37

UPDATED: <http://firegeezzer.com/2008/10/26/new-lig..>

KnightsofMalta - 10/26/08 - 16:28

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Too Rich For My Blood

10/23/08 45 W, 1 I - + 11 - 18

Bidding has passed \$150 on [this nifty newspaper image from 1926](#), showing State Hospital inmates being marched to Central Prison after the main hospital building burned. [Read about that great fire](#). Or click to enlarge. And everybody lived madly ever after.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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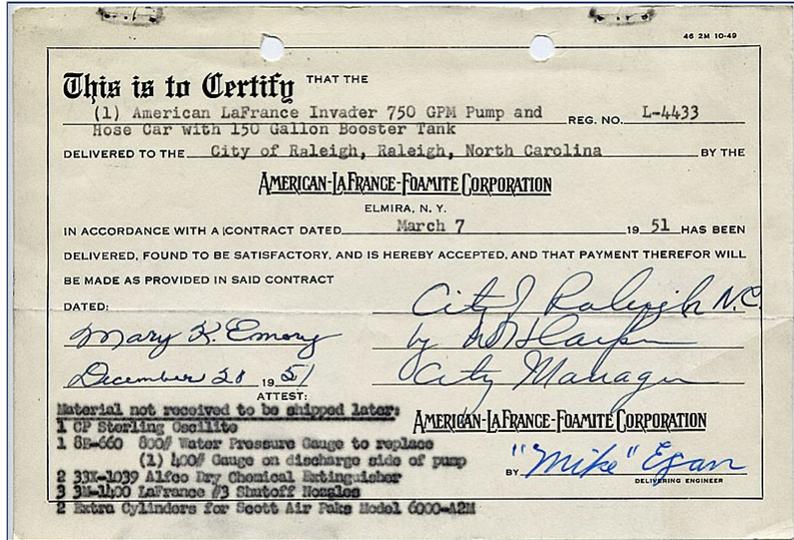
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - (1) American LaFrance Invader 750 GPM Pump and Hose Car « Too Rich For My Blood... » UK eBay Buyer Faces L...

(1) American LaFrance Invader 750 GPM Pump and Hose Car

10/24/08 47 W, 1 I - + 12 - 19

For your Friday fun, here's a Raleigh Fire Department artifact from 1951, accepting delivery of an American LaFrance 700 Series pumper. It's dated December 20, 1951. The city received four 700 Series pumpers between 1951 and 1953. [View information about the apparatus.](#) Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

UK eBay Buyer Faces Libel Action After Leaving Negative Feedback

10/25/08 105 W - + 18 - 11

Here's something interesting from across the pond. The *Times* reports on an eBay buyer who is facing a libel action after leaving negative feedback about an eBay seller. [Read the story](#). Has or can such a thing happen in the United States, with our libel laws? Don't know. This blogger is not a lawyer, nor does he play one on television. [Here's the Wikipedia entry](#) on defamation laws over here. Now for some puns. Taken to court after defaming a King James Version? Bible libel. Taken to court after defaming an American Indian? Tribal libel.

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

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No

Comment:

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Las Vegas Casino Picks Up Tab For New Fire Station

10/25/08 91 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

Would you believe a fire station built around a monorail support? That's one of the features of Clark County Station 32, currently under construction and funded by MGM. [Read the story on firehouse.com](#). The location and design was negotiated with a developer, the first such partnership for CCFD. How much is the land worth near the Strip? \$25-30 million per acre, reports the article. Learn more about the [Clark County Fire Department](#).



Clark County Fire Department / Firehouse.com

What areas are the possible for the city of raleigh or any surrounding agency to do the same?

adam brown - 10/26/08 - 21:21

Do you mean, having others fund a City of Raleigh fire station? If so, I can recall two incidents in which this was proposed...Rex Hospital offering to build a new Station 14 and John Kane of North Hills development offering to build a new Station 9. Both of which met lots of resistance from the City and were later dismissed.

Can anyone else verify or correct this?

RFD574 - 10/26/08 - 22:25

Yes tht is excatly what I mean. I knew about the Rex hospital deal but not the other.

adam brown - 10/27/08 - 16:47

I don't know what the specifics were in the RFD deals, but I have seen something similar in the past. Some corporate entity comes in with offers to build a station or purchase major capital equipment (vehicles, defibrillators, etc). Then there is some sort of suspicion on the part of the recipients wondering what the "motivations are", if there will be "strings" attached, or are afraid of perceived improprieties.

An agency I once worked for was offered two (count 'em, two) brand new ambulances. And we needed them. But they were turned down so as not to "owe anybody anything". Second instance involved grant money for an Urban Development Block Grant. There was money left over that could be given ('GIVEN') to the local FD to buy hose and other things. It was turned down because of perceived 'strings attached'.

You just never know. Maybe this was the case here, maybe it was something totally different.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/27/08 - 20:34

DJ, I never really considered the "what will we owe them" or "what strings are attached to the deal" side of the story. Thanks for making that side of the "argument" clear (not an "argument" on the blog, more the battle between the "private organization" versus the "public safety department").

If you're familiar with Charlotte you may (or may not) know about the area around Eastland Mall (Albemarle Rd/N. Sharon Amity/E. W T Harris Bv). This area has experienced an enormous amount of growth and not the good kind of growth! Increases in crime, gangs, lower income housing, etc. All this equates to (obviously) is more calls! Station 15 and Station 23 (along with Station 3) all serve this area and 15 and 23 are the two busiest fire houses.

Most of the problems (calls) revolve around the Eastland Mall area and, if I'm not mistaken, the management company still has the property on the market. The city has budgeted \$16 million for "infrastructure investments." Part of this plan includes a fire station (and police sub-station) built on the property. Although I believe the city will be paying for most (if not all) of the cost involved in this, I'm not exactly sure what the

mall management will expect from us or how they will contribute to this (not sure if they are paying for the truck or anything at all!). Believe this will either be the location of Fire Station 40 or 41 and will be a huge help to the area. Unfortunately, they will also be closer to some of the frequent nursing homes in this area, so 23 will still see plenty of action at Eastland Mall... or whatever they decide to do with that 70 acre parcel of land.

Luke - 10/27/08 - 23:05

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

American LaFrance in Blowing Rock

10/26/08 92 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Reporting from the mountains, where the winds are sharp and the leaves are passing peak. This American LaFrance beauty still serves Blowing Rock, N.C. Not sure of model year. Their present roster includes a pair of pumpers, a pair of pumper-tankers, a tanker, a brush truck, a utility/service truck, an aerial tower, a light-duty rescue, a pair of medical QRVs, and a pair of medical transport units. Photos of the new station forthcoming. Next stop Asheville.



Mike if this is the same as the Blowing Rock VFD website it is a 1983 ALF Century Custom. website

<http://www.townofblowingrock.com/depts/V..>

Adam Brown (Email) - 10/26/08 - 11:53

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Asheville Zombies

10/27/08 153 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

At a political rally last night at the Asheville Convention Center, AFD was staged and at the ready. Engine 9, operating one of the new Pierce Velocity pumpers, and Tac 1, a pick-up with a CAFS system, were staged below the facility on Rankin Avenue. A brush truck and a Buncombe EMS unit were behind the facility on Vanderbilt Place. And an ATV with a skid system was parked in the front on Haywood Avenue. The police presence was robust-- Secret Service, too!-- and both supporters and protesters were there in droves. Plus a number of news vans. Around 8:00 p.m., the zombies started appearing. The festive force had relocated from the Montford neighborhood, where the [annual Zombie Walk](#) had happened a few hours earlier. The lurching, moaning mass added quite a bit of color to downtown Asheville on a Sunday night. Brains, brains... [Click to enlarge:](#)



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *American LaFrances in* < Asheville Zombies > **Mayday! Mayday!: Airc...**
Brevard

American LaFrances in Brevard

10/28/08 80 W, 1 I - + 17 - 16

Found a pair of older American LaFrances in Brevard this morning. Pictured left is Engine 2, built 1945. Registration #L2246. The 500 or 600 Series pumper later served as a ladder tender, equipped as a service truck. [More info](#). Pictured right is Engine 1, built 1925. Registration #5111. Probably a Type 75, it was the first motor apparatus for BFD, and the first motorized fire engine in Transylvania County. [More info](#). Click to enlarge. [Learn about the Brevard Fire Department](#).



The 1945 ALF is probably a 600 series. The difference is the shape of the grille. The 500 series curved backwards over the fenders while the 600 series was vertical. There were a small number of ALF 500s made the way of the 600. The 700/800 to 900 transition was the same way - some features of the 700/800 were carried over to the 900 very briefly. Walt McCall's "Fire Engines Since 1900" is a really good source for these.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/28/08 - 21:28

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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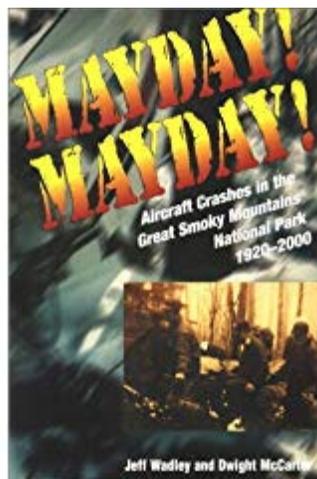
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

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

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Mayday! Mayday!*: « American LaFrances in... » FDNY War Years Audio *Aircraft Crashes in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1920-2000*

Mayday! Mayday!: Aircraft Crashes in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1920-2000 10/29/08 160 W, 1 I - + 10 - 16

Found an interesting book while browsing the North Carolina Collection at Pack Memorial Library in Asheville last night. [*Mayday! Mayday!: Aircraft Crashes in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1920-2000*](#), by Jeff Wadley and Dwight McCarter. Published as a paperback in 2002 by the University of Tennessee Press, it's 212 pages with a few dozen photos. The authors, both of whom have been involved in SAR missions for decades in the Smokies, have researched official documents and newspaper archives and conducted extensive interviews with survivors, family members, and eyewitnesses. They tell how the earliest known plane crashes were single-engine biplanes flown during the 1920s. In the years since, the Smokies have claimed private planes, military jets, helicopters, and even a hot air balloon. The authors also recount the stories of survival. Of the 127 persons involved in their documented crashes, 56 survived.



My granny, granddaddy, uncle, aunt, and 3 cousins were of those 56 that survived. The authors did a great job retelling their story. Their pictures in the book were awesome too. One picture shows my Granny being carried down the mountain on a stretcher. I am glad you enjoyed the stories.

Melissa ([Email](#)) - 06/21/10 - 13:43

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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FDNY War Years Audio

10/29/08 47 W - + 12 - 15

From a reader, [here's a nifty web site](#) with audio clips from the "war years" of the FDNY. The clips are about 8 to 10 minutes in length. The site appears to be a work in progress, so additional clips are likely forthcoming.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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LAFD's One-Man Geek Squad Brings Web 2.0 to Firefighting

10/29/08 111 W - + 16 - 10

From the latest issue of *Wired* comes [this short 'n' sweet article](#) about Web 2.0 tools used by the Los Angeles Fire Department. They highlight four of the tools: Twitter, Yahoo Pipes, Mobile Alerts, and Map Mashups. How are they used? Using Twitter, for example, they monitor for keywords like "LA" and "fire" During last year's 800-acre fire in Griffith Park, they received real-time reports on flare-ups and wind directions from Twitter users on the ground, and which could be related to ICs. Good food for thinking about Web 2.0 and social networking, and practical application in the fire service.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Highlands Hummer

10/29/08 177 W, 1 I - + 18 - 11

We tooted to Highlands yesterday, where this police department Hummer was photographed. The elevation of the town 4,118 feet. They average 87.57 inches of precip per year, with only 6 average inches of snowfall. Highlands was formed in 1875 after its founders drew lines from Chicago to Savannah and from New Orleans to Baltimore. They felt that the intersection of these lines would make a great trading center and commercial crossroads. [That's from Wikipedia.](#)

One of the more interesting pieces of trivia about the town involves glaciers. After the ice masses destroyed plant life over much of the continent, the Highlands region became the refuge of many plants. When the ice age ended, the plateau and adjacent mountains became a botanical treasury from which the seeds of reforestation of North America were drawn. Thus the resemblance between their flora and that of Eastern Asia, which also survived the glaciers. Certain species of plants are found only in Highlands, India, Japan, and China. Wild, eh? [Read more trivia.](#)



On the hummer note, Wrihstville Beach PD also has hummer though it isn't quite as well kept up as the highlands one. Used during hurricanes.

WBFD - 10/29/08 - 13:13

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Reynolds Fire Department

10/29/08 79 W, 1 I - + 12 - 13

Here's an interesting station design, blending stonework in the center with the standard metal building bays on each end. Located just outside Asheville at [235 Charlotte Highway](#), the Reynolds Fire Department building has 16 (!) bays. Their former station is just up the road, at the corner of Cedarwood Drive and Charlotte Highway. It presently serves as a welding shop. [Learn more about RFD](#), including an interesting mix of apparatus.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

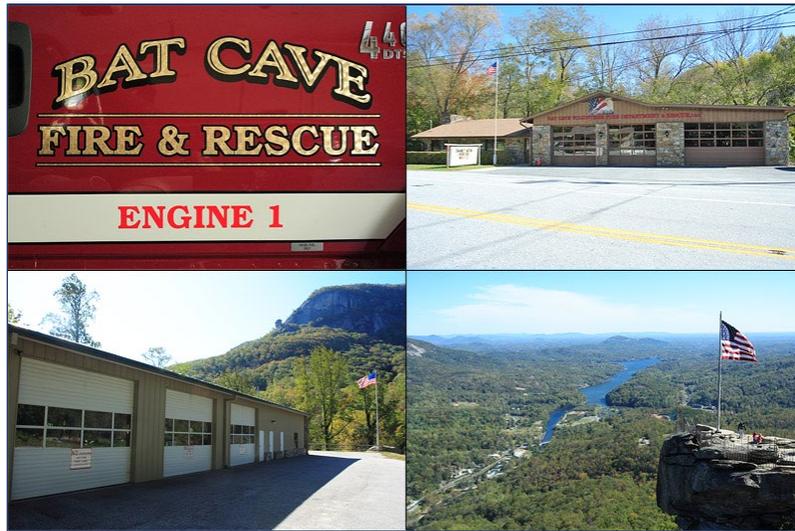
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Holy Bat Cave!

10/29/08 149 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

Still more reporting from the road. Found the Bat Cave this afternoon. The mountainside community on the edge of Henderson County has a post office, a church, a couple stores, and a fire station. The **Bat Cave Fire Department** was incorporated in 1974, and their station houses what looks like three pumper-tankers and an ambulance. There was even someone at the station, albeit briefly. Cue Neil Hefti. Down the road in Rutherford County, the **Chimney Rock Fire Department** has quite a scenic view. They're an older department, incorporated in 1954. They protect the village of Chimney Rock, which has 2.8 square miles and 175 people as of 2000. One of their notable fires occurred in 1981 on Labor Day Weekend, when the Sky Lounge at Chimney Rock Park burned to the ground. Wonder how long it took the engines to climb the mountain that day? Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Wake County Fire Commission Work Session, Wednesday, November 5

10/29/08 141 W - + 21 - 11

A work session has been scheduled by the Wake County Fire Commission for Wednesday, November 5, 2008, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Wake County EMS Training Facility, located in the basement of the Commons Building on Carya Drive. There are two agenda items for the work session:

- Receive report from Ad Hoc Committee appointed by Chair Ann Suggs to discuss FY 09 fire tax budget issues with the County Manager and Deputy County Manager.
- Discuss issues related to compliance with the Fire Service Compensation Guidelines.

Regarding the Ad Hoc Committee, same was appointed by Chair Ann Suggs to discuss several FY 09 budget issues:

- Collection and functional support fee and costs.
- Retirement funding for career personnel.

The Ad Hoc Committee is prepared to report back to the Fire Commission at the work session.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake History Comes to Life in New Volume

10/29/08 196 W - + 16 - 17

Learn about the unique history of Wake County in *Wake: Capital County of North Carolina, Vol. II: Reconstruction to 1920* during a book-signing celebration with authors K. Todd Johnson and Elizabeth Reid Murray on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, at 7 p.m., at the Olivia Raney Local History Library, 4016 Cary Drive, Raleigh. The newly released book is a companion volume to the first book which covers Wake County's history to 1871. [Read entire press release.](#)

The preeminent historian in Raleigh and Wake County, Ms. Murray has researched and recorded the history of the Raleigh Fire Department. In 1970 as Elizabeth Davis Reid, she wrote a five-page history for a city fire protection report. In 1984, she collaborated with Captain B. T. Fowler on the history section of the first yearbook. That text was reprinted in the 2002 yearbook. The text also served as seed content for my web histories over the years. Ms. Murray's collection of notes and materials were donated to Olivia Raney Local History Library in recent years. They are as important for researchers as her first volume of Wake County history, which was published in 1983.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Fuquay Fire Station to Get Facelift

10/29/08 86 W, 1 I - + 17 - 16

[FireNews](#) surfaces this [Fuquay-Varina Independent story](#) on coming renovations to FVFD Station 1. The \$1 million project will add 3,500 square-feet to the 30 year-old facility, nearly doubling the size of the building. Exterior improvements will create an obvious front door for the fire station. Interior renovations will rearrange and expand the living areas. ~~Additional bays on the east side of the station will also be added.~~ The project is expected to take 12 to 18 months to complete.



Fuquay-Varina Fire Department Photo

I don't think they are adding bays to the building. I think the east side is going to be a new training room, inspections offices and both chief's offices.

curious - 10/31/08 - 12:49

Correct. No new bays.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 10/31/08 - 15:07

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

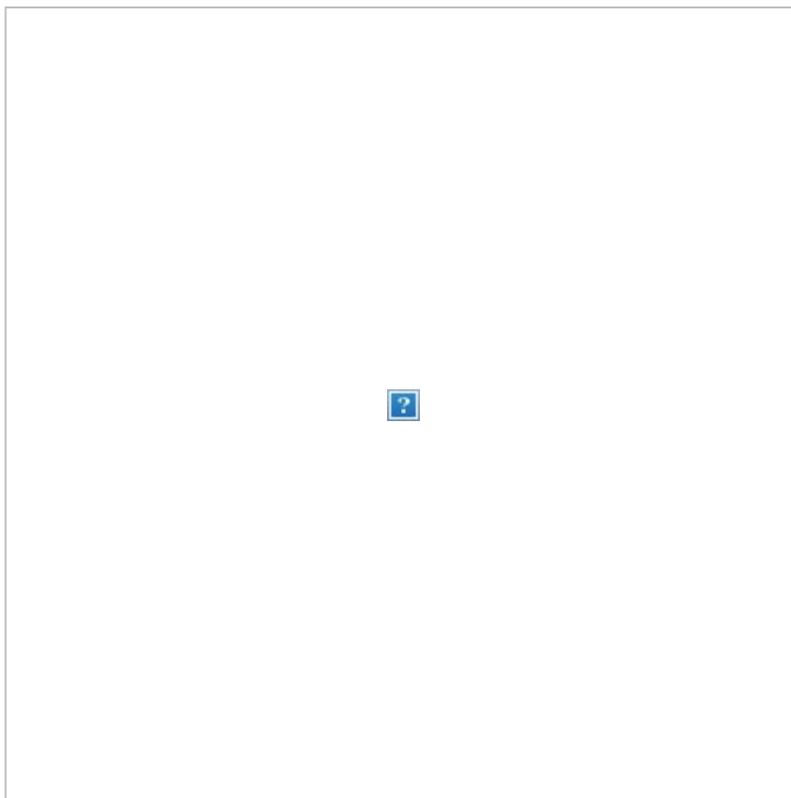
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Selma Furniture Store Fire

10/30/08 55 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

WTSB-AM has posted a photo of the abandoned furniture store in Selma that burned yesterday. Fire was reported at the Old Timey Furniture Store at [1465 S. Pollock Street](#) just after 7:00 a.m. Selma, Smithfield, and Pine Level fire departments battled the blaze. [Read the story.](#)



Jason Thompson/WTSB photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Crews Fighting Large Fire in Cary

10/30/08 37 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

WRAL has posted this dramatic Sky 5 image of a house fire in Chatham County this morning. [Read the WRAL story](#). There's also [coverage from the News & Observer](#).



WRAL photo

Walked out of my house this morning and the first words out of my mouth were "Holy \$#!T!!!" Huge column of smoke, so that answered my question as to where the Cary boys were going this morning.

Silver - 10/30/08 - 09:33

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Oteen Fire Department

11/01/08 158 W, 1 I - + 11 - 18

This scan of a photocopy is from *Souvenir Book of U.S. Veterans' Hospital*, circa 1922. Part of the North Carolina Collection at Pack Memorial Library in Asheville, it was compiled and edited by Joseph and Mildred Bernstein. The pictured apparatus, perhaps an American LaFrance, is shown on a page titled "Our Fire Department." The page notes "Oteen is well provided for in case of fire. Although the buildings are of temporary structure, every precaution has been taken to minimize fire hazards. The Fire Department is very efficient and well equipped with the latest improved apparatus. Fire drills are frequent and the department has always done such commendable work at these drills that the patients feel that if a fire should break out their firemen would curb it before much damage was done." OFD was active until at least 1955. [Read about the Oteen Veterans Hospital historic district today.](#) Click to enlarge:



It does look like an ALF. I'll have to check some old photos to be sure. I do like the bell at the tail board, though.

DJ - 11/01/08 - 13:18

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Sold Out - Tartan Ball on Friday

11/01/08 114 W - + 17 - 14

Don't forget that the Third Annual Tartan Ball and Bagpipe & Drum Concert is Friday, November 7, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight, at the Downtown Raleigh Sheraton. The sponsors and headliners are the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes & Drum. The guest band is the Chicago Police Emerald Society Pipe Band. There will be dancing, raffles, door prizes, and other fun. Appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased online at www.forourfallen.org, at Tir Na Nog, or from any band member. Highland or business casual attire is requested. [See the band web site](#) for more information.

Tartan Ball is sold out! As of this past Thursday night all ticket money and tickets were turned in and pay pal is sold out! Sorry for any inconvenience but we have been selling tickets for the past 3 months! If you have any questions feel free to give me a call at 919-291-1167. Thank you for all of your support! Stay Safe!

Jason Lane ([Email](#)) - 11/01/08 - 16:46

Sorry to everyone who planned on coming out and purchasing tickets at the door – but we certainly can't go against occupancy rules with so many firefighters in the room.

On Saturday, November 8th – Tir Na nOG is hosting a CELTIC CHRISTMAS from 3 pm – 11 pm featuring a day of shopping, dancing and music! Special guests include the Inish Cairde School of Irish Dance, My 3 Kilts, Celtic Vendors and perhaps a performance by the Wake & District Pipe Band.

Additionally – the band will be hosting a MEMORIAL CONCERT on Saturday, May 2nd in Garner the evening of the NCCFF memorial march and service.

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/01/08 - 17:25

In defense of those that weren't able to get tickets, I'd just like to add that last year, many of the Chiefs did not even know about the Ball, and really regretted missing it!

cornerhydrant - 11/02/08 - 00:09

Thanks to all that came out. We were able to raise over \$13000 from the support the public safety community.

Mike - 11/12/08 - 07:34

Wow!!! That's awesome!! Congrats guys, hate I couldn't make it. Looks like next year you might need a bigger venue...

Silver - 11/12/08 - 18:21

An awesome show guys and gals, you should truly be proud of yourselves. It's come a long way since a Keg and some finger foods at the Fireman's club a few years ago! You guys are sounding great and the Chicago Police Emerald Society's band was amazing. Keep up the good work and we'll see ya next year!

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/12/08 - 23:20

Congratulations to all our great guys and gals from here and from Chicago!! It just gets better and better every year!! Sorry for the delay in posting (^puter trouble) <http://picasaweb.google.com/cornerhydran..#>

cornerhydrant - 11/14/08 - 16:55

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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High-Dynamic Range Imaging

11/02/08 110 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

Here's a new imaging technique that I've been playing with, that allows a greater dynamic range of exposures than normal digital photography. The intention of HDR imaging is to more accurately represent the range of light and dark intensity that you see in real scenes. Such as this heavily shadowed building below, in the historical Oteen Veterans Hospital district in Asheville. [Read about HDR imaging on Wikipedia](#). Or see [this HDR tutorial](#), which recommends the program [Photomatix](#). The image below was created using Photomatix Pro, converted from a Canon RAW image. Optimum results are created using multiple exposures of the same image, however. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Flickr Sites, Who « High-Dynamic Range Im... » Fire Station Voting L... Has 'Em?

Flickr Sites, Who Has 'Em?

11/02/08 40 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

Roll call for photo sharing. Who has Flickr sites that they want to share? Yours truly is www.flickr.com/photos/legeros. Mr. Wilson is www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson. Who else is out there?



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/9-echo-1/>

DJ ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/02/08 - 23:00

I maintain two:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/firenews>

and

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/harkeysport..>

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/03/08 - 00:46

have the NCFFF 2008 Third Annual Memorial pictures up on Picasa:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/cornerhydran..#>

(plan to move to Flickr too)

cornerhydrant - 11/03/08 - 16:20

<http://flickr.com/photos/ke4znr/>

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/03/08 - 19:12

This is the url to my Fire Collection on Flickr.

<http://www.flickr.internetfd.com>

Chad Simon ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/03/08 - 22:24

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/meganyoungp..>

Photo one - 11/06/08 - 10:00

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Yes

No

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Fire Station Voting Locations

11/04/08 120 W - + 16 - 11

How many fire stations are serving as voting locations today, you wonder? In **Wake County**, they are Apex 2; Bay Leaf 1, 2; Cary 1, 2, 4, 5; Durham Highway; Eastern Wake 1; Fairview 1, 2; Fuquay-Varina 2; Holly Springs 2; Hopkins; New Hope 1; Raleigh 2, 4, 11, 17, 20, 22, 23, 28; Rolesville; Stony Hill; Western Wake. In **Durham County**, it's just Bahama's Rougemont Station and Parkwood Station 1. In **Johnston County**, the fire station voting locations are 50-210 1; Benson; Brogden; Clayton 1, 2; Cleveland; Elevation; Kenly; Micro; Meadow; Pine Level; Wilsons Mills. In **Chatham County**, it's Bennett, Bonlee, Goldston, and Silk Hope. In **Orange County**, it's Cedar Grove 1 and Chapel Hill 4. In **Harnett County**, the fire station voting locations are Boone Trail, Buies Creek, Bunnlevel, Northwest Harnett, and Spout Springs. Information from each county's respective web site.

I hate working voting day!

wcwf - 11/04/08 - 19:45

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Ready to Roll

11/04/08 59 W, 1 I - + 14 - 11

Photographed on a sunny Sunday morning, here's Engine 5 about to roll on a motor-vehicle accident. It's a 2002 Spartan/Quality Star pumper, at least the ninth Engine 5 since the station opened in 1926. Prior incarnations included: 1997 Pierce, 1990 Pierce (first closed-cab for RFD), 1970 Mack, 1986 Pemfab/EEI (wrecked 1990), 1973 Mack, 1961 American LaFrance, 1951 American LaFrance, and 1925 American LaFrance. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?

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Comment:

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This Afternoon's Fire / Fox Ridge Manor

11/04/08 72 W - + 18 - 8

Two alarms at [2208 Fox Ridge Manor](#). Engine 10 arriving at a two-story, brick apartment building with a working fire in a second-story apartment, fire venting through window. Eight units, 8,596 square-feet, built 1972. Second alarm requested several minutes later, just before control gained of fire. Second alarm units returned to service. Alarm time 12:11 p.m. Controlled 12:22 p.m. Units included E10, E12, E26, L26, R7, B2, C5, C20, A8.

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

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

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Shazam! A Projector Is Shrunk

11/06/08 91 W, 1 I - + 16 - 14

Technology strikes again. Today's *New York Times* tells of a new pocket-sized (!), battery-powered (!!), digital projector called the Optoma Pico Projector. \$430 list price and about the size of a cell phone. Shazam¹ indeed. [Read the article.](#)



New York Times photo

¹What's the origin of the word "shazam" you wonder? Says the [this etymology site](#), it's a made-up word from the Captain Marvel comics of 1940. Says [another site](#), it's an invented word used by conjurors to introduce an extraordinary deed, story or transformation, beginning 1930.

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Remember personal info?

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Wake to Hold Emergency Training Exercise Nov. 22

11/07/08 100 W - + 12 - 11

An emergency training exercise will be held near the New Hope Valley Railway in New Hill on Saturday, November 22, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., to evaluate how local emergency agencies respond to a train accident and determine future training and equipment needs. During the full-scale training activity, emergency response personnel will treat and remove injured passengers from a train and determine the cause of the accident. [Read the entire news release](#). This is the training exercise that was original scheduled for September 6, but was postponed due to possible impact from Hurricane Hanna.

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

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

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East Hargett Street and Station 3

11/07/08 138 W, 1 I - + 12 - 14

For your Friday enjoyment, here's a vintage view of old Station 3 on East Hargett Street. The view is looking east, toward Blount Street. The picture is dated 1926 and comes from the CP&L Collection at the [North Carolina State Archives](#). The station was built in 1898 for the Victor Fire Company, and became Station 3 in 1913. It was closed in 1951 and demolished the next year. I've only found a handful of photos of the old station to date. [Learn more about the history of Station 3](#). The concept of looking closely at old photos is best exemplified in the book [Hidden Images: Discovering Details in the Wright Brothers' Kitty Hawk Photographs, 1900-1911](#) by Larry E. Tise and published in 2005. Maybe I'll published a similiar volume of historic firefighting photos some day. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
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 No

Comment:

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Fried Chicken

11/09/08 122 W, 1 I - + 15 - 13

We're two for two for fried chicken, after the KFC at [3928 Western Boulevard](#) caught fire today. Reported at 1:00 p.m., Engine 8 was first on scene at a one-story commercial structure with light smoke showing. Approximately 7,500 square feet. Crews found fire in the walls, which had spread to the roof. The fire was controlled by 1:30 p.m. No injuries were reported and the cause was determined as accidental. Units included E8, E5, E20, E14, L20, A8, B3, C5, C20, EMS 8, EMS 2, DC 1. The Bojangle's on Western Boulevard, just down the road, burned on June 3. West Raleigh residents were biscuit-less for weeks, while the immensely popular restaurant rebuilt. [Read the WRAL story](#). Or see [photos by Lee Wilson](#).

*Lee Wilson Photo*

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

Remember personal info?

 Yes No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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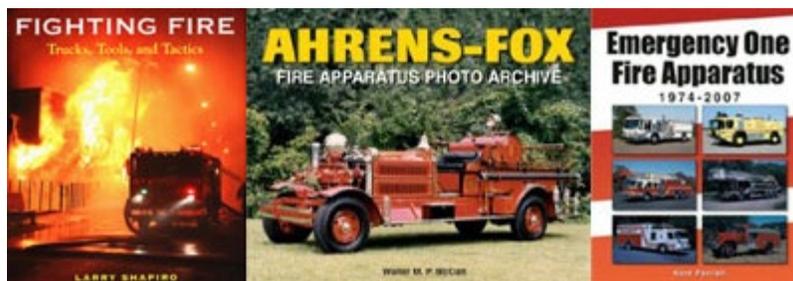
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

New Fire Apparatus Books

11/09/08 94 W, 1 I - + 18 - 13

Three new books about fire apparatus have been released. *Fighting Fire: Trucks, Tools and Tactics* by Larry Shapiro is a hardcover with 160 pages, published by Motorbooks. *Ahrens-Fox Fire Apparatus Photo Archive* by Walt McCall is a softcover with 128 pages, published by Iconografix. Includes a supplemental 30-page color gallery. *Emergency One Fire Apparatus 1974-2007* by Kent Parris is a softcover with 112 pages, also published by Iconografix. Includes color photos. Haven't seen any of the three in person, but their descriptions on Amazon look interesting.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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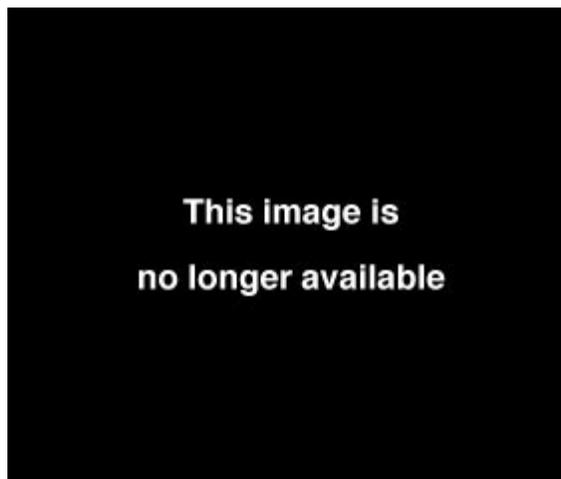
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Honda Unveils Wearable Robotic Walker

11/10/08 66 W, 1 I - + 14 - 14

Technology strikes again, this time with an lower-body exoskeleton. Basically, it's a bicycle seat plus a pair of mechanical legs. Does anyone else see high-rise firefighting applications with bigger, badder models? Imagine assisted stair-climbing, and ascending dozens of stories without physical exhaustion. But we're getting ahead of ourselves. [Read the CNN story](#) and see what's possible today.



AP / CNN Photo

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

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Matchbox Pierce Fire Engine

11/10/08 199 W, 1 I - + 16 - 17

Now available on [eBay](#) and perhaps soon at local stores is this wee Pierce pumper lettered for Engine 31 in El Segundo, CA. Matchbox model #75. The scale is 1/123 and the thing measures 2.95 inches long, 0.94 inches wide, and 1.02 inches high. Buy at a store and pay around a dollar. Buy on eBay and pay more and perhaps much more.



For over 50 years, the Matchbox series has accurately reproduced American and British fire apparatus. Specific castings of actual pumpers, ladders, rescues, and airport crash trucks are listed below. Chief's cars, ambulances, fire-themed vehicles, and fantasy vehicles excluded. For pictures of those below, [here's an excellent web site](#).

- | | |
|---|--|
| #8 - Reynolds/Broughton airport crash tender (1992) | #57 - Mack/Salisbury (?) heavy rescue (1991) |
| #9 - Dennis pump escape (1955) | #57 - Range Rover/Carmichael Commando pumper (1982) |
| #9 - Merryweather Marquis Series III pumper (1959) | #61 - Dennis Sabre aerial ladder (2003) |
| #13 - GMC snorkel (1977) | #63 - Alvis Salamander/Foamite airport crash tender (1964) |
| #18 - Oshkosh/LTI aerial ladder (1984) | #68 - Dennis Sabre pumper (1999) |
| #29 - Maxim pumper (1966) | #76 - International/Navistar (?) pumper (1999) |
| #35 - Merryweather pumper (1970) | Special - Ford F-350/KME mini-pumper (2000) |
| #57 - Land Rover/Carmichael pumper (1966) | Special - Seagrave Meanstick aerial ladder (2002). |

Name: (real name
preferred)
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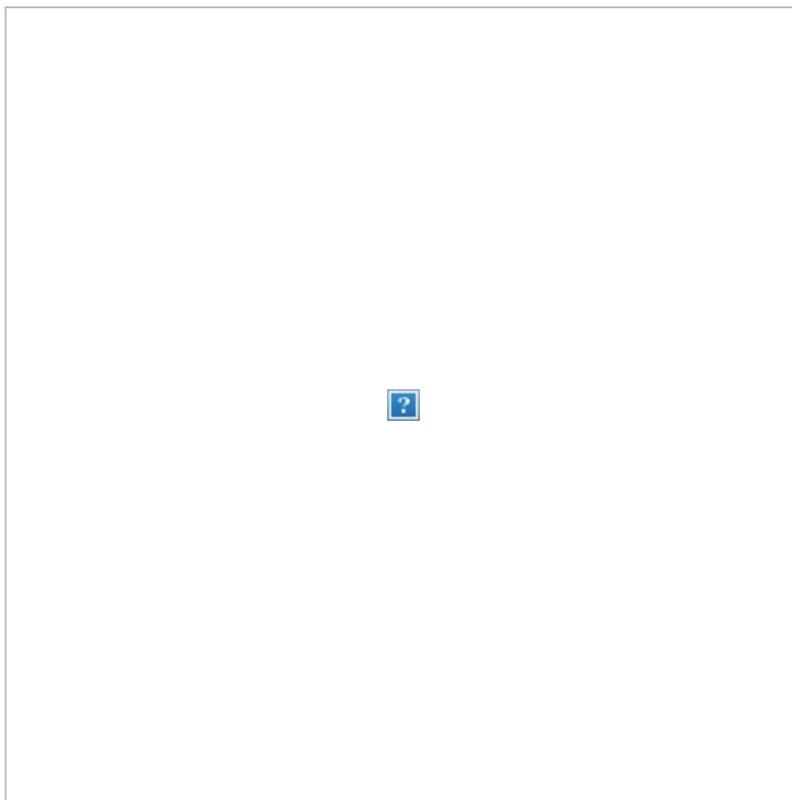
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Military Firefighting

11/11/08 101 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

Thank you for your service, veterans of the United States Armed Forces. The patches, stations, and equipment of military firefighters, among other information, are featured on the excellent web site www.dodfire.com. Use the navigation links along the left side of the page. Historical photos are a-plenty, including many color images of vintage apparatus and facilities. Click the drop-down menus at the top of each photo page. Want to learn about the US military itself? [This Wikipedia page](#) is a good place to start. What other military firefighting web sites are favorites of folks?

*DoDfire.com Photo*

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

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No

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Fire at Camp Russell

11/11/08 349 W - + 14 - 12

Speaking of soldiers, this story appeared in the Raleigh *News* on September 14, 1873: At ten o'clock last night the Metropolitan Hall bell sounded the fire alarm for Eastern Ward. The fire companies, Rescue, Victor, Hook and Ladder, and Bucket were promptly out, and all but the Rescue reached the scene of the fire, Camp Russell, soon after the alarm. The Rescue [engine] halted at the corner of Hargett and Person streets, as it was known by the location of the fire, that water was no in reach and consequently the engine could not be used. [Members of the Rescue Fire Company, however, continued to the fire.]

The fire was found to be on the officer's row of buildings in the house of Lieutenant Derussy which caught from the kitchen. Lieutenant Derussy and his family (wife and child) were asleep at the time, and it is not known how the fire originated, but reasonably supposed to be accidental. With the aid of the troops, all the furniture was saved, and the only loss sustained was the building, which with the damaged caused by the removal of the furniture will not amount to over \$800 or \$1000. Had the slightest wind been blowing at the time it would have been next to an impossibility to prevent a general conflagration of the entire barracks, but fortunately it was a dead calm.

Camp Russell was located at the present-day intersection of New Bern Avenue and Tarboro Road, which was also the site of the first State Fair. A second Camp Russell, a decade later, was established at the second Fairgrounds site west of Raleigh. In 1873, the city's fire apparatus was all hand-pulled. The distance from Fayetteville Street to Camp Russell was nearly a mile. The newspaper does not specify if the Victor hand engine, the Bucket truck, or the Hook and Ladder truck were pulled to the scene. That's a long run on foot!

Soldiers from the camp had aided the Raleigh Fire Department in the past. On January 3, 1873, they assisted firefighters when a stable and two houses on Wilmington Street burned.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Hot off the Press

11/12/08 138 W, 2 I - + 16 - 10

Now available for ordering is *Raleigh Fire Department 2007*, a full-color, hardcover yearbook commemorating 95 years of fire department tradition. Published by M.T. Publishing, the \$54.95 volume measures 9 by 12 inches and numbers 160 pages. Portraits are featured of all active personnel, as well as pictures of each shift at each fire station. Over 100 retiree portraits are also included. Dozens of action photos are featured, showing Raleigh's bravest fighting fires, performing rescues, and rendering aid. Many historical and candid images are also included. A history section explores the origins of the fire department as a fully-paid entity placed in service in 1912. The history of each fire station is also recounted, along with vintage photos. *Raleigh Fire Department 2007* [can be ordered online](#) at M.T. Publishing. Or [use this order form](#) .



Just got mine.

It looks great. Thanks for all your hard work!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

DMA - 11/12/08 - 12:56

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E-mail: (optional)
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Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Wilmington Structure Fire

11/12/08 60 W, 1 I - + 14 - 14

Found on [FireNews](#) is this strong *Star News* photo of a commercial structure fire in Wilmington. Valino's Restaurant & Martha's Karaoke Lounge at [2206 Carolina Beach Road](#) burned around 3:30 a.m. this morning. The 3,233 square-foot structure was built in 1948, say tax records. [Read the story](#) or view [the photo gallery](#).

Star News Photo

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

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New Command Vehicles in Cary

11/12/08 56 W, 1 I - + 15 - 18

The Cary Fire Department recently placed in service a pair of Ford F-250 Super Duty trucks as Battalion Chief vehicles. They replaced a pair of older Ford Excursions, one of which was wrecked some months ago. Battalion 2 is pictured below, parked around the corner from Fire Administration. Click to enlarge:



Mike, any reason why they went to trucks? Im assuming that the excursions didn't make much better gas mileage than the trucks do. Just curious...

DHFD - 11/13/08 - 11:34

One reason I have heard several other departments gearing toward trucks is that they are a whole lot safer due to moving potential projectiles to an enclosed space outside of the passenger compartment.

Adam Brown - 11/13/08 - 18:11

One of the big reasons that we went with the Pick-up concept was so that we could haul equipment to and from the fire scene i.e. hose, bunker gear. These vehicles will also be used to haul the enclosed trailers that contain all of our specialized rescue equipment for confined space and trench rescue. In the coming year there is a possibility that we will be going to one vehicle that can haul all of our equipment for rescue. I am sure that the fuel mileage is very comparable to the excursions. These trucks are very basic with no frills (State Contract) diesel engine, 2 wheel drive, again very basic.

Jacot - 11/14/08 - 12:09

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Wake County Fire Commission Meeting, Thursday, November 20

11/12/08 53 W - + 13 - 14

The Wake County Fire Commission meets again on Thursday, November 20, at 7:00 p.m., at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building at 4011 Cary Drive. I'll post an agenda, if one is made available ahead of the meeting.

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

Remember personal info?
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Comment:

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Raleigh Fire Department Bus

11/13/08 70 W, 1 I - + 11 - 14

A used commercial bus was recently obtained by the Raleigh Fire Department Training Division. It seats 47 and was purchased in Maiden, N.C. The bus is designated SR 3 and will serve a number of functions including transporting recruits to training events and during deployments of USAR Task Force #8. Previously, the Training Division utilized a 1981 International school bus, that was designated Car 76. Click to enlarge:



What does something like that cost to purchase and operate?

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/16/08 - 18:36

The purchase was a fraction of the cost of a new one! To operate it right now is just fuel. It is great being able to have something this big that can carry our recruits and other staff to training events and anything else that needs it. In the past we had to use the old school bus that would leave you stranded beside the road sometimes or borrow a parks and rec or RPD bus when needed! Thank God for thinking in the future and outside the box!!!!

Jason Lane - 11/16/08 - 23:08

not only that, but it would pay for itself after one use in lives saved in just one USAR mission – see

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/usr/about...> to know exactly what USAR entails – i know i certainly feel a lot safer knowing we have one of these transports in case of a horrific catastrophe

cornerhydrant - 11/17/08 - 01:26

Corner Hydrant: Im curious to know what you mean by using the bus for USAR missions. Would it be used to transport personnel or victims that they would find?

DHFD - 11/17/08 - 15:08

The bus would transport personnel to and from training and missions. If we had a mission that required a full scale deployment, this would entail about 72 members, some of which would drive apparatus but would still require mass transit for the rest of the deployment.

7driver ([Email](#)) - 11/17/08 - 17:21

USAR incidents are called "missions"??

Webster - 11/17/08 - 23:47

according to FEMA, they are

cornerhydrant - 11/18/08 - 02:16

Good points. Just not sure I see the case for buying and maintaining one versus a charter service for when the need arises. Unless of course there are more missions than I see discussed on this board.

Concerned Taxpayer - 11/19/08 - 09:18

Just remember that there might not be one available when a mission arises. Whether it be time of day, or during a disaster when they're all being used for evacuations or whatever the case. This was a very smart very economically sound decision made as it can support many different missions, be it USAR, academy, training sessions, etc. It also provides a means to transport a large amount of people AND their equipment versus taking multiple vehicles for the same purpose, and can do it in relative comfort, which is important when dealing with a USAR deployment, having the team rested and ready to go to work when they get there, not worn out from bouncing around in an old school bus or fire apparatus for 4 or 5 hours. I'm sure it can also be used for rehab purposes in times of adverse weather, like warming up firefighters during colder weather or cooling them down during hot weather. Great forward thinking.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/19/08 - 14:35

Also remember the fact that it's being used for recruit transport also. The school bus was way overdue for replacement....my hats off to all that made this cost effective purchase.

Silver - 11/19/08 - 15:14

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

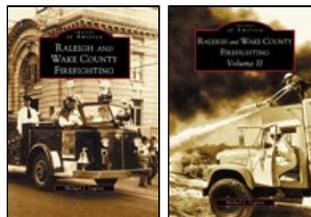
Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Book Signing, Saturday, December 6

11/14/08 124 W, 2 I - + 15 - 9

Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting author Mike Legeros will appear at a book signing at [Barnes & Noble bookstore](#) at Crabtree Valley Mall on Saturday, December 6. The event, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., will feature several local history authors and their Images of America books from [Arcadia Publishing](#):

- Clayton* - Pamela Lipscomb Baumgartner and Todd Johnson
- Holly Springs* - Linda R. Harper for the Town of Holly Springs
- Morrisville* - Ernest Dollar
- North Carolina State University* - Lynn Salsi and Burke Salsi Jr.
- Railroads of North Carolina* - Alan Colemans
- Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting* - Michael J. Legeros
- Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting, Volume II* - Michael J. Legeros
- Raleigh's Reynolds Coliseum* - Craig Chappelow.



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Remember personal info?
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Tornadoes

11/15/08 99 W, 2 I - + 8 - 22

[WRAL has good coverage](#) of the tornado deaths and damage this morning in Johnston and Wilson counties. Two deaths and one person missing. Tornado strikes reported Benson, Dunn, Elm City, Kenly, Lucama, and Smithfield. Power outages affecting 1,000+ customers along the I-95 corridor, primarily in Johnston, Wilson, and Sampson counties. Storm passed through Kenly around 3:30 a.m., and through Wilson about 4:00 a.m. News conference at Kenly Fire Department at 10:30 a.m. Sky 5 aerial footage presently airing on television (8:45 a.m.) At least ten homes destroyed in Kenly. Road closed into town. (8:52 a.m.)

*WRAL photos*

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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North Carolina Tornadoes, 1950-2007

11/15/08 175 W - + 13 - 10

From the impressive [Tornado History Project](#) site, here are some stats on severe weather in our state. Their database has recorded 1,000 tornadoes in North Carolina between May 12, 1950 and September 14, 2007. The most active to least active months have been May (182), Apr (115), Jun (113), Mar (110), Sep (101), Jul (99), Aug (99), Oct (59), Nov (50), Feb (37), Jan (24), and Dec (11). Eastern counties have had the most activity: Carteret (56), Onslow(39), Dare (34), Robinson (34).

The casualties during this period were 111 fatalities and 2,490 injuries. The fatal storms numbered 35 and occurred between 1955 and 2007. Half of the state's 100 counties have experienced tornado fatalities, with highest number of fatal storms in Cumberland (6), Robeson (5), and Sampson (5) counties. The deadliest year was 1984, with 51 killed (and 1,024 injured) on March 28. There were 14 tornados across 20 counties on that day. The next deadliest years were 2006 (9), 1989 (7), and 1974 (7). The deadliest months were March (57), November (15), and April (13).

One disclaimer worth noting. This blogger is not a statistician, nor plays one on television. I do have vivid memories of before and after the North Raleigh tornado of 1988, however. Read about the [1984 tornado outbreak](#) that struck the Carolinas.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
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Restore Your Computer's Performance with Windows XP

11/16/08 82 W - + 11 - 15

Snail's pace computing lately? This [helpful article from Microsoft](#) details top tips for improving performance. Back up first, then (a.) clear out forgotten programs, (b.) free up wasted space, (c.) defragment your computer, (d.) disconnect unused network drives, and (e.) remove Autostart programs. If using a computer that belongs to your organization, disregard these instructions and instead report your performance problems to the IT person(s). Don't be embarrassed. It happens to all of us.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Makes Its Own Shop Truck

11/16/08 103 W, 1 I - + 13 - 8

On the *Fire Chief* magazine web site, in the In Service section, under Shop News, the Raleigh Fire Department's [fleet maintenance vehicle is featured](#). The 2000 Freightliner/American LaFrance former rescue unit was converted to a shop truck in summer 2007. It's equipped with a generator, air compressor and tank, winch, and front bumper compartment for jumper cables. A vise attaches to the rear hitch receiver, and is stored inside when not in use. Loose equipment includes a Nexiq scan tool, battery charging and testing equipment, and a complete tool box. [Read the entire article](#).



Fire Chief photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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39 Shopping Days Remaining

11/16/08 145 W - + 11 - 13

Let's cruise off-topic and commence exploring gift ideas for the holidays. From [Archie McPhee](#), there are stocking stuffers a-plenty. There's your basic [Bacon Wallet](#). Perfect for vegetarians. Or going a little more wacky-- relative concept there-- how about [Chum Bucket Mints](#)? Too yucky, you say? Better stick to [Nihilist Mints](#). Completely flavorless! Cruising over to the bookstore, there's a little brown book now appearing in the New Releases section. [What's Your Poo Telling You?](#) Co-authored by a gastroenterologist, it's a combination self-help book and giggle generator. Isn't maturity wonderful? Beware the related items for this one! Finally, how about some whimsy for the computer users? Jumpin' Banana makes a host of USB-powered amusements, including a [miniature fan and vacuum cleaner](#), a [desktop paper shredder](#), and a [Homer Simpson USB port](#). Wohoo! Just do a Google search to find the products in stores.

Name: (real name preferred)
 E-mail: (optional)
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Manteo Will Occupy New Firehouse Soon (1941)

11/16/08 127 W, 1 I - + 11 - 14

From the News & Observer on June 3, 1941, come some details about Manteo's historic former fire station. Same cost \$12,000 and was expected to opened within 60 days. After that, a new pumper would be purchased. The department presently had a single 500-gallon pumper. The new station was two-stories high and constructed of concrete blocks finished in white stucco. The first floor apparatus area was large enough for four trucks. The second floor would have an office, a records room, and a recreation room. The station was built under WPA contract, with location contribution about \$4,000. MFD was organized in 1933 and had 22 members in 1941. During May 1941, they answered 17 calls. In 1974, Manteo Fire Department merged with Wanchese Fire Department and formed Roanoke Island Fire Department.



This tudor style station still exists as such to this day. A new "North" (Manteo) station was built in 1990 to replace this one. The station is pretty deep and housed 2 pumpers and a 1955 ALF aerial. A 4th bay in the rear housed a van. It sits empty today as it was sold to a private party years ago.

Jason - 11/22/10 - 23:50

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

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Copying Newspaper Articles

11/16/08 134 W, 1 I - + 12 - 9

Current workflow for copying newspaper articles at [Olivia Raney Local History Library](#). Retrieve microfilm reel from cabinet. Display article using microfilm reader. Scan article using library computer. Copy scanned article to memory stick using file name format *yyyy-mm-dd-paper-name*. Drive to home. Copy file to home computer. Display article using Microsoft Photo Editor. Crop, brighten, and crop unwanted areas. Re-save file. Open Microsoft Word. Create blank document. Drag and drop article into document. Enlarge article size as needed. Create PDF version of document. Open web browser. Navigate to [FedEx-Kinkos site](#). Upload PDF document. Place print order. Drive to Kinkos two hours later or later. Retrieve printed article. Drive home. Return to computer. View article file name. Write article date on printed version. File printed version. Archive digital version. Rinse and repeat.



Mike, where do you get your inspiration?

wondering - 11/16/08 - 17:41

I will think on that and see if I arrive at an answer.

Legeros - 11/16/08 - 17:58

I've got some leaves to blow if you have some EXTRA TIME.....

J.Boggs - 11/17/08 - 19:25

me too!

ab - 11/17/08 - 19:49

Free time, interesting concept. I'll take a break after I run out of things to research and/or photograph.

Legeros - 11/17/08 - 20:20

as someone who has been scanning for the last 20+ years, it's a lot of work to get it right – oh yeah, sure it's easy to just hit the auto-scan button, but the result will be awful, and scanning old archives, which i do a lot of, need lots of retouching, correction of moire effects from half-toning in the photos (use gaussian blurring at a low level for that), then sharpening and adjusting levels to make text readable and compensate for fading, and then manually retouching (using the clone tool) to get the foxing (mold spots) out of old documents – it is a major pain in the b**t, a lot of work, but very satisfying when you're able to fix old documents and photos and make them as good as new

cornerhydrant - 11/18/08 - 02:28

So Mike, have you considered offering a morning or evening seminar on digital imaging (best camera, best software, compatibility), or perhaps a basic digital photography class after christmas for those who might get new fancy toys?

J.Boggs ([Email](#)) - 11/20/08 - 12:14

That is an interesting idea. However, it requires expertise on digital imaging products, which I do not possess. Meaning, I have experience (and skills) using the tools that I possess, but lack perspective on other brands and types of tools that I do not possess. Basic digital photography, however, is a topic that applies to any brand of digital camera. I will take this suggestion into consideration.

Legeros - 11/20/08 - 17:40

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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City, College Transfer Custody of Historic Bell on Wednesday

11/18/08 106 W, 1 I - + 12 - 17

For the past 60 years, Raleigh's old fire bell has been on the campus of North Carolina State University (NCU). Mayor Charles Meeker, NCU Chancellor James L. Oblinger, and Fire Chief John McGrath will participate in a ceremony Wednesday at 10 a.m., to officially return custody of the 138-year-old, 1,000-pound, solid bronze bell to the City of Raleigh. The ceremony will be held at Fire Station 1 at [220 S. Dawson Street](#). Parking for media vehicles will be provided on Dawson Street, near Nash Square and across the street for the fire station.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake County Fire Commission Meeting Agenda and Documents (Updated)

11/20/08 166 W - + 19 - 12

Below is the agenda for the Wake County Fire Commission Meeting on Thursday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m., at the Wake EMS Training Facility, located in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building at 4011 Cary Drive. Also available are [several documents related to the agenda](#), released this week by the county Fire-Rescue office.

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
 - Invocation
 - Roll of members present
 - Announcement of new Fire Commission members
 - Approval of agenda
- Minutes
 - Adoption of minutes for September 18, 2008, regular meeting
 - Adoption of minutes for November 5, 2008, work session
- Regular Agenda
 - Fire Commission chair election
 - Consider recommendation from Ad Hoc Committee on FY 09 fire tax budget
 - Fire service compensation plan update
 - Consider adoption of post-incident review program
 - Facility committee
 - Apparatus committee
 - Fire tax budget update
- Information Agenda
 - Fire Commission committee appointments
 - Presentation on Wake County Recruit Academy
 - Chair report
 - Fire/Rescue Services Director report
 - Update on fire station closure evaluation process
- Other business
- Public comments
- Adjournment

Related documents

This posting has been updated with documents related to tonight's agenda.

Legeros - 11/20/08 - 17:42

Are minutes from these meetings posted for public review?

FYI - 11/21/08 - 14:22

Minutes are posted at <http://www.wakegov.com/fire/commission/m..>

Legeros - 11/21/08 - 19:49

For all, the minutes are not posted for this meeting, nor for the meeting in September... give the IT guys a couple of days...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 11/21/08 - 20:42

Also, minutes are approved by the WCFC prior to posting. Thus, this week's meeting minutes will be presented at the next regular WCFC meeting in two months, after which time they'll be posted.

Legeros - 11/21/08 - 22:15

who approves the minutes of the minutes approving the minutes?

authority complex - 11/22/08 - 07:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Goldsboro Firefighter Dies After Shift

11/18/08 99 W, 1 I - + 10 - 18

FireNews reports that Goldsboro Fire Department firefighter Carol Irene Taylor, 41, died Friday, November 14, at her home following a shift after suffering an apparent heart attack, according to the United States Fire Administration. Taylor had responded to an electrical fire early in the morning and returned to the station at approximately 08:00. Following her shift, she returned home and was found deceased later that night. [Read the entire article](#). Information is also available from the [North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#) (NCFFF). Eleven North Carolina firefighters have died in the line of duty [this year](#).



NCFFF photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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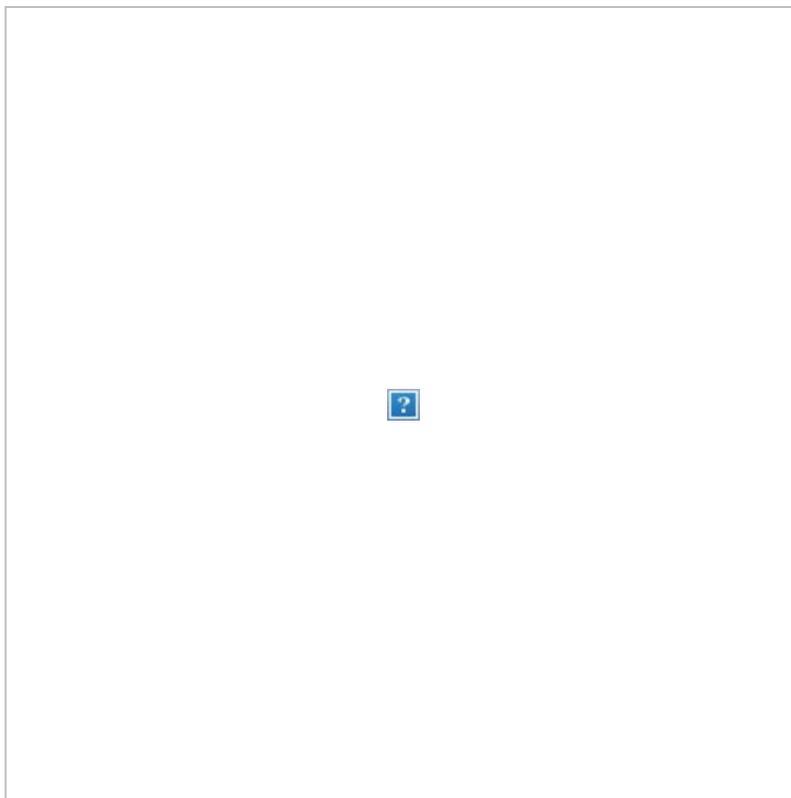
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No Promise of Safety

11/19/08 98 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

A fellow photographer passes along [No Promise of Safety](#), the blogging adventures of a urban explorer slash thrill seeker slash high-angle photographer. The address of the site is equally appropriate, [uliveandyouburn](#) (You Live and You Burn). Choose your adjective to describe this guy's actions. The photography is certainly amazing. He uses a Canon Rebel XTi and a tripod. And he has enough sense to at least include a Hate Mail section on his blog. There's probably a technical rescue response in this guy's future, what do you think?



No Promise of Safety photo

I know what I'm doing mate. Most of the time any way. What makes you assume I don't have the knowledge necessary to safely explore the stuff that I do?

uliveandyouburn ([Web Site](#)) - 11/23/08 - 18:26

Thanks for your note. I'm a glass half-empty type when I see scary scenarios. But then I am neither trained nor experienced in climbing or other high-angle activities.

Legeros - 11/23/08 - 18:34

I dont think Mikey was knocking your technical ascending skills, "Mate", but simply making a lighthearted joke to the fire and rescue personnel who frequent this blog. While I admire your guts and photography skills, I cant help but wonder how long it will be before one of Raleigh's Bravest has to pick you off- considering your statement above. Your human friend, which makes you subject to fallacy. Be safe.

JBoggs - 12/03/08 - 10:50

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh's Historic Fire Bell Comes Home

11/19/08 1023 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

The following press release was released today, about the historic fire bell returned to the city in a ceremony this morning at Station 1. The event celebrated the transfer of the 1870 artifact from North Carolina State University to the Raleigh Fire Department. Mayor Charles Meeker, NCSU Chancellor James L. Oblinger, Fire Chief John McGrath, and Historian Mike Legeros (disguised on right) participated in the ceremony.



NBC17 Photo

Raleigh's Historic Fire Bell Comes Home

Had Been on NCSU Campus for 60 Years

Nobody can say how North Carolina State University (NCSU) came to have it, but today it was returned to its rightful owner – the City of Raleigh.

The object in question is a 1,000-pound, solid bronze bell that sat atop Raleigh's City Hall through the last decades of the 19th century and the first 14 years of the 20th. For the past 60 years the bell has sat silently on the roof of NCSU's Withers Hall.

Today NCSU Chancellor Dr. James L. Oblinger participated in the transfer of custody with Mayor Charles Meeker and Fire Chief John McGrath at a ceremony at Fire Station 1 on Dawson Street.

The ceremony was the epilogue of what started when NCSU architecture graduate student Matt Robbins noticed the bell around 2005 and it struck his curiosity hard. For the past few years, Mr. Robbins has been researching NCSU's architectural history for his master's thesis. The bell on Withers Hall just didn't look right; it didn't fit. It looked like an afterthought. Why, Mr. Robbins wondered, would such a magnificent bell be hidden away in a cupola on the roof of a building that has no tower? Mr. Robbins climbed onto the roof of the building for a close look. Climbing into the cupola, Mr. Robbins found the words: "Baltimore. Md. 1870 Joshua Register & Sons" and the word "Metropolitan."

True to form for any super 21st century sleuth, Mr. Robbins began wandering around Google, where he hurt pay dirt. On the website of former Raleigh Firefighter and department historian Mike Legeros, there appears a photograph of a group of Raleigh firefighters standing around a grounded bell. The writing: "& Sons was visible on the bell. Even more exciting: the bell in the photograph that accompanied a March 9, 1938 article in *The Raleigh Times*, had a chip identical to the mute bell on Withers Hall. The newspaper article told of the bell being removed from the City of Raleigh's Morgan Street fire station to make way for an addition to the revenue building. The article said that the bell originally had been on the roof of Raleigh's Metropolitan Hall.

Armed with this information, Mr. Robbins contacted Mr. Legeros who confirmed that the bell on the roof of Withers Hall had to be the City's original fire bell. Mr. Robbins then brought the matter to the attention of Fire Chief McGrath, who promptly contacted NCSU Chancellor Oblinger. Their discussions brought about today's official transfer of the historic fire bell back to the City's custody.

Bell's History

As indicated on the bell, it was placed on Metropolitan Hall in 1870. The building, located on Fayetteville Street between Exchange Street and Market Place, was a mixed-use facility. The City Hall offices were on the upper floors and the jail and police headquarters were in the basement. Part of the first floor served as a fire station. The other part of the floor served as a farmers' market during the day and assembly hall and entertainment venue in the evening. The bell served a number of functions, including alerting the volunteer Raleigh Fire Department of the need to respond to an emergency.

In 1888, the City bell was connected to the newly installed electric telegraph fire alarm system. Fire alarms tolled the box number and the volunteer fire companies responded to specific street addresses. One of the City's earliest efforts at noise suppression came in 1892 when the fire alarm bell was silenced between 10:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. Bells or gongs had been installed in fire stations and in the homes of many members of the Fire Department by this time, making it unnecessary to trouble the slumber of Fayetteville Street residents.

In 1912, the Raleigh Fire Department was reorganized as a paid, professional entity and the volunteer companies were disbanded. Two years later the City bell was moved to Fire Station 1 on West Morgan Street where it was placed in a tower built for training and for drying hoses. The bell was last rung at that location in 1930, upon the death of veteran firefighter Eugene A. Lasaster, who died off duty. The bell was removed in 1938 when the fire station tower was demolished.

The bell was installed at NCSU's Withers Hall in 1948. It served to notify students of class times and replaced the steam whistle at Riddick Stadium that had served that purpose. It was last struck in 2006 as part of operational test during restoration of Withers Hall.

Moving the Bell

On Oct. 12, the Fire Department's Urban Search and Rescue team removed the bell from its 60-year perch on the west Raleigh roof.

Chief McGrath said the City has engaged an expert in bell restoration and will follow his advice on what should be done to restore the 138-year-old bronze beauty. The restoration expert has already advised the Chief not to allow the bell to be polished, which is a terrible temptation for the fastidious firefighters.

Chief McGrath said that the too-long forgotten bell will be temporarily displayed at the Fire Department's Keeter Training Center on South Wilmington Street. Tentative plans are for the historic bell to be a centerpiece in the Clarence E. Lightner Public Safety Center, which is to be built at the corner of McDowell and Hargett streets; the present location of the Police Department's headquarters.

Prepared by: Jayne Kirkpatrick, Director, Public Affairs Dept.
For more information: Asst. Chief Rusty Styons, Fire Dept., 233-2136
Nov. 19, 2008

Related links:

<http://www.newsobserver.com/print/wednes..>
<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/398..> (with reader comments!)
<http://wake.mync.com/site/Wake/news/stor..> (with MJL footage)

Legeros - 11/19/08 - 17:58

Video of the entire ceremony is now available, <http://raleigh.granicus.com/MediaPlayer...>

Legeros - 11/21/08 - 19:44

Fascinating article . . when I get back to Raleigh, I'll have to stop by to see the old bell. But that bell was not as 'mute' as one might think all those years. You see . . when Mr Robbins saw the bell he was interested in its history . . . but back in 1972 I was one of four budding engineering students who saw the bell and wondered if we could ring it! Once on top of Withers, not only did we find the fantastic bell, but a twin hammer motor driven ringing mechanism all ready to be fired up . . . but not without a bit of work. Alas, the old motor wouldn't run . . so we pulled it off the roof, rebuilt it in our Sullivan Hall dorm room, and returned it some nights later . . YES . . it ran! We added a timer, made our escape, and retired to one of the outdoor stairwells on Cox Hall to listen for our success. Countdown . . SUCCESS . . it rang . . . and rang . . and rang . . I think for about 30 minutes before someone figured out how to turn it off. We were elated . . the sound was just as one might imagine . . deep and rich and wonderous. I repeated the stunt one more time – probably in 1974-1975 – before graduating with a BSEE in

December of 1976. Wonderful days at NCSU . . . memories that will last forever.

P.S. . . you may wonder how I found this article. Just a few days ago I received an e-mail from Rebecca Morphis, Editor of the N.C. State Magazine requesting general interest info as to 'afterhours' activities during our years at NCSU. That got me thinking . . and with a little Googling . . found your excellent article!

Wayne Chism ([Email](#)) - 04/07/09 - 23:19

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: 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 Firefighters Rescue Lost Hikers

11/20/08 153 W, 1 I - + 10 - 17

Members of North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 8 from the City of Raleigh Fire Department, Wake County Emergency Medical Services, Durham Fire Department, and Chapel Hill Fire Department were in Burke County this week participating in a training exercise when they were called on to assist in the search for two lost hikers. At approximately 8:30 p.m. Monday evening, Burke County authorities were alerted that two hikers were lost in the Linville Gorge. Burke County Search and Rescue (SAR) and other local fire departments conducted a search through the night in the rugged terrain as temperatures dipped below 24 degrees with gusty winds. As over two inches of snow covered the ground Burke County and North Carolina Emergency Management asked the members of Task Force 8 to assist in the search and rescue efforts Tuesday morning. [Read the entire press release.](#)



Way to represent...

Silver - 11/20/08 - 23:05

can I get a Hooah USAR?

Knights of Malta - 11/20/08 - 23:07

Nice job TF8

Chauffeur - 11/21/08 - 08:06

Any idea why Cary FD wasnt included? Were they there?

where's waldo, and Cary? - 11/21/08 - 11:35

Way to be in right place at right time. Good job guys

Apex Batt Chief - 11/21/08 - 12:01

Cary wasn't there!

FYI - 11/21/08 - 14:20

Why wasn't Cary there?

Curious - 11/21/08 - 14:30

It wasn't a full blown drill/training. From the sounds of it only a small group went from the TF. One of Cary's members was there but was part of the HART team, not TF-8 per say.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/21/08 - 20:00

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Fire Station Hosting Open House To See Historic Fire Bell

11/21/08 76 W - + 13 - 13

The Raleigh Fire Department is hosting an open house on the weekends of November 21-23 and December 5-7 at Station 1 for residents wishing to see the historic fire bell which was recently returned to the City's possession. Residents are invited to visit Station 1 at 220 South Dawson Street over the next two weekends. Firefighters will be available to host visitors. [Read entire press release.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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History by the Numbers

11/22/08 169 W - + 12 - 12

Merely 138 years have passed since the 1870 fire bell was placed in service at Metropolitan Hall. Below are some fun facts about that time period, between then and now.

Over 2000 people have been members of the Raleigh Fire Department, including:

- 1450+ full-timers
- 400+ volunteers before 1912
- 150+ volunteer auxiliary firefighters during World War II

The above includes:

- 34+ fire chiefs, volunteer and paid
- 16 full-time fire chiefs
- 10 volunteer fire companies

Facilities and apparatus:

- 45 fire station buildings
- 3 training towers

- 9+ hand-drawn rigs
- 8+ horse-drawn rigs (includes 2 steamers, though the 1870 steamer was also drawn by hand)

- 75 engines (including 2 rebuilds and 1 used)
- 17 aerials (including 2 tiller tractor replacements)
- 5 service ladders (including 1 rebuild)
- 12 rescues

- 75+ chief cars

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Plumbing Van

11/22/08 50 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

This apparent ambulance conversion was seen in Apex, fittingly (ha!) parked at the construction site for Station #4. They're still working on the foundation, it looked like. I've heard plumbing can be a drain, but I'd better pipe down before I flush.



Cheese...

Knights of Malta - 11/22/08 - 18:24

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Fire Car

11/22/08 96 W, 1 I - + 14 - 13

This interesting contraption was seen at the [New Hope Valley Railway](#) yard, site of this morning's mass casualty drill. Looks built from the remnants of a brush truck. Google finds a couple interesting images of rail-based fire apparatus. Here's a [Swiss fire train photo](#), via Flickr. Here's the product page of a [Windhoff firefighting and rescue train](#). Here's an old photo of a [forestry patrol rail car](#). And here's an old photo of a [trolley fire engine](#) that protected Park Point in Duluth, MN. Ring, ring, ring.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wide View of Yesterday's Drill

11/23/08 105 W, 1 I - + 7 - 15

Here's a passable panorama of yesterday's mass-casualty drill at the at the [New Hope Valley Railway](#) yard. The scenario was a derailed train with a couple dozen souls aboard. Participating agencies included Apex FD, Fairview FD, Holly Springs FD, Morrisville FD, Wake FR, Apex EMS, Wake EMS, Apex PD, Wake SO, Wake EM, and Barry's Cafe. Command was located at Apex Station #2, located a couple miles up the road. The panorama was created with PhotoShop Elements. Click to enlarge. Depending on your browser settings, you may have to **click a second time** to fully enlarge after the images displays.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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On The Subject of Psychics

11/23/08 73 W - + 18 - 10

Today's *New York Times Magazine* reports that the current financial climate is translating into [booming business for psychics](#). The phone is ringing off the hook, reports a Manhattan soothsayer. Obviously emergency services are missing the boat on this one. Imagine, predicting fires or EMS calls before they occur! Okay, at this juncture, some self-disclosure is necessary. Many years ago, I had red palms. This occurred after painting hydrants.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Photography by the Numbers

11/23/08 85 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

How many pictures did you take? The answer at the mass-casualty drill on Saturday was 982 (shown below). That's 7.45 GB of Canon RAW format files, taken with two cameras. The first cull resulted in 274 keepers, the second with 243, and the third and final with 235. Of those, 33 required rotational adjustments. Post-processing-- exposure, contrast, color, cropping-- performed using Canon Digital Photo Professional, plus PhotoShop Elements for rotational adjustments. Total time behind computer, probably 3 hours. They're uploading now.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mutual Aid

11/23/08 69 W - + 18 - 11

That was a diverse dispatch just now for a structure fire on [Wake Road, off Alston Avenue](#) and inside Durham County. Fire units were Durham Engine 13, Parkwood engine, Parkwood tanker 616, Raleigh Engine 24, Morrisville Engine 3, Morrisville Engine 1, Morrisville Ladder 2, Apex Engine 3, and Apex Rescue 3. Miss anyone? From Google Maps, looks like ~~Apex-Durham Highway~~ has the farthest run. ~~About 10 miles from Station 3.~~ Almost 15 miles as Google routes it.

Cary E7 also!

Down the Road - 11/23/08 - 17:48

believe DHP1 was on that dispatch as well!

Down the Road some more - 11/23/08 - 19:09

Thanks for the corrections. Yes, DHFD Pumper 1 was also dispatched. They were first on the list!

Legeros - 11/23/08 - 20:06

What kind of structure were they dispatched to? A house? Just wondering with 8 Engines and only 1 Ladder, Rescue, and Tanker. People along Hwy 55 must have thought the world was burning.

Luke - 11/25/08 - 01:49

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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Holly Springs Station 3

11/23/08 36 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

While we're speaking of western Wake County, here's a view of Holly Springs Station 3 at 4112 Friendship Road as photographed yesterday. Click to enlarge. Or [see Lee's photos](#), shot a couple months back.



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Pipes + Siren

11/23/08 23 W, 1 I - + 18 - 9

A member of our favorite pipes and drums band suggested this one. The title says it all. Click to enlarge:



which is louder – the Q or the pipes?

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/24/08 - 19:03

Both require hearing protection...

Legeros - 11/24/08 - 19:08

Spreading the love on this pic:

<http://airraidsirens.com/forums/viewtopi..>

Chuk Gleason - 10/27/10 - 11:57

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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have often wondered if that is why Raleigh didn't (or wasn't able) to purchase a new engine company between 1936 and 1949. Good question for Mike to research in his spare time.

Jon C ([Email](#)) - 11/24/08 - 23:29

One think that I think you have to consider, although the unavailability of fire apparatus due to increased demand could certainly have been a factor, in the 'old days' fire apparatus was expected to last longer. Think about it, the RFD kept the 700 series pumpers in service until the late 70s (20+ years). The 1950 Mack was in service for many, many years as well (20+). And look to surrounding FDs. Typically, 20-25+ years was the minimum expectation for service, either commercial or custom. Garner kept the 1957 Chevy/LaFrance in service until at least 1976 (19). The 1962 Chevy/LaFrance at Yrac was in service as a first-out unit until AFTER 1985 (23+). I think many of the new trucks purchased by RFD in the very early days were for expansion rather than for replacement since Raleigh was starting to grow. I may be wrong, Mike can clarify.

And then, how often were the 'safety standards' updated prior to the 1980s? Very rarely, so there was no real 'need' to replace trucks as long as they ran and pumped. Also, there were no grants available for fire truck purchases, nor were there low-interest loan programs (like the Farmers' Home Administration) available for buying fire trucks.

I remember hearing my parents talking about those days right after WWII in that at first there was no money available, and there was a delay in getting everything converted back from war production to normal production. Example, while ALF did make some fire trucks during the war, they also made components for the P-39 Airacobra fighter.

While all of these probably had some affect on things, I still say part of it (and probably a larger part) would have been the 'economy' of sending smaller trucks with smaller crews. After all, we had already demonstrated that we could function with less during the war.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 11/25/08 - 20:34

Update to this posting from 2008.

This has appeared again for sale on ebay: <http://cgi.ebay.com/1945-Ford-Truck-Ad-F..>

Someone asked on another thread about war time restrictions, which is referenced above.

Couple interesting things in the ad text: "Under government allocation, present production of Ford Trucks is necessarily limited as to types, equipment and quantities, for essential civilian needs. See your near-by Ford Truck dealer for friendly counsel in obtaining official certification of your requirements."

Also, it appears Durham operated TWO such trucks: "On December 19, 1941, the City of Durham equipped two Ford Trucks for fire service, augmenting the city's other equipment. These trucks have been used extensively and have given excellent results at a very low operating cost. The truck pictured has answered a total of 1,107 [?] calls, of which ??? were answered by this truck alone."

Legeros - 05/09/10 - 22:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Firemen Patrol Downtown Area (1941)

11/24/08 174 W - + 13 - 10

From the *News & Observer* on December 17, 1941, ten days after the attack on Pearl Harbor: the entire Raleigh Fire Department yesterday volunteered to "do their part" to prevent sabotage. Last night, a shift of eight aided police by patrolling the "downtown district." All 56 department members organized into two shifts. Some 17 men will patrol each night in two shifts. The first works 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. The second works 1 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. There's no pay for the extra work; the men volunteered to perform "guard duty" on their own time. Fire Chief W. R. Butts noted that they would "work chiefly to prevent fires" but had also been sworn as police officers and had the "power to make arrests." He also requested public cooperation in "keeping cars and trucks out of alleys and off the streets in the business district late at night." Otherwise, firemen would be "seriously hindered" in case of an emergency.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Thawing Unit in Operation

11/25/08 89 W - + 14 - 8

Found on another site, here's a YouTube video of an [FDNY thawing unit operating](#) after a three-alarm fire in Hackensack, NJ. Always wondered what they looked like in operation. [FDNY Fire Zone](#) calls it a "mobile utility van with a portable steam-generating boiler; it's super-heated steam melts the ice off the hoses, ladders and tower ladders." This particular unit is operated by Engine 76. Michael Martinelli has pics of past and present units at that hosue on his excellent [FDNY apparatus site](#).

what a great site, and the patches from each of the boroughs – WOW!!!

cornerhydrant - 11/26/08 - 01:27

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Old Station and Apparatus Photos

11/27/08 275 W, 1 I - + 17 - 16

For your holiday enjoyment, here are some newly uncovered old photos of Raleigh fire stations and fire stations. They date from 1954, circa 1980, and circa 1989. They're also noisy pictures, as they were scanned from printed contact sheets. Negative scans forthcoming. They'll be added to Mike's [stations](#) and [apparatus](#) pages as time permits. Click to enlarge. You may need to click a second time as well, after the image displays:



The pictures include the first posed photograph of the old tankers that's been found. Pics of the 1922 service truck have been hard to find as well. More notes and details:

Station 1 - 1954

E9 - 1953 American LaFrance

E1 - 1953 American LaFrance

Engine 9 was the second engine at Station 1, later numbered E10, E15, and E13.

Station 3 - 1954

E3 - 1951 American LaFrance

Station 4 circa 1980

E4 - 1973 Mack

Station 5 circa 1980

Foam 5 - 1968 Chevy

E5 - 1973 Mack

T5 - 1961 American LaFrance

Station 6 - 1954

E6 - 1950 Mack

T6 - 1922 American LaFrance, remained in service until 1961! Originally delivered with chemical tank and hose reel.

Station 7 circa 1980

E7 - 1971 Mack

T7 - 1980 Ford

Engine 8 circa 1980

E8 - 1961 American LaFrance

Station 10 - Circa 1971, before opening

Boom truck part of RFD fleet? Fire alarm system truck?

Station 10 circa 1980

E10 - 1960 American LaFrance

R10 - 1954 Reo, not staffed

Station 11 circa 1980

E11 - 1975 Mack

T11 - 1971 Chevy

Station 12 circa 1980

E12 - 1975 Mack

R12 - 1966 Chevy , reserve

Station 14 circa 1980

E14 - 1958 American LaFrance

T14 - 1960 GMC/Alexander, one of two, both served until 1986

Station 19 after opening, probably 1989

E19 - 1968 American LaFrance

B shift in late 1989 included new firefighter M. J. Legeros

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

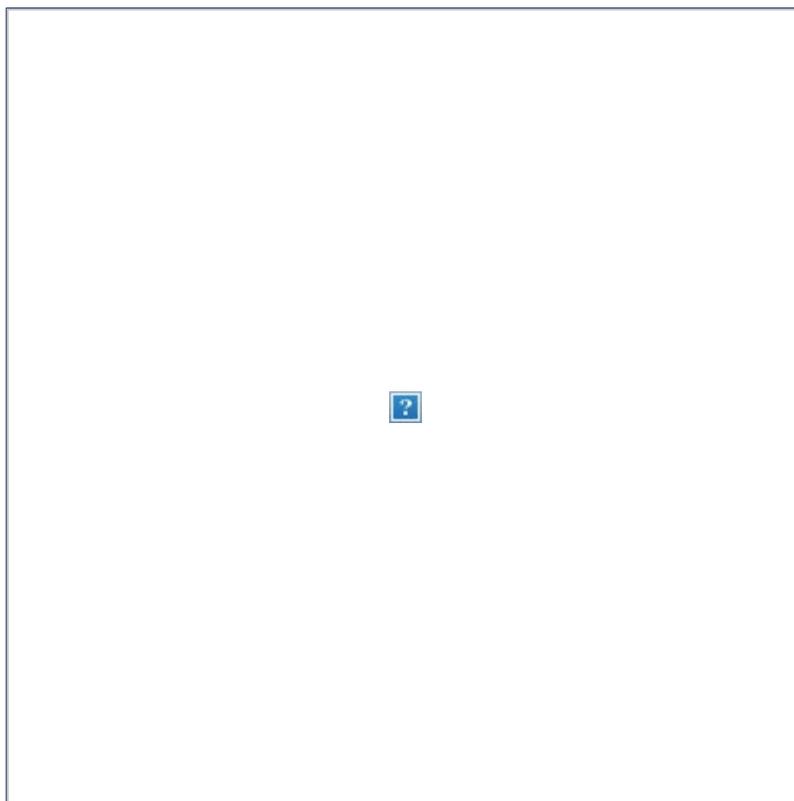
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Heavy Wrecker

11/27/08 75 W, 1 I - + 9 - 15

Here's a tough-looking truck in St. Louis, MO, a heavy wrecker operated by the SLFD repair shops. [Read about the shops](#), which also operate an air truck, warming bus, and mobile command post. Here's some video of the [heavy wrecker in action](#). The St. Louis Fire Department has 30 stations with 36 pieces of suppression apparatus. Two are heavy rescues, the rest are ladders or quints. Click to enlarge:



St. Louis Fire Department Photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Black Friday

11/28/08 180 W, 1 I - + 17 - 14

The morning mission was a GPS replacement, upgrading from a [Garmin StreetPilot C330](#) (bought last year at this time for \$128) to a [Garmin Nuvi 205W](#) (sale priced everywhere at \$149). That is, except for Tiger Direct, where it was \$10 cheaper. Below was the line leading into Tiger Direct at 5:40 a.m. Yours Truly diverted to Staples, opening at 6:00 a.m. Why the GPS upgrade? Fewer steps to enter a street address. C330 required entry of every city name. 205W remembers previously entered cities. Two taps to enter "Raleigh." Time savings? Maybe 10 seconds, which feels like 100 seconds when you're in a hurry. e.g., going to a fire. Total haul for the morning? GPS unit, plus 400 blank CDs (never have enough of those), plus a trio of \$99.99 (!) eMachine monitors, for multi-monitor expansion trials. (Probably a second video card in my future, too.) And a shredder, which I learned the Missus was intending to buy as a Christmas gift. Guess we think alike. Glad we don't look alike.

What were your adventures?

let me know how the multi-monitor setup works with the desktop – been wanting to do that for ages – presently running a larger monitor off the laptop, so i can see what i am doing

cornerhydrant - 11/28/08 - 14:01

Wal-Mart worker dies in Long Island, trampled during opening stampede: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2008..

Legeros - 11/28/08 - 15:27

Been running a dual monitor setup for years, and can't imagine how I got along without it.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 11/28/08 - 15:43

I am expanding from 1x2 to 2x2. Two computers, four monitors. May try 3x2, too. Now if I can just find some good desk/shelf arrangements, to get everything at an even eye-level...

Legeros - 11/28/08 - 15:56

two of the same monitors? did you need a special video card? terrible news about the walmart employee – hope there won't be any more incidents – prefer to do my shopping online to avoid such crowds – did black friday once in my life, will never do it again, as someone ripped the stuff i had in my arms and ran off with it – had to walk to the end of the parking lot to find the car – seemed like a mile away

cornerhydrant - 11/28/08 - 15:57

you'll be wanting Anthro's video editing tables (on sale though, unaffordable otherwise) – <http://www.anthro.com/>

cornerhydrant - 11/28/08 - 19:01

I'm running 3 19" monitors for a couple of years. So much easier when dealing with several different documents or programs at the same time. Yes, you will need another video card. I'm running an ATI. Go by Tigerdirect.com You can probably just add one to your existing computer if your current card doesn't have 2 outputs.

AB - 11/28/08 - 20:47

ah, screen envy!! – just realized i would need a splitter and special software to do it with the only real desktop(?) in the house, a mac mini – laptops hooked up to an external monitor work well (image looks great!), but it is so confusing to keep trying to remember the keyboard is not in front, when the laptop is off to the right side and its screen is half the size of the hooked up monitor

cornerhydrant - 11/28/08 - 21:06

After watching 6 computer monitors at work (those are just the ones I look at), I'm glad to only come home and have to look at one! Then again, I would like to add one or two more to my desktop.

BTW... I got suckered into going to a local mall (Southpark) with the line, "Well, it is 1:30pm so the mall shouldn't be too bad, I've been before on a Black Friday afternoon and it wasn't bad." HAHAHA... boy did that trip suck. I spent the majority of the time at the various lounging locations, people watching. Saw some really intense shoppers and some really tacky ones!

Luke - 11/29/08 - 14:29

now, i'm really wanting a second monitor for the mac mini, but wondering whether that would hamper cpu performance – Mike, computer expert, advice please! after all, that little box with extra ram, but a pared down skeleton operating system, with almost everything removed but the scanning software, is the computer that is operating a monster SCSI scanner 20 times it's size – it's a lean, mean scanning machine

cornerhydrant - 11/29/08 - 15:47

Since we're talking GPS systems; looking at buying one for use on the fire truck. More and more people are buying them for work purposes; Mike, is it your opinion that the 205W is best suited for this application? Or, are there any other units out there, maybe a little cheaper, that require less steps to get to a street address? Feedback from anyone would be helpful!!!

Silver - 12/01/08 - 13:22

One more thing; is the only difference in the 205 and 205W the screen size?

Silver - 12/01/08 - 13:26

Silver, I only have experience using the two Garmin models mentioned. I am neither an expert on Garmin models across the board, nor other GPS brands. Since GPS auto units are very portable, perhaps ask around and borrow a couple different ones for a few hours, and see what you think? Regarding the 205 versus 205W, I believe both the LCD size is different and the memory card reader is different. The 205 uses Micro SD, while the 205W uses SD. But some Google searches can quickly expand on these details.

Legeros - 12/01/08 - 19:47

...also, others can provide an emergency response perspective. Vehicle noise probably drowns the "turn left here" voice directions, thus requiring concentrated watching of the display. They're probably best used with a second person watching the GPS, and advising the driver. That's my guess, at least.

Legeros - 12/01/08 - 19:51

Unless you interface the audio output of the GPS, (which is possible), into the apparatus headsets they are impossible to hear and almost as difficult program in an apparatus in motion. At NH we are using a slightly different system. We have a laptop with WCFire (for basic directions), ERG, Hazmat Data, Firstlook Pro Pre-Plans, and MS Streets and Trips. The Streets and Trips uses a GPS plugged into the laptop that is mounted to the inside of the windshield. Streets and Trips lets you turn the GPS on/off by clicking 1 button on the screen, then an icon (vehicle) shows up on the screen and it automatically keeps you centered on the screen and rotates the map based on your direction of travel. So when you're traveling into an unfamiliar area you see the next streets approaching on the screen before you reach them...and we add hydrant locations into the map using "pushpins" that show up when driving. We can also add streets, etc that aren't on the map. We've had it for about 3-4 years now and it still works well. Not bad for \$60 worth of software including a free GPS...Even when the latest nav software is released, the data is still 2 years behind...so this is a simple, cost effective option until something better comes out.

AB ([Email](#)) - 12/01/08 - 20:57

GPS units must have improved a lot in the past few months. I was playing with a friend's a few months back and it took it forever to finally locate the street after having to type it in, the unit to find it, and finally give directions. I figured it would be faster to just look up the streets

that are outside the company's first-due in the map book since dispatch gives the page and block number. I'd hope every Lt. knows the first-due streets since it is their job.

RescueRanger - 12/01/08 - 21:00

i have a tomtom that i bought during a huge promo, and even though i could not live without it, it takes forever for me to get a signal (perhaps it's where i am located) and it's also very difficult to program while the vehicle is in motion, hence the need for one map programmer/reader, another driver and frequent needs to pull over not to mis-type, and end up with directions to another city/state – in japan, we had in vehicle voice activated gps, which was extremely reliable, and switched to tv during stops, but it's a necessity there, as street addresses are impossible to find

cornerhydrant - 12/02/08 - 01:07

Definitely the unit would be used by someone other than the driver, just safer that way. To address Rescue Ranger; yes, every driver should know the streets in their first due, however, riding a ladder or rescue increases the number by leaps and bounds and it's nearly impossible to know every single street.

If the unit was in the back of the apparatus, when you're already on the street the GPS is tracking your progress. If the tones hit for you, when you're returning to service from a long run, put the street in and bam, you have routing. Versus the ol' map book scenario; "ok, ummmmm, we are on falls of neuse, hold on, referring me to page 27, just head up to Newton and turn left..." . Hell, I know of a few people that their map reading skills are GARBAGE!!! Yup, that's right, grown ups and can't read a map!!

Just another tool for the toolbox folks, that's all.

Silver - 12/02/08 - 01:09

i see voice activated is available in the US now, but at outrageous prices – see: http://reviews.cnet.com/4321-3430_7-6604.. – never tried these units, but can say, that the ones in japan can be used without taking your eyes off the road, since the button for voice control is on the steering wheel, and the volume goes through the radio

cornerhydrant - 12/02/08 - 01:33

this should look interesting once the price comes down to earth <http://www.tomtom.com/products/product.p..>

cornerhydrant - 12/02/08 - 08:54

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

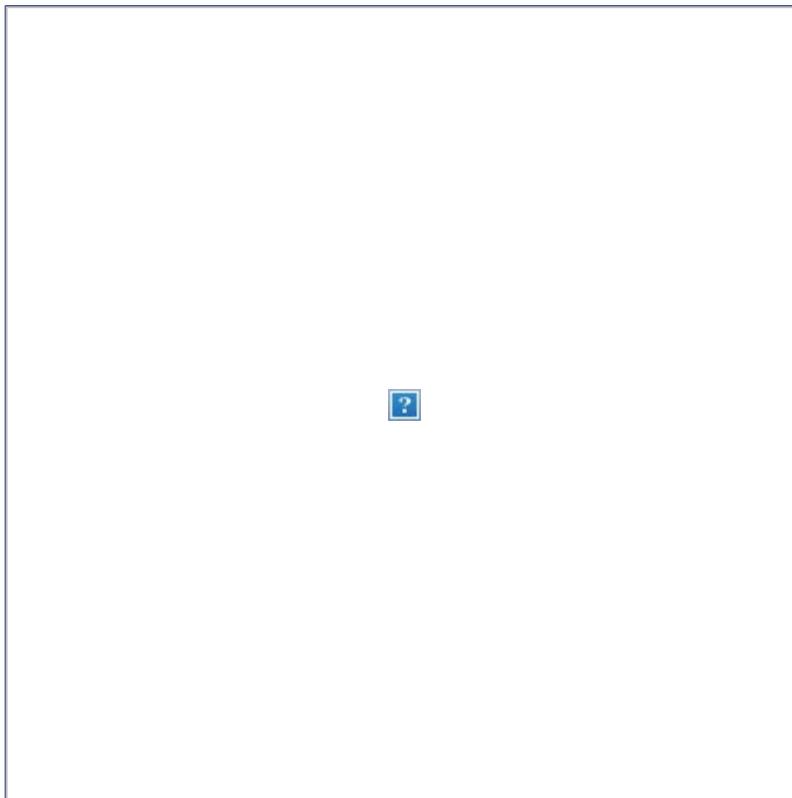
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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View From a Far

11/29/08 83 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

Here's an interesting [incident photo from Japan](#), found via Google images. The photographer is [Phillippe](#), who appears to be a French person who was vacationing. Notice a variety of differences between Asian and American firefighters. Colored hose wrappers. Big hose couplings. Long, playpipe-style nozzles. Hand cart, for hose 'n' nozzles. Box-frame extension (?) ladder. Silver fire helmets. And chevrons on the traffic cone! [See the original image](#) (and click the **magnifying glass icon** to see full-size).

*Phillipe photo*

and in Kyoto, the turnout is all silver and highly reflective, and looks more like samurai style armor, especially the helmet with neck and ear flaps – sorry, didn't have my camera with me that time

cornerhydrant - 11/29/08 - 15:18

What? Silver is a firefighter in Kyoto too?

RescueRanger - 11/29/08 - 15:38

Yeah, on my 4 days off I fly over there and work 2 days, then come back.

Silver - 11/29/08 - 15:51

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

E-mail: (optional)

No

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Rescue Squad to be Reinstated in Orange

11/29/08 92 W - + 19 - 14

The *News & Observer* reports that the Orange County Rescue Squad will be reinstated. The county emergency services director announced this week that OCSR will return to service for "special events, overflow medical calls, and search-and-rescue operations on land." They will no longer be utilized for extrication. The squad was placed on stand-down this summer, due to safety concerns. [Read the entire article](#). Earlier news links are available [here](#) and [here](#). The squad also has a web site, located at www.orangerescue.org.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Tour, Breakfast* « [Rescue Squad to be Re...](#) » [Raleigh Comprehensive...](#)
to Commemorate Great New Bern Fire

Tour, Breakfast to Commemorate Great New Bern Fire

11/29/08 186 W, 2 I - + 17 - 10

Found via [FireNews](#), two New Bern organizations are working together to host a commemorative tour on the anniversary of the 1922 fire that leveled 40 city blocks and left 3,000 people homeless. The tour will be held on December 1, the 86th anniversary of the fire. The tour begins at the Fireman's Museum at 9 a.m. A continental breakfast will be served, and guests will get a brief history of the fire. The information presented during the tour is the result of a year and a half of research, much done by historian Bill Hand. Tickets are \$20 each. [Read the entire Sun Journal article](#), which includes information on reserving tickets.

To learn more about the 1922 fire, read these [special program notes](#) from 1992, from a New Bern/Craven County Public Library event. Also, click to enlarge the below picture, that shows the ruins of St. Peter's A.M.E.Z. Church, at 615 Queen Street. The image, credited to the New Bern-Craven County Photographic Archives, appears in Edward C. Goodman's excellent book [Fire! The 100 Most Devstating Fires and the Heroes Who Fought Them](#).



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Comprehensive Plan Draft Rollout and Open House, December 3

11/30/08 102 W, 1 I - + 10 - 16

Today's *News & Observer* covers the city's comprehensive plan update that debuts in draft form on Wednesday, December 3, at the Raleigh Convention Center. Registration is at 6:30 and the program starts at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served! [View the event flyer](#) . The web site for Planning Raleigh 2030 is, well, www.planningraleigh2030.com. As the *News & Observer* reports, the 380-page plan recommends funneling 60 percent of the city's growth over the next 20 years-- some 72,000 residential units-- to the downtown, seven urban centers, and several major road corridors. [Read the entire News & Observer article.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Mitchell County Plant Fire

11/30/08 94 W, 1 I - + 19 - 13

[FireNews](#) has coverage of the overnight explosion and fire at the Unimin Corporation Quartz/Feldspar Plant in Mitchell County. The 10:50 p.m. fire engulfed the plant located off Highway 226 between Spruce Pine and Ledger. The fire was contained at 5:00 a.m. Mutual aid responded from seven (!) counties, and residents within a four-mile radius north of the plant were asked to evacuate. [Read the entire story](#), which includes details from the *Mitchell News Journal*, *Citizen-Times*, and Associated Press. There's also a [Google map](#) showing the location.



Mitchell News Journal Photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Book Signing on Saturday

12/01/08 117 W - + 9 - 11

This is a reminder that Yours Truly appears Saturday, December 6, at a book signing at [Barnes & Noble bookstore](#) at Crabtree Valley Mall. From 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., there'll be a handful of local history authors and their Images of America books from [Arcadia Publishing](#): Clayton - Pamela Lipscomb Baumgartner and Todd Johnson, *Holly Springs* - Linda R. Harper for the Town of Holly Springs, *Morrisville* - Ernest Dollar, *North Carolina State University* - Lynn Salsi and Burke Salsi Jr., *Railroads of North Carolina* - Alan Colemans, *Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting* - Michael J. Legeros, *Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting, Volume II* - Michael J. Legeros, and *Raleigh's Reynolds Coliseum* - Craig Chappelow.

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

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

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Telecommunicator Consoles

12/02/08 312 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

Speaking of multiple monitors, here's how the telecommunicator consoles at the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center are arranged. Seven, count 'em seven monitors are utilized for some consoles! [See them in operation.](#)



Here's what's what:

1. Advance Tactical Mapping (ATM), which combines Graphic Information System (GIS), Global Positioning System (GPS), and Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) technologies. It's interfaced with the computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system, and is linked to the in-vehicle navigation of responding units. The ATM shows all incidents for the agency that the telecommunicator is logged into.
2. CAD unit status monitor, which shows all active units whether in service, out of service, or assigned to an incident. Law enforcement units appear only when officers log into their mobile terminals. Fire and EMS units are displayed 24/7, regardless of their mobile terminal or DEK box status.
3. Phone map, which is interfaced with the telephone system and displays the location of the caller. If zoomed out, shows all active callers. Also shows wireless callers and the cell tower they are utilizing.
4. Radio console, which controls the VHF, UHF, and 800 MHz trunking, patching, paging, and multi-channel simultaneous selection. It is interfaced with CAD and Locution. Not present on non-radio (call taker) consoles.
5. CAD data entry, for call takers. Also shows dispatch information, and incident updates.
6. CAD incident status monitor, shows all active incidents which are categorized as Pending (calls waiting to be dispatched), Dispatched, Stacked (low priority calls assigned to a law officer's mobile terminal when the officer is already dispatched to another incident), and Scheduled (held calls that appear at appointed times, such as funeral escorts).
7. 911 telephone system, shows Automatic Number Identification (ANI) and Automatic Location Identification (ALI). It is interfaced with TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) and has one-touch transfers. Interfaced with the phone map system and CAD.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Watch Out For Cyclists

12/02/08 28 W - + 12 - 8

This one's making the rounds, a [perception test](#) that's part of a public service campaign to reduce car-bicycle accidents in England. Pretty cool.

I did not see it- very funny!

firebug - 12/04/08 - 18:59

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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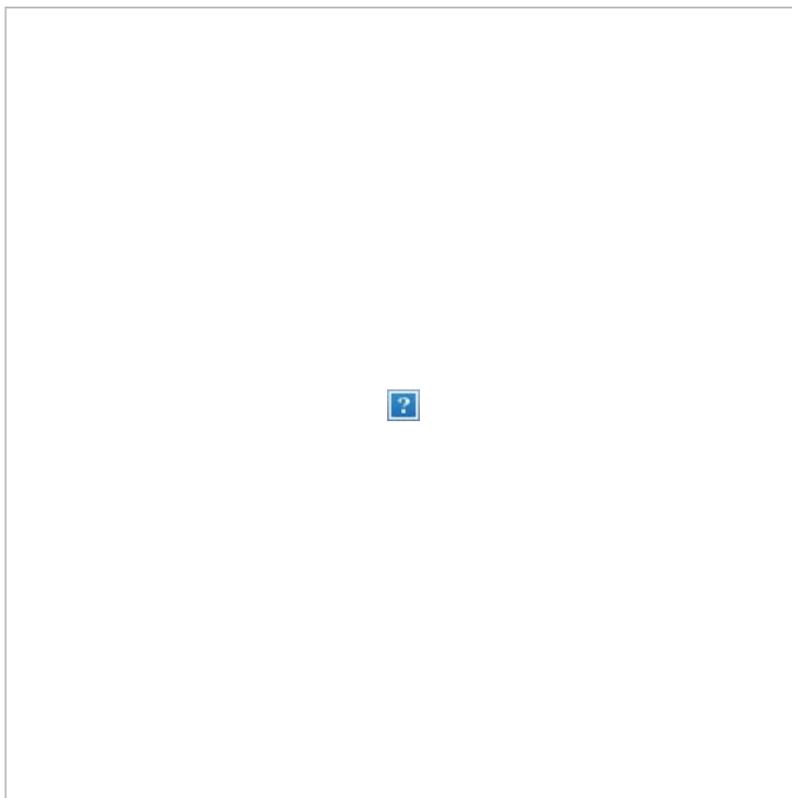
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Fire Truck Book Cart

12/02/08 88 W, 1 I - + 15 - 6

From a librarian friend, here's the second place winner in this year's Pimp My Bookcart contest from [Unshelved](#). Named *Phoenix Rising*, the fire truck book cart was created by Harlem High School Welding 3. [Learn more and see larger photos](#). The second-place prize was a Smith Systems Mini 3 Sloping Book Truck (retail value \$305) of any color, and shipped free of charge. The contest is open to libraries, schools, bookstores, or any other organization with a book cart "in need of some spiffing up."



this one takes first prize in my book!! it would be perfect for the pediatric ward of hospitals, as a book cart, or even as a medicine cart
cornerhydrant - 12/03/08 - 15:12

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Firefighter Critically Injured in ATV Wreck

12/03/08 83 W - + 10 - 12

As many have heard and [WRAL now reports](#), Archer Lodge and Raleigh firefighter Andrew "A. J." Johnson remains in critical condition at WakeMed after a vehicle-accident yesterday. Johnson and a second firefighter, Kirby Turner, were injured Tuesday when their all-terrain vehicle collided with a car. The accident occurred on Buffalo Road in Archer Lodge about 5:15 p.m. Both were off-duty. Turner, an Archer Lodge and Rocky Mount firefighter, was treated at the hospital and released.

FireNews is also covering the story, <http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news...>

Legeros - 12/03/08 - 21:57

Our thoughts and prayers are with both of our brother firefighters injured in this horrible accident, please feel free to contact us if we can do anything to help!—Your Brothers at Durham Highway

DHFD - 12/03/08 - 23:19

Does anyone have any update on his condition?

New - 12/04/08 - 08:37

A.J. passed away earlier this afternoon.

Friend - 12/04/08 - 17:15

God Bless you brother!. We will always remember you!! Our thoughts and prayers are with the family!

EWFD - 12/04/08 - 17:52

News coverage...

WRAL – http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/sto..

WTSB Radio – <http://www.1270wmpm.com/pages/localnews...>

Clayton News – <http://www.claytonnews-star.com/default...>

Legeros - 12/04/08 - 21:44

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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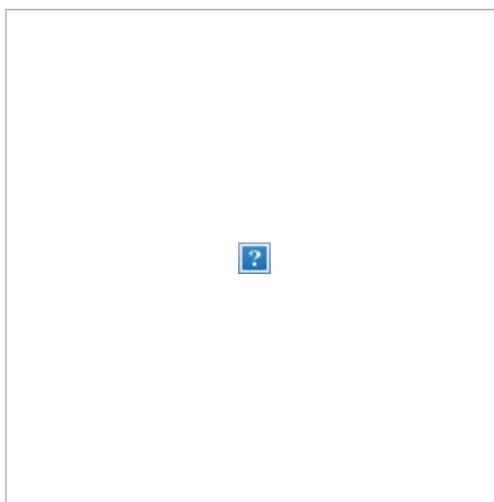
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Builders Fight New Circuit Breaker Rule

12/04/08 148 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Today's *News & Observer* [reports on an initiative](#) to repeal a requirement that new homes have a special circuit breaker that can prevent electrical fires. The devices are called **arc fault circuit interrupters**, writes the paper. They're advanced versions of circuit breakers and can detect the slight variations in current often caused by frayed wire. Such fluctuations can lead to fires, and account for 40,000 home fires a year. The breakers are **already required** for bedrooms in new North Carolina homes, and the new rule requires breakers in nearly all rooms in new homes. [Read the entire article](#). For more information on the technology, do a quick Google search. There are fact sheets and news articles and even this [Wikipedia page](#). Sounds good for older home owners as well, such my myself. Sounds like a good Christmas gift to ourselves, an electrician's call.



Well I'm not a builder but I play one on tv. Not really, but our home came equipped with these new arc fault breakers when we purchased it in 2006. I honestly feel much safer (from a fire hazard perspective) and think they're a good idea. We had an issue with one of the circuits and it took the builder's electrician 1 year (yes 1 year) to figure it out. The problem was that the ground wire was slightly touching the box in one of the rooms and that was tripping it up. Fortunately, my father found that the electrician had "rigged" the wiring on the install to pass inspection when we were adding a circuit. They ran the breaker as a normal one with the neutral wire still insulated into the arc fault side of the circuit so it wouldn't trip... Glad he found it and I made them come out and fix it. I will say though that some electricians are NOT happy with the regulations because there's so new that most don't know the ins and outs. I used them exclusively in the 1000sq ft add/on that I'm doing myself at my house and have had no problems whatsoever with them. I think it's like when the gfci breakers came out long ago. It was chaos for a while then every body got the hang of it and things started running smoothly. From a firefighting perspective, I firmly believe that it will save lives and property if they function as designed.

yfd482 - 12/04/08 - 11:05

I think this is another issue that is great for the common good of all, but unfortunately comes down to money and how the additional costs take profits from the builders bottom line. Similar to how the sprinkler requirement got voted down recently.

Sparky - 12/04/08 - 12:41

The sprinkler requirement was voted down? I thought that in the big conference that it was approved....at least that is what I was told

kprice205 - 12/04/08 - 14:44

I read that ,yes it passed, but the builders appealed it due to the fact that "special interest groups", mainly the fire service, had too much influence on the decision. Was it voted down after that?

New - 12/05/08 - 06:41

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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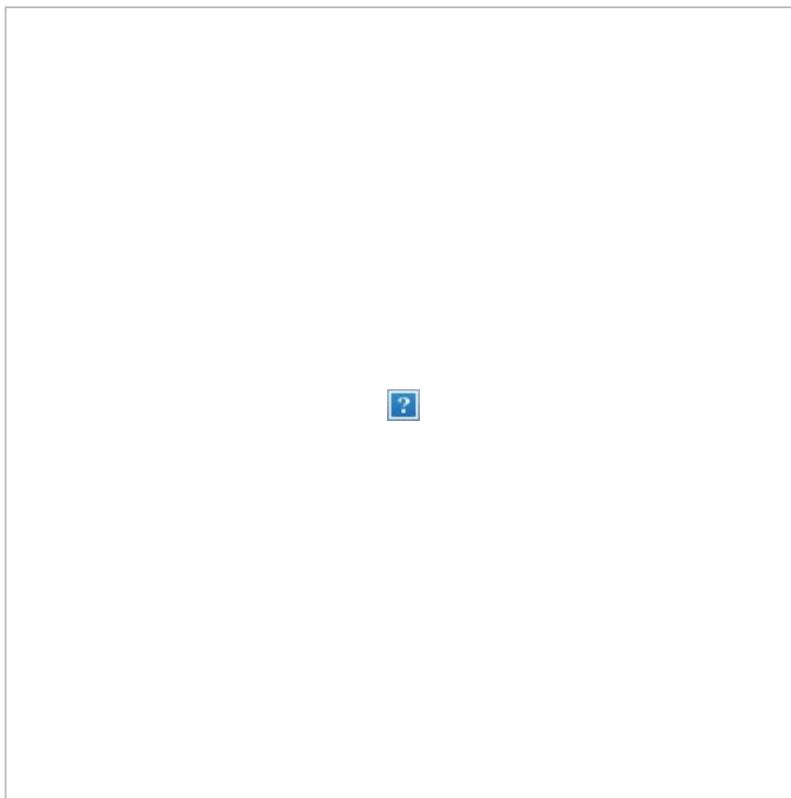
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Firefighter Ken Gordon Named Cary Employee of the Year

12/04/08 94 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

With nearly six years of employment with the Town of Cary and an outstanding commitment to teamwork and service, Ken Gordon has been named the Town of Cary's 2008 Employee of the Year. Gordon, 49, currently serves as a Firefighter II and was chosen from a field of 16 excellent nominees from the Town's nearly 1,115 employees. Gordon is the first nominee from the Fire Department to ever receive the Employee of the Year award. [Read the entire press release.](#)



Town of Cary Photo

Way to go BLUE!!!!

[FromTheDeuce] - 12/04/08 - 23:48

Congrats!!! You my boy BLUE!!

JDean ([Email](#)) - 12/05/08 - 12:38

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Remembering A.J.

12/04/08 78 W, 1 I - + 12 - 7

Photographers Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros are collecting photos to remember Firefighter Andrew J. "A.J." Johnson, who passed away this afternoon. We're compiling our incident, event, and training photos from both Raleigh and Archer Lodge. The photos can be viewed at www.legeros.com/temp/aj. If you also have photos of A.J., feel free to contribute. Just [mail them](#) to Mike. The below collage can also be slightly enlarged:



God Bless AJ, his family and friends. Rest in Peace Brother, if there is anything we can do please contact us.

DHFD - 12/04/08 - 23:55

Our thoughts and prayers to the Family and brothers.

FFD - 12/05/08 - 16:24

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

Remember personal info?

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No

Comment:

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Why We Sign Our Names

12/06/08 258 W - + 13 - 11

December to January is a great time for change. For this blog, the New Year could mean new things. Maybe an update to the blogging software, when the next version of Pivot is ready. Maybe we'll start, say, moderating comments. I continue to mull on the latter. Moderated comments, meaning reader remarks that require approval before appearing, would negate the need to occasionally delete them.

Why does Mike delete comments? The criteria are fairly simple. First, if the comment is lewd, crude, or otherwise inappropriate. These are pretty doggone rare. Second, if the comment is (a.) anonymous and (b.) addresses a sensitive or incendiary topic. Those deletions are infrequent, but not uncommon. Why delete comments in the second category, you ask? It's the lack of a name.

No matter how powerful, relevant, or thought-provoking a perspective might offer *on a more sensitive or incendiary topic*, the lack of a name negates its value. Too many readers simply see red when something *about a prickly subject* is signed "Guest," "Friend," "Wondering," etc. The message itself might be fine. The timing of the message might be fine. But the fact that it's unsigned turns everybody off. We no longer "hear" what you're saying, because we can't get past that you're speaking from behind the curtain. Experience shows that that lead to a deteriorating quality of conversation, and a host of negative feelings all around. Thus, on this blog, unsigned comments about sensitive stuff are preemptively deleted.

As always, I welcome comments on the subject of comments. Post `em, or mail `em privately.

Legeros - 12/06/08 - 16:19

Mike, I understand your point on losing some of the validity of comments because they come from an unidentified source, but is it really necessary to delete the comments simply because of that? If a truly valid point, argument, or comment is posted, then why should it matter the source? This is sometimes the stimulation needed to enhance thought provoking conversations between others in which we can all learn and benefit without having to be identified. It is for this very reason that people have turned to the internet and even why writers of years past used false names.

Now, holding true to your statement above, you will probably delete this comment without further discussion because of the lack of a name, although I know that will be very hard because it valid point has been raised....What do you think?

Guest, Friend, Wondering - 12/06/08 - 18:01

I use anonymity because of fear of retaliation for voicing my opinion. What retaliation? Someone calling their hunting buddy with higher rank. Does it happen? Yes. Ive even been threatened by that process directly. Its alive and well. I promise.

People need to stop being afraid of strong opinions. The truly educated can defend them and the mature can accept that they're either wrong or that the other person is allowed to have their opinion without letting it escalate.

The problem is that this site is trolled by the small minded and overly sensitive.

KNIGHTS OF MALTA - 12/06/08 - 18:48

KoM brings up a good point...the Good Ol' Boy system. Yes, it is alive and well. But for me, and only me, I gave up a long time ago. I inherited a trait from my Dad and to quote him- "Some people are dumber than s*** and need to be told." I may not say it quite that strong, but if it's on my mind, well, no need in holding back.

I am a survivor. Both of my opinions and my thoughts.

But, I fully understand that some are not able (or willing) to hang it all out there. And I respect that. Maybe if I had kept my mouth shut way

back when I could be riding around in an SUV or the like. Or maybe it would not have mattered. No matter.

Mike...it is your site, we're all just 'guests'. You run it like you want to. It'll be OK.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/06/08 - 19:19

I have been unclear. The original posting has been modified with two additions in italics. Anonymous comments are fine, except when they're not. When are anonymous comments not welcome, and thus deleted? (Again, an infrequent but not uncommon thing.) Obvious sh*t-stirring is one instance. No surprise there. And sometimes simply a perspective on a sensitive or prickly subject. It is the experience of this blogger, observing the actions and reactions of this blog audience, that provocative comments are far better received when they are signed versus unsigned. Thus the reason that certain unsigned comments get deleted, from time to time.

Legeros - 12/06/08 - 20:38

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Funeral Arrangements for A.J. Johnson

12/06/08 129 W - + 9 - 11

The funeral arrangements for Archer Lodge and Raleigh Firefighter Andrew J. "A.J." Johnson are as follows:

Visitation on Sunday, December 7 at 1500 hours
McLaurin Funeral Home
12830 US 70 Highway West ([see map](#))
Clayton, NC

Funeral on Monday, December 8t at 1400 hours
Powhatan Freewill Baptist Church
3468 Powhatan Road ([see map](#))
Clayton, NC

Entombment at Pinecrest Memorial Gardens
Adjacent to McLaurin Funeral Home

Due to expected volume all apparatus must report to staging. All responding apparatus are asked to stage at the following location:

Smithfield Packing
833 Shotwell Road ([see map](#))
Clayton, NC 27520

Staging opens at 1100 hours.
Enter at the north entrance by the water tower and you will be directed to staging. Clayton Police will escort apparatus to the church, leaving promptly at 1300 hours.

Clayton News-Star story from yesterday, <http://www.claytonnews-star.com/default...>
Legeros - 12/08/08 - 07:43

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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USAR Members Honored By City Council

12/07/08 63 W, 1 I - + 17 - 7

Members of N.C. USAR Task Force #8 were honored by the Raleigh City Council on Tuesday, December 6, for their role in the rescue of two lost hikers in Burke County in November. Lee Wilson has [posted photos of the ceremony](#). You can also [read the original press release](#). Learn more [about Task Force 8](#).



Lee Wilson photo

Great job guys! I am THANKFUL, the Department is now recognizing it's assets!

7driver - 12/07/08 - 14:54

Good job by our guys! They went from a training class to a real world search and rescue seamlessly. I am thankful to see the Dept. recognizing them for what they did. Keep up the good work!!

FYI - 12/07/08 - 18:40

Just wondering, was a citation bar given (like for the CPR saves)?

Silver - 12/07/08 - 23:06

No RFD, to my knowledge, does not have any additional decorations.

FYI - 12/09/08 - 14:23

not today they don't, BUT there is a committee that has been working on awards and citation bars as you call them. One of the LT. on B shift has been working on that type of project with the Chief. and the word is that one day we will have awards day!

Stay brothers!

Jason Lane - 12/09/08 - 14:48

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

E-mail: (optional)

No

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - NTSB: McCall's « USAR Members Honored ... » Everyday Heroics in t... Crash Likely Due to Pilot Error

NTSB: McCall's Crash Likely Due to Pilot Error

12/08/08 59 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

The *Clayton News-Star* reports that the National Transportation Safety Board reports that pilot error was the probably cause of the fatal crash on September 21, 2007, of a single-engine plane into McCall's restaurant. [Read the entire article](#). And here's the [NTSB information on same](#). Ditto the [prior blog post](#).



Clayton News-Star Photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Everyday Heroics in the ER

12/08/08 52 W, 1 I - + 11 - 14

Today's *News & Observer* has a short feature on the WakeMed emergency room, which it notes is the state's second busiest ER. [Read the entire article](#). What stories do you have to tell? Here's the [web page](#) for the Raleigh campus Emergency/Trauma Center.



WakeMed Photo

Once again, the media does not understand EMS- "paramedics can be instructed to start an IV with a solution to cool your body and slow the damage before you even get to WakeMed."

More reason why I think that people like Sheehan, Barry Saunders, WRAL, and others need to come along and do some ride alongs with real EMS crews...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/08/08 - 19:01

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E-mail: (optional)

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Working Fires

12/08/08 61 W - + 12 - 10

'Tis the season for structure fires. Sunday morning to Monday morning saw at least four working fires: **Raleigh** at 2712 Holloway Road (house/attic, 8:41 p.m.), **Garner** at 5401 Massengill Court (house/garage, about 1:30 p.m.), **Durham Highway** at 3004 Club Drive (vacant house, about 11:00 p.m.), and **New Hope** at 4620 Watkins Road (house, about 3:30 p.m.). Readers, add details as desired.

The Garner house fire had several units on scene including Garner E2 E9 E5 TA7 TA12 R2 Cleveland E5 E4 Fairview E5 TA6
4447 - 12/11/08 - 22:01

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Intense Fire

12/08/08 52 W, 1 I - + 9 - 10

Sandy Huffaker took this picture of the intense fire started after an FA-18D military aircraft crashed into a residential neighborhood today. Two people on the ground were killed. The Getty Images image appears in a [New York Times web article](#). Click to enlarge:



Sandy Huffaker/Getty Images Photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Best Place to Obtain a Digital Trunking Scanner?

12/10/08 161 W - + 10 - 12

A reader inquires, what's the best place to obtain a digital trunking scanner that will receive the Wake County Motorola digital system? Here's my take, though it has been **over two years** since I acquired my scanners. Readers, please add, edit, or update my information. There are two brands of digital trunking scanners to consider. Uniden and Radio Shack. Both have hand-held and base versions. Both are priced between \$400 and \$600. They may be cheaper on eBay, at times. Used versions are also available on eBay. Both can be programmed by hand, but the task is made far easier when using a computer. I have experience using the Radio Shack base unit, programmed using third-party software (not free) and a configuration file sent from a friend. It's worked fine, no complaints. How do Uniden digital trunking scanners differ? I await reader respectives there. Where's the best place to obtain them? Ditto, readers please advise.

For monitoring local fire calls, I recommend adding a couple cheapo VHF scanners. Tune one to Raleigh fire dispatch, the other to Wake fire dispatch. Then lock out those talkgroups on the digital scanner, so you're only monitoring tac channels. You could also add an analog trunking scanner, for dedicated Cary fire dispatch monitoring. Airport fire dispatch is digital only, however.

Legeros - 12/10/08 - 07:42

You can get the PRO-96 Digital Trunking Handheld Scanner now for \$349 as they are getting ready for the next version to sell. I had to have then transfer mine from another store, so may take some time to get.

<http://www.radioshack.com/search/index.j..>

2redline - 12/10/08 - 08:55

I have the Uniden BCD396T which is a handheld unit, and have been very happy with it. Scanner World (<http://www.scannerworld.com/content/product/model/BCD396T>) is selling these new for \$499, which is the same price as it was nearly 2 years ago. USA Scan also has them, looks like they give discounts for bulk orders (<http://www.usascan.com/files/bcd396t.cfm>). They're great units, we also purchased several for our members at Apex FD. Easily programmable with the software and cable, works very well for listening in on fire / ems / etc. calls – even has a paging capability (although I found this to be not as reliable, so do still carry the fire pager around).

ncfirewolf - 12/10/08 - 17:03

Mike: You should have come to me brother! You know that No one knows scanners better in Central NC than me! There are actually 3 brands of scanners to consider: Uniden, Radio Shack, and GRE. A caveat: Radio Shack does purchase some of their scanners from GRE and rebrands them with the Radio Shack logo. If you can wait a month or so Uniden will have a new digital handheld out on the market called the Uniden BCD396XT. It is basically the previous version (BCD396t) with additional features..you can find more info on it here: <http://tinyurl.com/6b2tq5..> I would suggest stopping by the forums at radioreference.com and reading up on all 3 scanner manufactures and find out which you like more. Feel free to email/call me if you have questions. I know all of the radios inside and out! Happy Monitoring!

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/11/08 - 08:55

So Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR how would you rate the three brands? Then how would you rate them in relation to cost? It seems like the Uniden has many more features than the Radio Shack, what extra features do you find most useful? Worth the extra cost? Sorry this sounds like 20 questions, thank you for any response.

Adam - 12/11/08 - 12:06

Adam-

Some good questions. I think you can make the same comparison that you do with buying cars: it all comes down to personal preferences. Each radio company has pluses/minuses. Uniden does have some great pluses with the upcoming BCD396XT including memory for around 25,000 channels, Fire Tone Out decode, Built-in Control Channel Decoding for use with external decoding programs such as Unitrunker/T4Win, External GPS location support, NAC decoding, multi-colored display, etc. On the other side GRE has some great features with the PSR-500 (which Radio Shack rebrands and sells as the Pro-106) which include Virtual Scanner Folder system, Trunked System Radio ID or RID display, Built in Control Channel Decoding for use with external decoding programs, Multi-Led Display, etc. Over the last few years GRE has had a slight advantage with sensitivity and selectivity when it comes to decoding digital systems HOWEVER GRE made radios are prone to overload/intermod in urban (High RF) areas. Uniden has had the advantage with Fire Depts with the Fire Tone Out Feature and the external

GPS feature which is really cool. There is not one scanner that is the "best" out there. You just have to decide which features are important to you. I have been beta testing a radio for one of the 3 companies (can't say which one) and I can tell you that both GRE & Uniden care about the end user and want to give their customers the features they want. Before spending \$500 on a radio I would strongly recommend stopping by the GRE/Radio Shack/Uniden Forums at radioreference.com and reading up on the radios each company provides. You would not buy a car without reading reviews/reports online and doing research would ya? Feel free to email me at KE4ZNR@radioreference.com if you have further questions. Long gone are the simple crystal controlled scanners of years past. Scanners these days require some research into setting them up and I don't mind helping out. Happy Monitoring!

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/11/08 - 12:28

<http://www.radioshack.com/search/index.j..>

I dont know a whole lot about this yet cause I just got it but this is the Pro 106 from radio shack. It is the next step up from the Pro 96 and is on sale at radio shack for \$399 right now. One cool feature is the transmit light changes colors depending what channel it locks on. Red=Fire Green=EMS Blue=Police. If youre going to spend \$349 for the 96 then I would pay the extra \$50 for the 106. Marshall you seem to know a lot about this. Whats your take on the Pro 106?

my two cents - 12/12/08 - 01:19

My Two Cents-

The Pro 106 is a GRE PSR-500 rebranded with the Radio Shack name. I am impressed with the radio. It has GRE's version of the Uniden Dynamic Memory Structure which they call "Object Oriented Memory Management". Only negative to the radio is that it can be a little too sensitive or "hot" in high RF area. If you have not already stop by the Radio Shack & GRE Forums at Radioreference.com and make sure you have the latest firmware loaded onto your radio. I am just happy that with the economic situation we are in that companies like Uniden & GRE still consider scanners to be a viable market. Feel free to email me with any other questions you have. Oh, and the next meeting of the Tarheel Scanner/Shortwave Listeners group is this next Monday, December 15th in Raleigh. <http://tinyurl.com/6c33t2> Anyone is invited to bring your radio and say hey! Happy Monitoring! Marshall KE4ZNR

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/12/08 - 07:29

KE4ZNR—what would you recommend for a mobile scanner i.e. one that can be mounted into the vehicle? I've never been a big fan of a handheld since the only time I listen is when I'm in the car. I'm assuming the tone-out feature means you can program a dept's fire tones into it and it'll alert just like the pager?

Tim - 12/12/08 - 10:17

Oh Oracle, thanks for your scanner input. Keep it coming! What's your pick for a weather alert radio, while you're here?

Legeros - 12/12/08 - 20:32

1st off weird...I typed a long response to Tim's questions at work earlier today...I saw it was here on the blog this afternoon now it has disappeared...I will have to wait until I get back to work and try to repost that response cause it was "chock full o' info"...Mike, as far as WX alert radios: you will be happy with any of the WX radios Radio Shack has in the \$40 range..just make sure you have the SAME alerting capability. In my humble opinion the Weather Alert feature in \$500 is useless..yes I like having access to the actual WX frequencies/channels in a pinch but WX alert in every scanner on the market is an either/or situation...meaning you can do your normal scanning/trunking OR you can leave your \$500 scanner parked waiting for a SAME alert BUT you cannot do both. And you can be sure if I have spent \$500 on a radio it ain't gonna sit there quiet waiting for a SAME tone and doing nothing else...so my advice is: buy a \$40 WX alert radio with same capability and forget about the SAME alert function on your \$500 GRE/Uniden Rig...Marshall KE4ZNR

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/12/08 - 20:57

have two midlands the wr300 silver desktop – very good, has radio and alarm built in (available in camo as well for more\$), and the portable HH50, tiny and cheap, but with horrible sound, but it does its job

cornerhydrant - 12/13/08 - 01:26

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Lightning Strike Destroys Chapel Hill Home

12/12/08 67 W, 1 I - + 10 - 10

[FireNews](#) has [posted photos](#) of yesterday's three-alarm house fire near the Chapel Hill Country Club. Andrew Wallace took this image of Durham's E16, a quint, in operation. CHFD, Durham, New Hope, and Parkwood responded. One firefighter was transported with chest pains. The 6,000 square-foot house at 1067 Canterbury Lane was undergoing a major renovation. [See and read more.](#)



Andrew Wallace / FireNews photo

Looking at the first photo....I count 2 ineffective hose streams. Looking further at the chain of photos; is that Chapel Hill's tower just sitting down there? Big fire = big water folks....wasn't there, just sayin'....

Silver - 12/12/08 - 11:49

I can't say much for the ineffective hose streams, but the house was in the end of a cul-de-sac. Durham Engine 16 (the aerial flowing) was second due and brought the hydrant, and inadvertently blocked up the cul-de-sac. Luckily Engine 16 is a Quint and we were able to make use of it. The other side of the house is a tee box and fairway and there were 2 high flow hose-lines back there as well. I know it's not Raleigh, Jeff, but we do what we can! :) As a side note, the house was actually 11,500 square feet, one of the largest private homes in Chapel Hill. Many of the guys on scene said they had never seen a fire move as rapidly as this one did. Don't know if it was the construction work or just the multitude of voids, from dumb-waiters to false chimneys, but it moved in a hurry! We are lucky that we only sent one to the hospital. He's fine by the way-his chest pain was caused by overexertion.

Sasser ([Email](#)) - 12/13/08 - 23:03

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Uncle Milton's Pet's Eye View Camera

12/12/08 83 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

For your Friday amusement, here's an idea for pet owners who are curious what their cats and dogs see during the day. Forget helmet cams, here's a **collar** cam. Clips on the collar. Interval time of 1, 5, 15 minutes. Stores about 40 photos. Rechargeable battery. Felix D. Cat is wearing his this morning. We'll see what happens. The only limitation looks to be the battery life, which is good for 400 charges (say the instructions). [Learn more from Uncle Milton.](#)



What Mr. Whiskers saw this morning, during a brief morning outing, plus the one indoor shot that survived:

<http://www.legeros.com/temp/felix/>

Legeros - 12/12/08 - 19:30

so, now we're into the mind of cats – is the mailman delivering some food for me, or some boxes to play in? boy, those wires would be fun to take apart – ah, time for lunch – i see a bird in the tree – hey, maybe those wires warrant a second look (anyway, i don't think i could reach the bird, and why bother when i get my lunch without any effort) – i wonder if i could jump up to the fan and make it spin

cornerhydrant - 12/13/08 - 01:18

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Firefighting Bond Issue, 1942

12/12/08 307 W - + 12 - 9

As the city of Raleigh mobilized for civilian defense after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the fire department expressed expansion needs to city officials. They sought two new fire stations, a replacement for Station 1 on West Morgan Street-- an 1896 structure condemned by the city and already sold to the State, but not yet vacated, and with a new site already purchased on Dawson Street-- and a sixth station to serve newly annexed areas to the northwest.

Fire officials also sought three new pieces of apparatus, an aerial ladder, a service truck and a pumper. The current aerial ladder was a 1939/1919 model, the current service truck a 1922 model, and the newest pumpers were built in 1936, 1926, and 1925. The fire department also sought extensions to the fire alarm system. In January, a bond issue was approved that included \$162,000 for these items. In March, voters approved the firefighting funding as well as money for water system improvements.

What happened next? To be determined in subsequent research. Station 1 was not constructed for another 10 years. Restriction on building materials likely impacted this. Instead, it relocated to old Station 2 in 1942. The fire department did construct a new alarm house on the Dawson Street lot that year, however. Station 6 was opened the following year, though in a rented property. A new Station 6 was opened in 1948. (The new station took longer than expected. When first put to bid, maybe in 1946, there were no takers, if memory serves.)

None of the planned three pieces of new apparatus were purchased. Again, wartime restrictions likely impacted this. Later that year, a 1919 American LaFrance pumper was purchased used from Farmville, NC. The first new pumper wasn't purchased until 1949. The first new aerial ladder appeared in 1958, and the first new service truck (built by firefighters) was placed in service in 1963. More to follow, as it's uncovered.

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

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Civilian Defense Materials, 1942

12/12/08 95 W - + 13 - 12

From the *News & Observer* article on February 17, 1942, the national Office of Civilian Defense prepared estimates of the emergency materials needed in all cities within 300 miles of either coast, as well as key inland defense cities. Raleigh, with a population over 47,000, would receive the following:

- 26,264 gas masks of four types
- 9 teams and 4 stations, surgical equipment for
- 36 stretchers
- 108 canvas cots
- 81 first aid belts
- 46 identification tags
- 2,760 arm bands
- 1,380 gas-proof capes
- 920 steel helmets
- 184 fireman's helmets
- 184 pairs of fireman's hip boots
- 184 fireman's coats
- 184 pairs of fireman's pants
- 11 pumper units, firefighting equipment for
- 540 block units (equipment for?)

Interesting how about half of the population back then would be without a gas mask.

John McAdams - 12/13/08 - 01:17

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Police Pooh-Pooh Concerns Over Horse Dung

12/13/08 99 W - + 9 - 9

Or, doo doo occurs. Today's *News & Observer* [answers a burning question](#) about the Raleigh Police Dpartment's mounted police unit and what they leave behind. The Triangle Troubleshooter sniffs around the issue of fertilizer collection technology and why Flash, Ike, Cody, Blade, and Cisco aren't equipped with horsey bags. Safety issue for one, health problems for another. Makes perfect sense. Passes the smell test. No bum rap from this article. The mounted police unit, interestingly, began 20 years ago. NCSU police also have one, but Chapel Hill and Durham do not. [Read the article](#).

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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News & Observer Print Edition Link

12/13/08 68 W - + 11 - 12

Speaking of the *News & Observer*, the **Print Edition** link has been removed from the main page of the web site. It might be buried in a sub-menu, but I haven't found it. If you also read the paper each day using that link, simply add "/print" to the web site address. e.g., newobserver.com/print. Works like a charm.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Ladder 1 + Tow Truck

12/13/08 25 W, 1 I - + 13 - 11

Lee Wilson took this photo yesterday of Ladder 1, after it was towed from Station 1. Click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photo

What in the world happened?

Adam Brown - 12/13/08 - 17:03

the tow truck must of needed a push!

trucker 1 - 12/13/08 - 23:12

better get ms becky on the phone!!!

nozzlejockey - 12/14/08 - 11:36

At least its a real Pierce and not a Pretender or it would be in flames by now.

pretender - 12/14/08 - 21:47

The pretender's are so bad the tow trucks wouldn't even take them, the shops have to come to them!

Love the county specs. - 12/14/08 - 21:58

Looks like RFD is keeping Munster's towing busy especially since E-9 is laying on it's side right now on St. Albans dr.

RescueRanger - 12/17/08 - 20:35

How are the guys from Eng.9 doing what shift was it.

Jim Kay - 12/19/08 - 09:43

A-shift night.....crew is fine from what I understand. They actually drove the engine back to quarters. Chief McGrath said 150k in damage during an officer meeting last night.

Silver - 12/19/08 - 15:23

Good to hear thanks for the update Jeff, Is Capt. Boyette still on 9A

Jim Kay - 12/19/08 - 16:23

How about this RESCUE RANGER. Got 4 guys that where on that engine. Glad to see you care about how they are doing. They didnt call a plumber they called the fire dept. This aint driving miss rescueranger. Why dont you grow a set and put your real name on here. Oh yeah, I was one of those guys on that engine.

[grant williams] - 12/20/08 - 01:56

Good post Grant...Jim, e-mail me...

Silver ([Email](#)) - 12/21/08 - 00:14

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Yesterday's Two Alarm Fire in Cary / Kilmory Road

12/15/08 135 W, 1 I - + 15 - 11

Sunday morning saw a two-alarm house fire at [1232 Kilmory Drive](#) in Cary. With reports from callers of fire showing in the front of the structure, a second alarm was requested while units were en route. Engine 4 was first on scene with fire showing through the roof, front, and rear of a split-level frame residence with 1,317 square-feet. Built in 1978. The alarm time was about 10:15 a.m. The fire was reported controlled within about 20 minutes. Ladder 3 was subsequently raised during overhaul. Units on scene included Engine 4, Engine 4, Engine 3, Engine 5, Ladder 3, Ladder 5, Truck 7, Rescue 2, Rescue 4, Battalion 2, Battalion 1, Apex Engine 3, two Cary EMS units, Cary EMS District 5, and WC 1. "C" shift was working. [See my photos](#). Also see this [short WRAL story](#).



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

Remember personal info?

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Comment:

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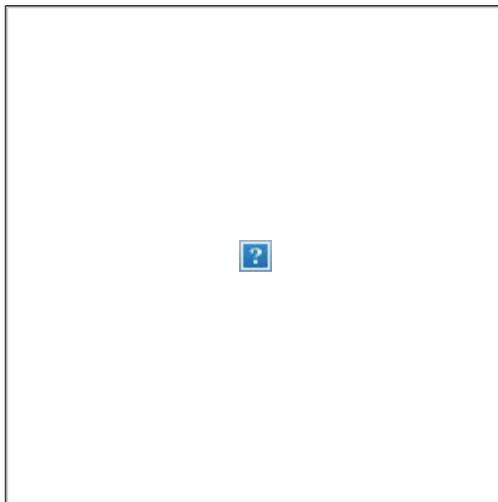
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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Make Sure Your* « Yesterday's Two Alarm... » Parkwood/Gibsonville ... *Telephone Is Set Up To Properly Interact With 9-1-1 Center*

Make Sure Your Telephone Is Set Up To Properly Interact With 9-1-1 Center

12/16/08 92 W, 1 I - + 12 - 8

The Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communication Center (ECC) recently [posted a press release](#) calling attention to telephone devices and the importance of ensuring that they're configured to correctly interact with 911. The release covers conventional, cellular, and VoIP telephones, and 911 issues there in. For example, if you move or change phone companies but keep the same phone number, verify with the new carrier that address database record has been updated with your new location. [Read the entire press release.](#)



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Parkwood/Gibsonville Firefighter Louis Adams Dies

12/16/08 83 W - + 14 - 6

Firenews has [posted details](#) on the passing of firefighter/EMT Louis Adams, 46, who died yesterday, December 15, at Duke Medical Center. He suffered a cardiac arrest at a fitness center near his home in Burlington, one week prior. Adams was a full-time member of the Parkwood Fire Department in Durham County, and a volunteer at the Gibsonville Fire Department in Alamance-Guilford County. Funeral arrangements are pending, and anticipated to be held in Greensboro. [Read the entire article.](#)

Louis,

Rest in peace my brother. You humor and wit will be missed at ParkWood VFD. Words cannot come close to explaining the pain we feel because you where called home I know the Chief of Heaven will say..... "PICK UP....." "YOUR'RE GOING IN!!!"

MarcB
FireFighter PVFD
Marc Bouchard - 12/16/08 - 14:17

Louis , you will always be in my heart and beside me wherever I go. Rest well my friend.

Travis
Elon Fire
Travis Loy - 12/16/08 - 16:55

Rest in Peace, Louis. Also, Gibsonville FD is in Guilford Co.
fire1983 - 12/19/08 - 18:23

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Raleigh Identifies « Parkwood/Gibsonville ... » Raleigh Fire Truck Cr... Projects Fit For Federal Stimulus Funding

Raleigh Identifies Projects Fit For Federal Stimulus Funding

12/17/08 124 W - + 12 - 14

At a press conference yesterday, Mayor Charles Meeker said the city is actively seeking its share of a financial stimulus plan being crafted by President-elect Obama's transition team. He said 44 projects have been identified as designed, permitted, and ready to implement in six to 12 months. [Read the press release](#). On the public safety front, the projects include solar thermal water heaters at 9 fire stations, relocation of Fire Station 12, construction of Fire Station 29, modernization of fire dispatching infrastructure, back-up 911 center infrastructure improvements, a mobile command center for police, and generators for critical police facilities. Plus the Clarence E. Lightner Public Safety Center. See a list and descriptions of all [proposed projects](#). See a list of [sustainability initiatives](#).

Modernization of fire dispatching infrastructure....hmmmm....input anyone? Is that for possibly an independent, city fire department dispatch center?

Silver - 12/17/08 - 11:22

Raleigh already has that. It's the County that pays per dispatch.

wcff - 12/17/08 - 13:41

Actually, ALL users pay the same fee per call, whether RPD, RFD, EMS, or County Fire Department. The City pays for a little more than 3/4 of all ECC operating costs due to comparative call volume. And the request for funds is for an upgrading of the current VHF station alerting. We will be shortly required to go to narrow band equipment to meet FCC requirements, but are also looking seriously at other alternative interactive technologies to replace or augment the current methods.

RWECC ([Email](#)) - 12/17/08 - 15:59

No WCFF, Raleigh FD does not have a dispatch center solely dedicated to the Raleigh FD (like Charlotte). Thank you RWECC for clarifying...

Silver - 12/17/08 - 16:51

Silver –

In terms of "FD only" dispatch centers, I'm pretty sure Charlotte is the only one in the State (that I know of). I've been to Greensboro, High Point, and others surrounding Charlotte (Gaston, Stanly, Iredell, York, and others) and all those are like RWECC – a combination of police/fire/ems. I'm a big advocate of single-agency centers, but to each his own! (of course, I'm a bit biased on that last part)

Luke - 12/19/08 - 01:55

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Web Site: (optional)

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Raleigh Fire Truck Crashes, Slams Into Tree

12/19/08 71 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

[WRAL posted a short story](#) on the apparatus accident Wednesday. Engine 9 overturned on St. Albans Drive while responding to a call. The four firefighters aboard were not injured. FireNews [also also surfaced the story](#), adding a note about the model year of the Pierce pumper. Everyone walked away, thank goodness. Photos are coming from Mike (below) and Lee.



Glad to hear that everyone walked away. The truck can be replaced/repared, a life can't. Stay safe

Luke - 12/20/08 - 20:50

Name: (real name preferred)
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Yes

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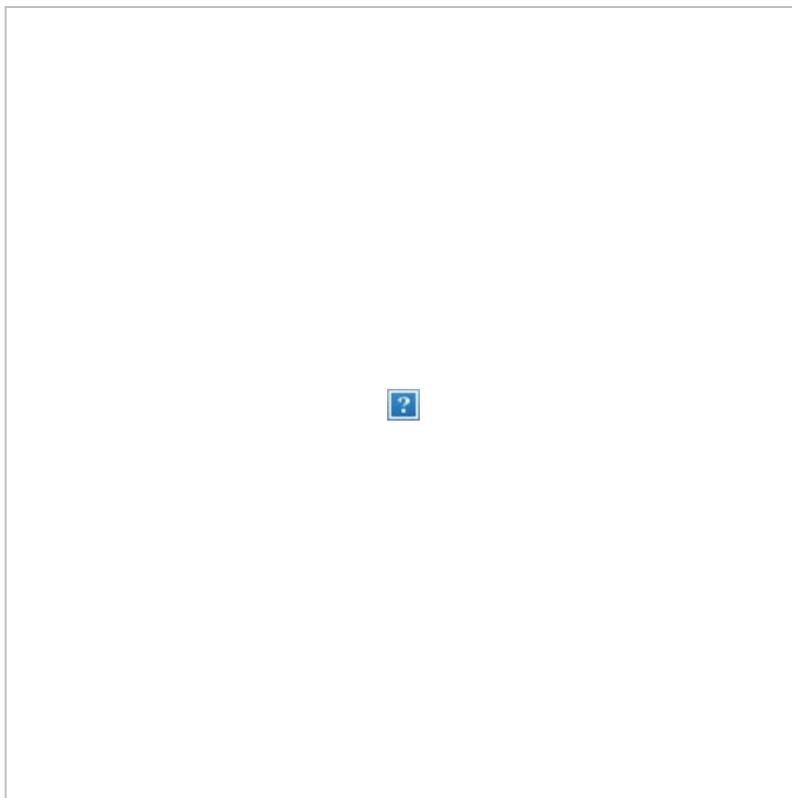
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Today's Crane Collapse

12/19/08 111 W, 1 I - + 15 - 10

The [News & Observer has the story](#) of today's crane collapse at [8617 Six Forks Road](#). The accident occurred about 10:00 a.m. at the construction site of a 6-story office building. No injuries occurred when the mobile crane collapsed. A full USAR assignment was dispatched on the fire side, an a first alarm was dispatched for EMS. Those units were EMS 124, EMS 5, EMS 31, District 1, District 3, and EMS 200. With no injuries, nearly all units were returned to service. Last year, a construction crane collapsed around the corner on Strickland Road east of Lead Mine. That occurred on August 9, 2007, with no injuries, and no emergency response.



News & Observer Photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Derita Fire Station

12/19/08 101 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Seen during a day trip to Charlotte, here's the former Derita fire station at [2715 W. Sugar Creek Road](#). Same is a graphics company, appropriately named Firehouse Graphics. The Derita Fire Department was formed in 1951 and ceased operation as a fire department in 1994-95. They continued operation as a rescue squad. **What other former Meck County fire stations are still standing?** Also, did DFD have an earlier station? There was interesting looking brick building with a single bay, on the opposite side of West Sugar Creek Road, about a quarter-block north of this building. Click to enlarge:



Last comment didn't post, so this will be the short version....

Moore's Chapel VFD is in the 1200 blk of Rhyne Rd (formerly Moore's Chapel Rd).

Woodlawn VFD is in the 8100/8200 blk of Nations Ford Rd and now appears to be empty. I think MEDIC used to run out of there also.

Oakhurst VFD originally opened in the 4500 blk of Monroe Rd (now Oakhurst Elementary) and then moved down to the 5400 blk of Monroe Rd (now the Plaza Appliance Mart). Once they merged with Idlewild, they moved out to their (Idlewild VFD) current location at 10241 Idlewild Rd.

Hickory Grove VFD had a station at 6115 Hickory Grove Rd (near Susan Dr). Their station #2 (which is now Robinson VFD) is out on Mecklenburg Shrine Club Rd. When they merged all equipment went to that station. Not sure about the station on Hickory Grove Rd, but Robinson still runs out of the station on Mecklenburg Shrine Club Rd and added two bays to the original 4 bay station.

Newell VFD originally operated out of the service station in the 8500 blk of Old Concord Rd. The service station added an extra bay to house the fire truck. As of the last time I drove by there the service station was still there. Newell now operates out of a station almost directly behind the service station on Newell Baptist Church Rd.

That's all I've got for now.

Luke - 12/20/08 - 03:58

Here's Woodlawn, via Google Street View; <http://tinyurl.com/73pcng>

Here's Newell, the service station with the extra bay: <http://tinyurl.com/86oztb>

Legeros - 12/22/08 - 08:41

And here's the old Statesville Road VFD station at 3315 Lake Road, <http://tinyurl.com/6we7jz>

Legeros - 12/22/08 - 08:52

When they renamed the segment of Moores Chapel Rd to Rhyne Rd there was some confusion about the blk numbers. I know the residents directly across from Moores Chapel VFD and their house number is in the 9800 blk. of Rhyne Rd. Google maps show the block number going down to 9700, then jumping to 1100 and going down from there. I know, totally confusing... but I believe it was done to prevent any U.S. Mail confusion for the residents along the stretch of road that was re-named. They kept their same block number, just changed the name of the street.

So when all is said and done, the Moores Chapel VFD station is actually in the 9800 blk of Rhyne Rd. Type in 9856 on Google Maps.

Luke - 12/22/08 - 14:33

My grandfather was a member of Derita VFD when it was organized and remained a member into the 1970's. My father was a member and assistant chief in the department for a number of years. Derita remained in service until 1997 when they, as well as the Pinocha fire department went out of business. Derita remained in service as a rescue squad and continued to cover one half of the Mallard Creek fire district(which was split with Newell rescue) and a portion of the Long Creek fire district. Derita merged with the Charlotte Life Saving Crew a few years before they went out of business, which allowed them to run pin-in and rescue responses throughout Mecklenburg county. The two engine co's (ford c-8000's) were sold to the Flowe Store FD in Cabarrus county. The brush truck was sold to Cooks Community FD and the Rescue truck was eventually sold to Mallard Creek FD which then beacme a first responder. Many of Derita's members joined Mallard Creek. A few members went with Long Creek and Huntersville FD's and some retired all together. The department did run out of the Puckett's farm equipment building until the building across the street was built shortly after. The building started as a two bay and eventually had a third was added. The wooden training tower on the side of the building was added just prior to going out of business. The original fire truck purchased by the department in 1950 was a 1950 Ford F-5 with 500 gallons of water and a Darley 500 GPM front mount pump. This truck remained in service for about 15 years and was eventually sold to Farmer (now Woodleaf) FD in Cabarrus county. The truck now belongs to me and I'm in the process of being put back in it's opriginal condition.

Brett Cochran ([Email](#)) - 03/01/09 - 20:21

Wilkinson Blvd VFD (the building) still stands on Little Rock Rd. just north of Wilkinson Blvd. The original building was on Wilkinson Blvd near Ashley Rd. This was the oldest in Mecklenburg, 1943

Tim - 01/02/12 - 19:48

I was the first and only female paramedic to be a member of derita fire and rescue 1991-1994

Reba Ferris-martin ([Email](#)) - 05/07/19 - 00:16

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Charlotte Fire Museum

12/19/08 86 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

The purpose of today's trip to Charlotte? To shoot the inside and outside of the fire museum, as well as some old engine houses and a few other surprises. Thanks for the hospitality, CFD! Photos forthcoming. Located at Old Station 4 at [420 W. 5th Street](#), the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Fire Education Center and Museum displays include the three restored rigs seen left to right below, a 1948 Mack, a 1971 Seagrave, and a 1928 American LaFrance. It's a beautiful sight. [More information about the museum](#). Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name
preferred)

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Compose Long Comments Using Word

12/20/08 102 W - + 12 - 12

Tip of the day, though this can be applied to discussion boards and even e-mail. When composing long messages for posting to this blog, other blogs, discussion boards, or even some e-mail applications, consider using Microsoft Word. There are a couple benefits to this. First, you'll be spell-checking automatically. Second, if there's a problem posting after you paste your comments into the web browser, you can save the file without retyping, or having to remember what you wrote. From there, you can try re-posting, or posting in sections, etc. Food for thought, from a former computer trainer.

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

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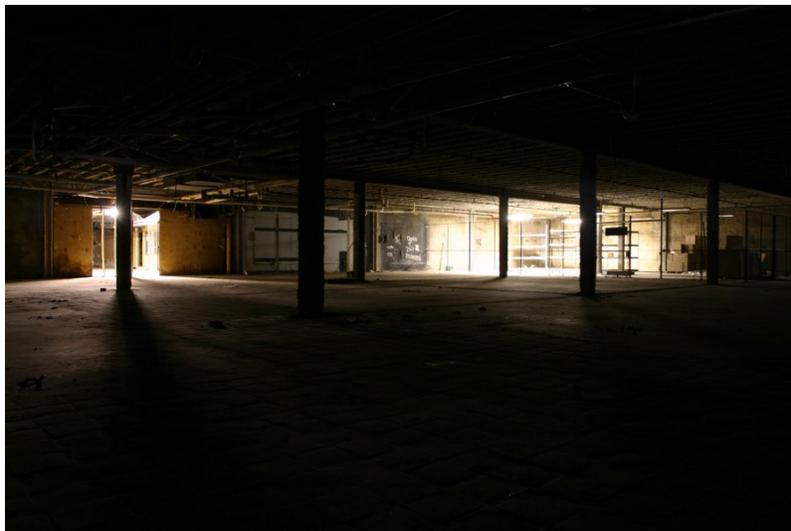
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Remembering the Village Subway

12/20/08 118 W, 2 I - + 16 - 7

Found by a friend, the blog [Goodnight, Raleigh! recently posted photos](#) of the old Village Subway space at Cameron Village. The underground area that once housed a string of shops, clubs, and restaurant is presently unoccupied. The blog posting has photos and a history of the space. This and other below-ground spaces compelled Cameron Village owner Willie York to donate a high-expansion foam generator to the fire department in 1965. This was the city's second hi-ex foam device. Carried on a 1965 International pick-up truck, it was placed in service at Station 5. Later changed to a 1968 Chevy, Foam 5 remained at Cameron Village until removed from service on November 11, 1990.



Goodnight, Raleigh! Photo



Foam 5 in 1976

Any memorable calls happen down here? Heard a story of a crew falling into some kind of chute below Cameron Village. Dont know when, who or under what circumstances.

K.O.M. - 12/20/08 - 17:04

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Kinston Fire Station 3 Opens, 1942

12/20/08 152 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

Here's a bit of Kinston Fire Department history from the July 26, 1942 edition of the *News & Observer*. In a story dated July 25, the paper reported that Kinston's third fire station was a reality on that day. Residents in the north suburbs had sought the station for more than a decade. The station was located in Knott's warehouse and was manned by firefighters Jesse Conway and William Hoover. It had "one large truck and booste truck and chemical facilities." The station would protect the northern third of the city, where "many attractive residences" were located. Owners of the warehouse donated the building's use until "conditions permit building a fire station" after the war. How long was Station 3 open? Probably until 1948, when a dedicated station was built on North Heritage Street. [Read more about Kinston fire history.](#)



That's Knott's warehouse today, on Queen Street just south of Highway 70. In 1942, it was located at the northwest corner of East Washington and North McLewan streets, or so Sanborn Fire Insurance maps indicate.

Legeros - 12/23/08 - 22:48

On Thursday, July 12, 1945, the Kinston Fire Department held a house-warming party for a new Station 3 on Heritage Street. Firemen hosted city officials and a few guests with a fish stew. Auxiliary Fire Cheif Claude Chamberlain led the event. The Kinston Auxiliary Fire Department had some 30 volunteers "trained in wartime emergency firefighting and rescue work." It was noted that the squad would continue as a "permanent peachtime unit." Source: *News & Observer*, July 19, 1945, which corrects the opening year of Station 3 from 1948 to 1945. Memo to self: make corrections to other web pages with KFD history.

Legeros - 05/09/09 - 10:48

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Bethesda's New Quint

12/20/08 81 W, 1 I - + 9 - 12

Here's a nifty snowy picture of Bethesday's new Engine 421, a Sutphen quint with a 75-foot aerial ladder. Features include two hydraulic hose lines in the rear, full-height left-side rescue compartment, PTO generator with brow light, side scene lights, and two telescoping floodlights. The fly section of the aerial includes a 2 1/2" gated connection. [Click to see the super-size](#) photo from the Sutphen site. Engine 421 responds to the contracted fire protection area around Brier Creek.



Sutphen Photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Old Photos From Carrboro

12/20/08 83 W, 6 I - + 13 - 12

The Carrboro Fire Department shares some old photos recently found of their department, apparatus, and original station. The engine house was located in the Town Hall building at 102 Lloyd Street. Built by 1932, it relocated around 1954 to West Main Street. The original building had a single bay, but looks to have been expanded to include two. Early apparatus includes the original hose reel and a 1937 Chevrolet truck-turned-pumper. [Read about CFD history.](#) Click to enlarge each:



Carrboro Fire Department Photos

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Charlotte USAR Apparatus

12/20/08 42 W, 3 I - + 14 - 10

Here are three pieces of USAR apparatus in the Charlotte Fire Department, photographed at Station 11 on West 28th Street. Not pictured is USAR 2, a similiar tractor-drawn rig. They're part of [NC USAR Task Force 3](#). Click to enlarge each:



The rest of the equipment is housed down at the Training Academy. USAR 3, 4, (and I want to say) 5 are tractor-trailers which carry the remainder of the equipment for a deployment (BOO equip, comms equip, etc). The other random equipment is also down at the Academy. The boat trailer is the same new trailer for all of the water rescue units, housed at stations 3, 10, 20, and 25.

Luke - 12/20/08 - 20:48

USAR 2 is currently being used by RRT 7 while their rig is being refurbished. The equipment from USAR 2 was removed in the spring and placed on USAR 4. We use USAR 2 as a reserve rig if USAR 1 needs to go to the shop for PM or other maintenance/repairs. USAR's 3,4,5 (possibly 6) are all deployment trucks, while USAR 1 is used in the city and initial emergency deployment within Task Force 3's area. The crew of E-11 cross staff's USAR 1 for responses.

Rides an Engine - 12/20/08 - 23:55

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Christmas Posting #1

12/20/08 108 W - + 15 - 13

What does the word "upsot" mean, that appears in *Jingle Bells*? "The horse was lean and lank; misfortune seemd his lot; we got into a drifted bank; and then we got upsot." Google yields a [believable answer](#). It appears to mean turned over, or upset physically. The song was written by James Lord Pierpont and copyrighted under the title *One Horse Open Sleigh* in 1857. The best recorded version of the song? Barbra Streisand's version from 1967 is pretty amusing, adapted by Jack Gold and Marty Paich and titled *Jingle Bells*? It appears on the excellent CBS artist compilation *A Christmas Album*, released in 1990.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Razor Wire

12/20/08 76 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

One interesting feature of Charlotte fire stations are their secure parking lots, with gates and fences and even razor wire on some. Here's the rear view of Station 8 on The Plaza, shot with camera held high over head. Watch your balance, Mikey! Pics coming of this station (exterior), and the three other oldest in the Queen City: Station 5 (1929), Station 6 (1929), and Station 7 (1935). [Read more about historic Charlotte firehouses.](#)



Mike – Sweet shot of Station 8 and it's security features. :)

We have had quite a few break-ins on our cars and the station. Obviously, the razor wire helps keep most people out of the premises. Even with the razor wire we have had people jump the fence to get in some cars.

Leo ([Web Site](#)) - 01/27/09 - 10:36

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Unofficial Blog of Station 8

12/21/08 73 W, 1 I - + 12 - 8

Who are the proud owners of the domain name firestation8.com? That's Double Trouble of Charlotte. The web site is an unofficial site, and includes an [unofficial station blog](#). They're using WordPress and postings date to September 2008. Neat idea, as long as the brass approves or at least doesn't mind. **What other big city station blogs are around?** The Station 8 site is nice as well. Simple and clean.



I will word it different this time maybe Mike will leave it on there. I like the first firestation8.com site there was. This one seems a little watered down.

wow - 12/24/08 - 12:02

From a reader, here are a few other CFD station sites:

Station 1 – <http://www.the1house.com> (not updated recently, due to webmaster out of service)

Station 4 – <http://www.firestation4.com>

Station 10 – <http://cfdtenhouse.com/THEROCK/Home.html>

Station 13 – <http://www.cfdfirestation13.com>

Field Comm – http://www.cfdcommstf3.com/Field_Comm/Ho..

Legeros - 12/26/08 - 23:17

Mike – There are a bunch of us that operate (and contribute to) the website. Most of us are on C-Shift at Station 8.

Your thoughts with the blog and the brass was a bit of a concern for us; however, the blog has done nothing but provide great publicity for the department thus far. We have some strict guidelines about what information and images are released on calls. We have also tried to incorporate our surrounding neighborhood to get them involved.

Thanks for the comments.

Leo ([Web Site](#)) - 01/27/09 - 10:25

Wow – Thanks for your thoughts. While we appreciate your opinion that it might appear a little more watered-down than other fire station websites (or our previous design), we feel it gets the job done.

The new site design communicates who we are and what we are about. We also feel that it fits in with our station's personality. We are intense firefighters and do our jobs well, but we are also pretty laid back. If we were to have all of the flash (i.e. moving objects), large amounts of fire all over the website, music, etc. we would be going against who we truly are.

Lastly, one of our goals was to try and reach out to the surrounding neighborhood. We wanted the site to reflect that and welcome those people in just as much as the firefighters who check out our site. That is part of the reason we chose a more simple site design.

All the best to you!

Leo ([Web Site](#)) - 01/27/09 - 10:32

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Christmas Posting #2

12/21/08 95 W - + 12 - 13

Best holiday albums ever. *The Ventures' Christmas Album* (Razor & Tie, 1965), *The Many Moods of Christmas*, Robert Shaw / Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus (Telarc, 1983), *Christmas with Chet Atkins* (RCA, 1961), *Holiday Sing Along with Mitch*, Mitch Miller and the Gang (Columbia, 1961), *Billboard Rock 'n' Roll Christmas* compilation (Rhino, 1994), *What a Wonderful Christmas* compilation, Louis Armstrong & Friends (Hip-O, 1997), and a mix tape of Bob Rivers parodies from his five albums *Twisted Christmas* (Critique, 1992), *I Am Santa Claus* (Atlantic, 1993), *More Twisted Christmas* (Atlantic, 1997), *Chipmunks Roasting on a Open Fire* (Atlantic, 2002), and *White Trash Christmas* (Atlantic, 2002).

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

Remember personal info?
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Blackout Instructions, 1942

12/21/08 309 W - + 16 - 10

The following rules were printed in the *News & Observer* on April 24, 1942, ahead of the city's first blackout drill. City ordinances allowed fines up to \$50 for failure to comply with the instructions, which were provided by the Army.

Immediately upon hearing the whistles and siren all local residents must put out all home lights that are visible from the outside, and all owners of mercantile establishments must do the same. Lights in homes, however, may be kept burning if they are sufficiently protected to keep their glare from being visible from the outside.

When the blackout signal sounds all persons must enter their homes or other places of shelter and stay off the streets no matter how long the blackout lasts. All groups gathering on the streets during blackout must be broken up and are subject to arrest if they persist in loitering on the streets. All city buses will pull immediately to the curb and stop when blackout signal sounds and remain stationary until the all-clear signal is given.

Passengers may leave buses, but for safety's sake they are requested to remain on buses until they begin moving again. Though buses and trains may keep moving if they show only necessary running lights during blackout.

Private Vehicles Must Stop

All passenger cars and trucks must pull to the curb and stop and remain there until the "all clear" signal is given. Civilian Defense workers have the authority to stop all passenger cars operating during blackout. Ambulances and police cars may operate provided they show only the necessary running lights. Radio stations will be allowed to function during the blackout provided the lights on the dials cannot be seen from the outside.

The Carolina Power and Light Company will not use any master switch to cut off lights as that is the job of individuals.

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

Remember personal info?

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No

Comment:

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Johnston County Munitions Blast / Catch-Me-Eye Explosion, 1942

12/21/08 617 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

On March 7, 1942, a truck and trailer carrying 30,000 pounds of munitions exploded on Highway 301 just south of Selma¹, killing 6 people and injuring over 50. The blast was seen and heard 50 miles away. It occurred at 2:57 a.m., two hours after the truck collided with a car and both vehicles caught fire. The truck was loaded with gunpowder, grenades, and "other explosives to be delivered to the Army."

The explosion carved a crater in the concrete highway, destroyed and damaged buildings, and broken windows more than three miles away. Nearby Luke Capp's Filling Station was demolished, with only two "gnarled gas pumps" remaining. Gurkin's Tavern, about 100 yards away, and several homes within a 500-yard radius, were "littered with broken window panes, falling bricks and timbers." Virtually all windows in Selma, one mile away, were shattered. The Selma Cotton Mill lost 900 panes. A few in Smithfield, three miles away, were broken.



The Talton Hotel nearby was "leveled to the ground." Within its smoking debris, bones from two bodies were found. Two occupants in the hotel were reported missing, last seen "in a sheet of flames." They were later identified as Edward E. Howell of Goldsboro, a taxi driver, and Jessie Holloway of Goldsboro, a cafe worker. The sister of Ms. Holloway was in her hotel room at the time of the explosion, and escaped after being "buried by falling timbers and bricks." Both troopers and firemen had warned bystanders to keep away, and had "cautioned persons in the hotel to leave."

George Stroupe of Gastonia, commander of the New Holland CCC camp, and Cecil E. Propst of Lawndale, Game and Fish Warden at the camp, were both killed, while riding past the scene. Claude "Buck" Mitchell, a cafe worker, of Dunn was a bystander, also killed. The three died instantly.

The burning vehicles attracted hundreds before the blast. Minnie Lewis of Raleigh, the driver of the car that collided with the truck, later died from burns received in the accident. The most seriously injured people were taken to hospitals in Johnston County, Goldsboro, Raleigh, and Durham.

The wreckage of the truck was scattered for 1.5 miles. The blast "ripped a hole 20 feet deep and as long as a railroad car" in Highway 70. The hole was filled by 3:00 p.m. the next day, using convict labor.

After the initial collision, firefighters (from Selma?) tried to douse the flames, but couldn't extinguish the fire. There were tons of black powder inside the "metal and wood transport van" and everybody moved away and waited. One spectator spent over an hour flagging approaching cars to a stop.

The witness remembered seeing the explosion a second or two before he felt it, "a great eruption of flam and smokes and sparks that swirled hundreds of feet into the air." For a moment, "everything was as bright as day." The concussion wave caught him "about shoulder high" and the next thing he knew, he was "flat on the ground, scrambling around on my stomach."

More than 200,000 people would visit the accident scene in the following day or two, estimated the Highway Patrol. They investigated the accident, along with an "official board of inquiry from the Charleston Ordnance Depot."

Source: *News & Observer* articles from that week.

Related Links:

- <http://www3.gendisasters.com/north-carolina/9732/smithfield-nc-truck-explosion-mar-1942>
- http://www.johnstonnc.com/jc_hc_archives_biopage.cfm?collectionid=9
- <http://www.selmanc.info/centennial3.htm>
- <http://www.unc.edu/~rkearns/SelmaCatchmeEyeExplosion.htm>

Notes

¹The tavern/cabin/service station complex at that locatio was called Catch-Me-Eye.

Interesting postscript to this incident. On July 8, 1942, a bomber crashed in a cornfield near Smithfield during a storm in the late afternoon. The twin-engine aircraft caught fire in flight and exploded as it crashed, said witnesses. All nine aboard were killed. The field was a corn and soybean field of Jasper Beasley, about a mile south of Wilson's Mill. As the wreckage burned, bullets exploded and streaked through the air. Hundreds went to the scene, slogging through 500 yards of muddy roads and fields. Source: N&O, July 9, 1942.

Legeros - 12/29/08 - 12:55

Interesting postscript #2. On July 20, 1945, the Selma town hall— one of the largest buildings in Johnston County— was badly damaged when a support structure over the second floor auditorium collapsed. The building was erected in 1913-14, and experienced damage in the 1942 truck explosion above. The force of the explosion "tore large crevices in the walls." After the building was again damaged three years later, the Selma mayor offered the opinion that the 1942 blast greatly contributed to the 1945 damage. Wonder how many other buildings were indirectly affected by that blast? Source: N&O, July 21, 1945.

Legeros - 05/09/09 - 11:01

My father,oldest 2 Brothers were in the car that truck.WOULD LIKE ANY INFO. ABOUT THAT DAY NOT IN NEWS PAPERS 252 946 9768

LInwood Lewis ([Email](#)) - 07/30/11 - 13:06

i was four years old and remember the blast breaking the window in the bedroom that morning my daddy or granddaddy took us to the site i can remember riding down the rr bridge and seeing all the cars and people i don t remember seeing blast hole there should be a nc historical marker put there... dick parker i was about half raised in the area.. my daddy shorty parker was in the produce bus many years 1947 1957...i was in the ins real estate and income tax there for 20 years 1966 1986 have many good memories about catch me eye

dick parker ([Email](#)) - 05/30/12 - 21:33

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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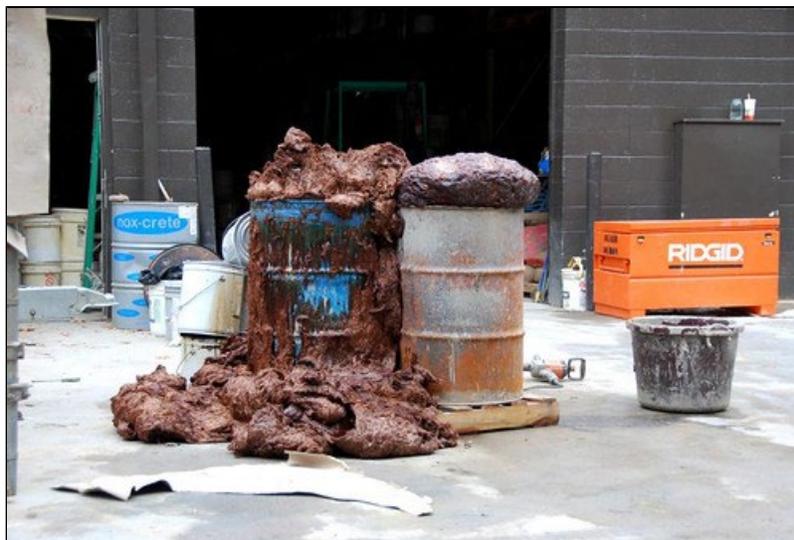
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Beware the Glob / Diggs Drive

12/21/08 103 W, 1 I - + 12 - 12

From last week's haz-mat incident, here's the chemical reaction in question that occurred when workers at [1401 Diggs Drive](#) were mixing materials to make concrete sealant. They called the fire department after the glob started growing and smoking. The incident occurred about 11:20 a.m. on Monday, with "B" shift units companies including E20, L20, HM2, HM15, HM8, SR22, R7, A8, B3, B2, C72, C2, EMS 14, EMS 81, EMS 11, EMS 13, EMS T1, EMS D1, EMS D2, and Wake EM. One person treated by EMS. The scene was reopened about 1:30 p.m. [See more photos from Lee.](#)



Lee Wilson Photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Tiller, Tower, Circa 71-74

12/22/08 69 W, 1 I - + 14 - 10

Here's a nifty new picture of Raleigh's old training tower and old tiller, from around 1972. The tower was built in 1954 and demolished in 2005. The tiller was delivered in 1958, an American LaFrance 700 Series with a 100-foot ladder. It received a 1979 Mack MC cab in 1980, and was removed from front-line service in 1995. It was removed from reserve service in 1999. Click to see a really big version:



Note the amount of grass by the tower as compared to now...interesting.

JP - 12/22/08 - 23:41

Date changed, photo is circa 1971-74. Other images in this series show a Mack CF pumper as Engine 15, which was the second engine at Station 1. The second engine at Station 1 was previous named Engine 10, until Station 10 opened on February 24, 1971. Since Station 15 opened November 13, 1974 with an American LaFrance pumper, the photo dates between February 1971 and November 1974. Ergo circa 1971-74.

Legeros - 12/25/08 - 10:40

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Training Center, Big Brother View

12/23/08 66 W, 2 I - + 11 - 18

Speaking of changes to the Keeter Training Center, here are a pair of aerial photos from 2002 and 2008. They're from [Microsoft TerraServer](#) and [Google Maps](#) and nicely demonstrate the changes to the facility over the last six years. The most obvious differences are the USAR area and the new tower. Click to enlarge each:



Microsoft TerraServer and Google Maps Photos

Wow, that is cool. Good find, Mike!

RescueRanger - 12/23/08 - 10:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Goldsboro Snorkel

12/23/08 62 W, 1 I - + 15 - 12

Seen today during a day trip to the beach, here's Goldsboro's Snorkel. It's a 1977 model and one of the few articulating platforms left in the state. The 85-foot apparatus operates from Station 5 on Central Heights Road. See more snorkel chat on [this blog thread](#), and [this blog thread](#). Or learn more about the [Goldsboro Fire Department](#). Click to enlarge:



The Henderson/Vance County Fire Departments have a similar truck. About the same age. Theirs is stored at the Henderson City Garage and is used basically in the County and as a backup for the city.

rln ([Email](#)) - 12/24/08 - 18:27

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Goldsboro Old Station 1

12/23/08 73 W, 1 I - + 11 - 16

Here's a sight worthy of a Highway 70 detour. Goldsboro's Old Station 1 at [109 E. Ash Street](#) has been undergoing renovations for use as an office. The building was saved from demolition in 2006 by a petition and last-minute sale. The exterior has been restored as much as possible. The Art Deco-designed station was built as a WPA project, and served from 1939 to 1976. [Read more about Goldsboro fire stations.](#) Click to enlarge:



I remember my Dad taking me to this station when I was around 4 or 5 years old when we were visiting relative in Goldsboro. I remember a 700 series ALF ladder truck and pumper (I don't remember whether the ladder was a tiller or not), some military chassis fire trucks (one or two), and a Ford Econoline van that was the rescue/ambulance. Glad to see it is still standing.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/25/08 - 12:59

There are precious few of the great old central stations still standing. Asheville's, still active. Greensboro's, now part of a hotel. Durham's, now an office building. Raleigh's, still active. Fayetteville, Rocky Mount, Wilmington, all gone.

Legeros - 12/25/08 - 13:55

Its a shame that municipalities rush to demolish relics like this. Look at it now, it almost looks too modern, to nice for Goldsboro!

Its 2am at KPS... I cant sleep!

J.Boggs - 01/02/09 - 03:03

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

Remember personal info?

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Morehead City Station 3

12/23/08 59 W, 1 I - + 10 - 14

Hidden behind the Wildwood fire station at 5291 Highway 70 West is Morehead City Station 3. The station opened last year and operates an engine and an ambulance. The former, delivered in March, is a 2008 Sutphen S3 pumper equipped with a 1500 GPM pump and a 750 gallon tank. [Read more about the Morehead City Fire Department.](#) Click to enlarge:



So, Mike, let me get this straight...

You stopped while you were at the coast, and you went to Morehead Station 3, but you didn't come to the building in the front and see me at my new house? I'm upset. Especially since we have some pretty good people and equipment there.

CJS ([Email](#)) - 12/23/08 - 23:21

Day late and dollar short. My apologies.

Legeros - 12/23/08 - 23:24

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
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Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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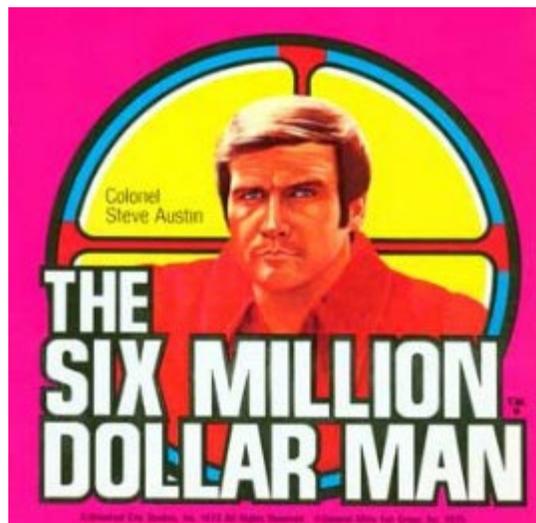
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Christmas Posting #3

12/24/08 67 W, 1 I - + 16 - 11

Who else of a certain age remembers asking Santa for a Six Million Dollar Man action figure? Made by Kenner Toys, the basic Steve Austin figure was a sell-out smash in 1975. Accessories were added, including the Bionic Transport and Repair Station, Critical Assignment Arms, and Back Pack Radio. Check out these [vintage advertisements from PladiStallions.com](#).



those were the days, no worries no problems

dlindsey ([Email](#)) - 12/24/08 - 21:21

Had forgotten about that guy. I had him, Maskatron and Oscar Goldman. Maskatron was awesome with his interchangeable faces and detachable arm that looked like a coal shovel. Goldman's exploding briefcase was pretty cool too. Check out this vintage TV commercial, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zA6wa_tM7.. . Gotta love the leisure suit. I type this as I'm getting ready to layout toys under the tree for my four-year-old son. I wonder if he'll have fond memories of any of his toys in thirty years.

[Todd D] ([Web Site](#)) - 12/25/08 - 00:30

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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New Bern Fire Museum

12/24/08 125 W, 1 I - + 13 - 14

The first formal stop on our day trip to the coast was the [New Bern Firemens Museum](#). Took an hour's worth of photos, about 450. Mrs. Claus went shopping | got coffee | sat in car. The apparatus on display includes two steam engines (1879, 1884), two hose wagons (1900s), a hand reel (1880s), a 1914 American LaFrance pumper, and a 1927 Seagrave combination service truck. The hose wagons are particularly interesting and may be the only surviving hose wagons in the state. The museum has a ton of artifacts, from helmets to trumpets to Gamewell alarm equipment. They're planning an expansion into the old fire station around the corner, though no update known there. Pictures to be posted soon.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Old Photos

12/25/08 91 W, 1 I - + 17 - 9

Merry Christmas, and enjoy some old photos of the Raleigh Fire Department. [View the photos](#). These are scans of recently found negatives. Training and rescue squad (pre-Hurst tool) activities circa 1971-74, and the dedication of Station 14 on June 22, 1975. The last series is both incomplete and out of sequence. More later. Scanned using Epson flatbed scanner, 16-bit color, 3200 DPI, and no post-production except for contrast adjustments for close-ups. Learn more about the history of the Raleigh Fire Department at www.legeros.com/history.



Wow...trees in front of station 14...

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/25/08 - 15:20

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Firefighters and Their Families Celebrate Christmas

12/26/08 45 W, 1 I - + 10 - 15

WRAL paid a visit to Station 1 in Raleigh on Christmas Day yesterday, and reported on the family and feast therein. [Read and watch the story.](#) What other holiday activities happened at fire and EMS stations yesterday?



WRAL Photo

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

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Yes
No

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This Afternoon's MVA / Brier Creek Parkway

12/27/08 62 W, 1 I - + 16 - 16

Motor-vehicle accident with injuries on Glenwood Avenue and Brier Creek Parkway. Two vehicles, with entrapments and a reported ejection. Nine patients transported. One fatality later reported by news media. Raleigh Engine 24, Ladder 23, Rescue 14, Battalion 4; Bethesda Engine 461, Bethesda 100; Six Forks EMS 123, 121, 122; Cary EMS 54, 51, District 5; Wake EMS 15, District 1. Dispatched 3:56 p.m. Click to enlarge photo by Legeros:



Gotta give credit to the folks on the scene there. I happened to catch it all on the radio and I know they had their hands full, but I never heard one raised voice. Excellent job guys!

yfd482 - 12/27/08 - 23:40

Just to keep the record straight, CHIEF 100 was nowhere near this one (actually, I was at EMS 5 listening in). I was listening, however, and thought that the initial responders did a great job sorting out a complex incident.

Skip

Skip ([Email](#)) - 12/28/08 - 10:54

Bethesda Engine 421, Chief 100 corrected to Bethesda Engine 421, Bethesda 100.

Legeros - 12/28/08 - 10:57

Spelling of Brier Creek correct, too! Photos posting in a few.

Legeros - 12/28/08 - 11:16

Not trying to stir anything up, but it appears there are several firefighters operating on scene without wearing traffic safety vests. Remember: turnouts do not qualify as an equal amount of protection in traffic.

I'm assuming that the yellow vests are EMS personnel.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/28/08 - 18:23

So, if you are suggesting that a firefighter needs to wear a traffic safety vest on top of his/her turn-out gear, than perhaps turn-out gear should come with more reflective striping. I think it is ridiculous to have to wear a vest over your turn-outs!

J. McAdams - 12/29/08 - 00:25

there has been a change to the standards for wearing traffic vest. Firefighters do not have to wear a vest over turnout gear unless they are directly involving in directing traffic. The standards were changed due to traffic vests causing additional problems while fire fighters perform their duties.

fyi - 12/29/08 - 00:34

Hopefully the top turnout gear agencies will just add striping to the gear so it'll meet "the standard". Plus, I'm not "certified" to direct traffic; that's why PD uses a few days at Gorman and Western during their academy!! If it came down to court testimony, and I was asked "Mr.Silver,

how much training do you have directing traffic?" I'd have to answer that one with "None", to which the attorney would reply "no further questions".

Silver - 12/29/08 - 00:40

Not to dispute anyone's "concern" for safety, but unless it is a department policy, a safety vest would not be required over turnout gear on this call. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) ANSI vest standard applies to Federal-aid Highways.

Scottie ([Email](#)) - 12/29/08 - 08:33

You don't "need" to be certified to direct traffic. It's just nice to be able to say that you have been instructed on the "proper" way. But really, how hard is it to direct traffic? If anything, people need to be "certified" in how to follow directions from someone directing traffic.

It was so bad out there that for a while, we had a civilian doing traffic direction at a low flow location to help us out due to the shortage of officers available.....

But good work out there folks.

RPD - 12/29/08 - 14:16

The issue with turnout gear is not so much with the reflective striping as it is with the background material.

PLEASE, watch this video at respondersafety.com:

<http://www.respondersafety.com/BeRightBe..>

Additional info at FireNews.net:

<http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news..>

"fyi" I don't know where your information is from, but your post is incorrect. The standards were not changed. Here's the easy rule to remember: if you are wearing SCBA, no vest is needed. If you are operating in traffic w/out SCBA, wear a vest. The standards have nothing to do with directing traffic or not. If you are struck by a vehicle, is it going to be better/worse because you were on a federally funded highway? The answer is no. Wear the vest at traffic incidents.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/29/08 - 21:49

#1 You need to follow your Department's SOP's, whatever they may be.

Personally I don't believe that traffic vests and fire helmets are going to significantly reduce injuries on busy highways. We need better traffic control methods, if that means shutting the road down then that is what needs to be done. We have to slow the vehicles down! No moving vehicles means no injuries (PERIOD). But since that is easier said than done, it is also the responsibility of the responders to be aware of their environment and expect for people not to see them and act accordingly. And just my two cents, fire helmets are useless unless its keeping the rain off your face.

gen3fire - 12/29/08 - 23:27

Perhaps a dumb question here, but... if you don a vest each and every time you are stepping into a traffic situation— and regardless if your agency SOPs require same— what's the down side?

Legeros - 12/30/08 - 09:03

I spoke yesterday with Dr. Nadine Levick, who is one of the nation's top authorities on responder safety (see <http://www.objectivesafety.com>). She confirmed for me that the new "safety vest standard" was altered three days before final publication to say that firefighters wearing turnouts don't have to wear traffic safety vests, because the vests were not fireproof.

I'm concerned because it seems people are posting information here based on what they "think" that might mislead others in this hugely important area. We need to be guided by facts and evidence, not what we "think."

First – it's not the reflective stripes that make turnouts ineffective. It's the background colors – black or PBI tan. They are nowhere near as close to visible as safety yellow/green).

Second – the fire service argument about “not fireproof” falls of its own weight. Check the data on firefighter fatalities for the last upteen years. MANY are on highways. MOST involve either vehicle crashes or firefighters struck. NONE involve firefighters getting burned because they weren’t in flameproof clothing! Heck, you see personnel operating at MVC scenes all the time in incomplete turnout gear, and none of those get immolated either!

Third, for the chap who said that the vest standards only apply on federal highways – not so. The feds have created what we lawyers call a “de facto standard of care” – while maybe the federal government can only enforce it themselves on federally funded highways (which MIGHT include Glenwood Avenue or any other street that the city got a grant for), it will be used as evidence of employer negligence in any civil suit in any court in any jurisdiction.

What’s more important? Convenience? Looking cool? Or doing everything possible to not get killed? We should all be smart enough to do the right thing regardless of the rules, or our leaders should have the courage to require us to do it. Anything else, we run the risk of bagpipes playing Honor Our Fallen. Getting killed because you were stupid is not very honorable. For no reason, it makes your family, friends, and agency suffer.

Do the right thing and BE SAFE!

Thanks,

Skip

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) - 12/30/08 - 10:54

Firefighters or other emergency responders working within the right-of way of a Federal-aid highway and engaged in emergency operations that directly expose them to flame, fire, heat, and/or hazardous materials may wear retro-reflective turn-out gear that is specified and regulated by other organizations, such as the National Fire Protection Association. Firefighters or other emergency responders working within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway and engaged in any other types of operations shall wear high-visibility safety apparel.

FF’s are only exempt when engaged in operations where the vest poses a safety issue, when operating in suppression activities or haz-mat incidents. If you are standing there spreading absorbant, or standing at a pump panel or other stuff like that you are not exempt. This is according to the wording of the law, not an opinion.

Quite frankly this is only one part to a “safe” scene. It also includes proper blocking, apparatus placement, cone placement and keeping your heads on a swivel. There have been dozens of apparatus hit recently and even LODD’s due to incidents on roadways. Do all you can to prevent these, use your apparatus to block, shut down the road, wear your vests and helmets, post advanced warning vehicles and signage. Why do we always try to buck the things that are in place to help us do our job safer so we can go home to our families in the morning?

The easiest policy to remember is if your feet are on the street your vest is on your chest. What harm does it do?

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/30/08 - 11:54

OK...different perspective. Over the past 35 years I have known (personally known) 4 emergency personnel who were struck and KILLED by errant motorists. None of them were engaged in directing traffic; they were providing care, extricating patients, or standing by with a charged line. And only one was killed on a major roadway.

We (all of us) need to take the proper precautions. We need to take EVERY precaution to make ourselves visible and to protect ourselves. Maybe yellow turnout gear needs to come back (I always liked it). Maybe we need to get away from black turnouts and helmets (finally). There are no ‘routine’ calls when we are standing in the street.

I would would like to echo a couple of things already said, from the aged-paramedic point of view.

To my firefighting brothers and sisters:

1. Please leave room for my ambulance so that your big fire truck is between oncoming traffic and my fragile aluminum box of an ambulance. Even if I am in the ‘safety’ of my ambulance, these units are not exactly crash worthy. Google search ambulance wrecks and check it out for yourself.

2. I don't care what the cops say, shut the road down. My parents buried two of their kids, and my mother does not need to bury the last one. Our safety is more important than keeping any roads around here open. If the cops arrest you, I'll help post your bail.

3. Wear the vests. Maybe if you are on a hose line, or in close proximity to flammable/ combustible liquids, you can spare it. I don't know, if that PBI is all it is cracked up to be, it should not be a problem. Seems like they all come off pretty easy. Or maybe the NFPA can write a standard for NOMEX traffic vests (I saw them one time years ago).

4. And if you are blocking for me, please do not leave until I am ready to leave (remember my non-crashworthy ambulance?). You look after me and I will look after you.

To my EMS brothers and sisters-

1. Wear the vest. Keep in the door pocket or on the dashboard, but put it on.

2. Two of the friends of mine who were killed died of head injuries that could have been prevented if they had had some sort of helmet with a chinstrap. Think about wearing your helmet, with the chinstrap.

3. Make sure there is a big fire truck between you and oncoming traffic. On a 29B8 on any sort of busy to kind-of-busy road, request fire units to respond as you are leaving the station (29B8 is on the CAD). And don't let them leave until YOU are ready to leave. Your safety is more important than anything else.

4. If it makes YOU feel better, shut the road down. I cannot count how many times I have shut down I-95, I-40, I-695, US 70, US 64, US 15-501, and US 421, and there have been upset troopers to go with each time. They were young and they got over it. My (and your) safety is more important than anyone else's travel plans.

Just the random musings of a growing-senile paramedic wandering through this world.

DJ's back.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/30/08 - 23:17

I meant to say that it seems like the vests come off pretty easy.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 12/30/08 - 23:20

Well said DJ. It's not about anything else but the safety of you and all of those at the scene. Do whatever it takes. Let's all go home safe.

yfd482 - 12/31/08 - 09:57

Straight from the NIOSH investigation report of the LODD of Asst. Chief Gene Thomas in June of 2008 in Onslow County:

NIOSH investigators concluded that, in order to minimize the risk of similar occurrences, fire departments should:

- * ensure that fire fighters responding to a scene involving a highway incident control oncoming traffic first, before responding to the emergency

- * establish pre-incident traffic control plans and pre-incident agreements with law enforcement and other agencies such as highway departments

Additionally, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) should:

- * ensure that emergency vehicles are parked in protected work areas when responding to emergency situations

Additionally, municipalities should consider:

- * establishing a multi-agency communication system for response operations to coordinate and communicate incident activities

Although there is no evidence that the following recommendation could have specifically prevented this fatality, NIOSH investigators

recommend that fire departments:

* ensure high-visibility vests meet minimum requirements of ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 or ANSI/ISEA 207-2006

Notice it says to minimize, we are not eliminating the risk, merely hoping to make it smaller, like everything else we do in this line of work.

CFP 7021 ([Email](#)) - 12/31/08 - 10:16

Not trying to change the subject, (okay I am) if you look at the statistics being struck by a vehicle accounts for roughly 12% of firefighter deaths in the category of responding to and from a call. Several of these victims fell off the tailboard of the apparatus. I completely understand the concern of operating in traffic and wearing a vest, but I think it is more of a concern when you listen to the radio and you hear officers on the scene of an incident ask the responding units to (come on, step-it up, etc.) when the units are already responding emergency traffic. Doesn't this seem to put a little extra pressure on the driver-operator and possibly make him push a little harder than he already is. In 2007 there were 27 deaths caused by wrecks responding to and from calls. 1 death from being struck by a vehicle. Overall I feel like we are doing a good job of being safe in the street, we just need to be safer getting there and back.

FYI <http://www.tkolb.net/FireReports/Firefig..> 2003-2007 stats. Interesting reading.

gen3fire - 12/31/08 - 18:20

As you can see by Skip's posting, my information was not incorrect.

FYI - 12/31/08 - 23:20

If you post under "FYI", does it really matter if you get the last word in by saying you were correct?

J McAdams - 12/31/08 - 23:54

And already a firefighter has died this new year, struck and killed by apparatus at a house fire. <http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blog..>

Legeros - 01/02/09 - 12:34

From WRAL-

"Teen driver hits firefighters at wreck scene

Posted: Today at 11:03 a.m.

Updated: 38 minutes ago

Greensboro, N.C. — A 16-year-old driver plowed through the scene of an earlier traffic accident, injuring two Greensboro firefighters early Sunday. The teen driver did not stop for emergency lights and road flares surrounding a wreck scene at Creekridge and Randleman roads, according to the Greensboro Fire Department. Firefighters J.N. Harvey and L.D. Boone tried to get out of the way, but the girl's vehicle struck them. The vehicle hit another vehicle, but the driver continued on. Greensboro police officers stopped her a short distance away. Both Harvey and Boone were expected to make a full recovery after being treated at Moses Cone Hospital. Harvey returned to duty the same day. Police were testing the teen, whose name was not released, for impairing substances. There was no word yet on any charges."

There you have it. Flashing lights and flares do not protect us. I wonder if GFD had apparatus blocking the lanes?

In the meantime, shut the lanes down. I'll say it again (and again if needed), our safety is more important than anyone else's travel plans.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 01/04/09 - 14:37

how much you want to bet she was on the cell phone as well – can't seem to find a single female under 40 not driving while yakking away on a cellphone

cornerhydrant - 01/04/09 - 19:41

cellphone use while driving just as bad as dui – hands-free just as bad

<http://www.scirus.com/srsapp/search?q=ce..>

cornerhydrant - 01/04/09 - 20:43

Relating to today's article about the Wallace firefighter who was injured on I-40...I wasn't there, but I do have questions-

1. Were suitably sized fire apparatus blocking the lane(s) to create a safe zone? If not, why not? If it was because the department has no such policies, now is as good a time as any to get them in place. Was it because law enforcement wanted to keep the lanes clear? If so, it is time for a come-to-Jesus meeting between the local LE agencies (including SHP) and the fire service. My safety (as well as that of my brothers and sisters in the fire service and EMS is far more important than clear roadways. Clear roadways do not even rate a distant fourth to my safety.
2. Was sufficient warning in place prior to the actual crash site to let motorists know of the situation? I do realize that this may have happened too quickly so maybe there was not time. But if there was, we have to realize that in reality, people on these highways do actually travel in excess of the speed limit and we must anticipate and plan for it. Especially in areas with rural interstates.
3. Vests do not protect you, they only make you visible (as targets, maybe?). Still, a few people out there are paying attention so we need to make it easier. Hopefully vests were on.
4. I am curious as to the time of day (night) that this happened. If it was at night, how many clear lights may have been in a position to distract the driver (take-down lights, alley lights, flashing headlights, high beam headlights, flood lights, etc.). All the more reason to shut down lanes. BTW, in my travels, EMS and LEOs are the worst for the various white lights. Maybe all emergency vehicles should have 'shift-into-park shut offs to disable flashing headlights and high beams.
5. If the driver was talking on the cell phone, take her license until she is 18 and for community service, she should have to help take care of Firefighter Campbell.

My thoughts are with Firefighter Campbell and I wish him a speedy recovery.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 01/15/09 - 14:36

From CFP mailing list: On Wednesday January 14 2009 Wallace Fire Department along with Duplin Co EMS were dispatched to a MVC on I-40 at the 387 MM on the Northeast Cape Fear River Bridge at the Duplin/Pender Co line. After units arrived it was found that there were no patients however the vehicle was in the roadway and the bridge covered with ice from temperatures in the upper 20's. While WFD and the NCSHP were clearing the roadway a pick up truck lost control on the bridge and struck the NCSHP vehicle and headed toward a group of firefighters and the trooper, Wallace firefighter Henry Dave Campbell pushed the trooper out of the way as to not get hit and was struck by the out of control pick up the trooper was also struck. Firefighter Campbell was rushed to New Hanover Regional Medical Center as a level 1 trauma patient and the trooper was taken by another trooper to Pender Memorial Hospital and was treated for a broken arm. Firefighter Campbell was rushed to surgery for his injury's and is listed in critical but stable condition. Firefighter Campbell suffered injury's to his liver, spleen, aorta, and a collapsed lung. Please keep firefighter Campbell and the Wallace Fire Department in your prayers and BE SAFE OUT THERE!!!!

Context - 01/15/09 - 14:46

FireNews coverage: [http://firenews.net/index.php/headlines/..](http://firenews.net/index.php/headlines/)

Legeros - 01/15/09 - 21:56

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Holiday Decorations

12/28/08 40 W, 1 I - + 15 - 14

Having photographed exactly one set of holiday lights this season-- Apex Station 2 last night, while wandering around with the Missus-- here's a nice set of conventional decorations, with wreaths adorning windows at Raleigh Station 5. Click to enlarge:



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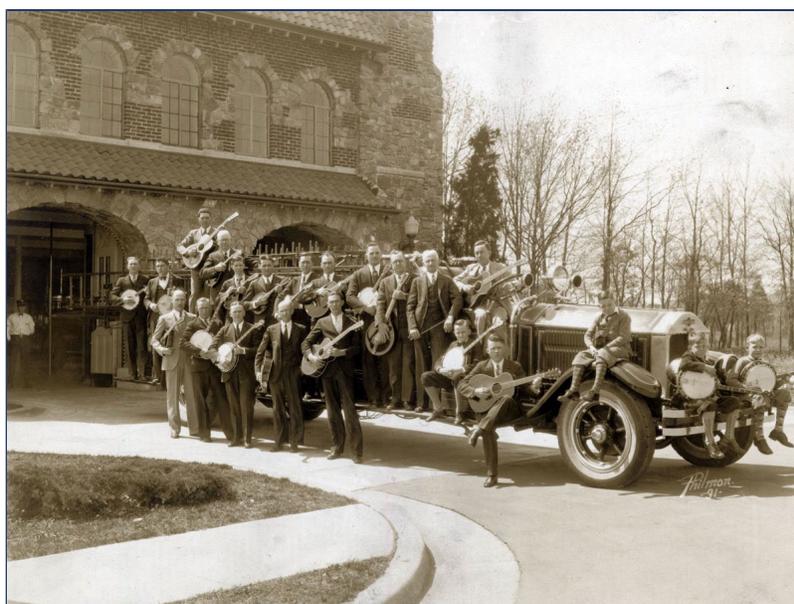
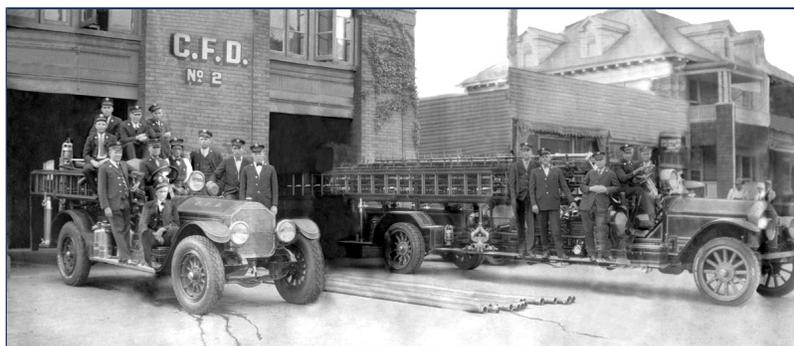
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Old Photos From Charlotte

12/28/08 83 W, 2 I - + 16 - 13

From a reader comes a pair of old photos of the Charlotte Fire Department, showing personnel and apparatus in front of Dilworth Station 2, and personnel, apparatus, and musical instruments at Station 6. The former is probably from the 1920s, the latter is dated 1931. The service trucks are American LaFrances. By 1929, Charlotte had four ALF service trucks, including three that carried 600-feet of 2 1/2" hose and 300-feet of 1 1/2" hose. Source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1929. Click to enlarge both:



Name: (real name preferred)
 E-mail: (optional)
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Wilmington Fire Trucks Given to War Salvage Drive, 1942

12/29/08 80 W - + 18 - 8

Some of the state's earliers fire trucks ended up as wartime salvage, as notes the *News & Observer* of October 1, 1942. Two Wilmington fire trucks, "completed with solid rubber tires," were donated by the city. They were 1912 and 1914 models, retired from active service in 1930, and since "stored for emergency use." Fire Chief Ludie Croom said "he believed virtually every piece of each truck could be used."

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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City Installs New Fire Control Board, 1942

12/29/08 178 W, 1 I - + 14 - 14

We've all seen alarm boxes, that familiar component of electric-telegraph fire alarm systems. Most have also seen gongs, tap bells, and punch registers. But what did it look like behind-the-scenes? Below is a pair of Gamewell control boards as photographed at the New Bern Fireman's Museum. Left is circa 1940s, right is probably 1910s-1920s. In Raleigh, a new control board was installed in the summer of 1942. The "central control board" cost \$13,000, and was installed in the alarm house on South Dawson Street. The new board was like the photo on the left, only longer, e.g. with more circuits. Raleigh's prior control board was installed in 1901-1925 with about 35__ boxes connected. The 1942 board had 128 boxes connected, with 35 more soon to be connected. The 1901 board had four circuits, the 1942 board had 14 circuits. The new board also allowed for two alarms to be transmitted from different sections of the city at exactly the same time. Raleigh's fire alarm boxes operated until 1973. [Read more about the alarm system history](#). Click to enlarge:



The board on the right is also smaller than the board on the left. Maybe two-thirds the size, or smaller. Maybe half-size. The board on the right looks like a two-circuit system. The board on the left is either a four- or eight-circuit system. Still learning about these things.

Legeros - 12/29/08 - 22:32

Early VIPER technology from the 40's? How many PS TAC or Mutual Aid channels can that thing handle? ;-)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/29/08 - 22:44

Mutual Aid was good back in the Gamewell days when I was growing up. Every town had their own system, but your town had a single bell and tape for each town that they had a mutual aid agreement, in every station. You received every box transmitted from all your bordering towns and responded as assigned on their running cards. In return, so they knew that you were responding, your town transmitted a mutual aid box, so they knew that you were on the way. This, of course, was back when radios were very primitive and you often responded without radio communication to the town to which you were responding. Often you would be recalled from the alarm, when the "All Out" signal was transmitted over the Gamewell System, and you were notified by your own dispatcher. We thought it was a great system. Sometimes the calls were placed and/or verified by telephone. How far we have advanced !!!!!

Yankee Transplant ([Email](#)) - 12/30/08 - 20:15

Question Mike, why or when did the fire departments down here switch from calling "box alarms" to "fire alarms" and why??????

jkj ([Email](#)) - 01/01/09 - 14:55

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As cited in the reader comments about the Brier Creek MVA, [Responder Safety.com](http://ResponderSafety.com) is a recommended site for information and tools for reducing responder deaths on roadways. The site is operated by the Emergency Responder Safety Institute and includes a pair of featured videos, *Be Right, Be Bright - High Visibility Vests for Firefighters/EMTs* ([watch this video](#)) and *Accepting the Challenge to be Visible - High Visibility Vests for Police* ([watch this video](#)).



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