

Legeros Fire Blog Archives - 2011 Postings Compiled, Part 1

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.

Big Gray

01/02/11 97 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

How's this for a monster rig? Pierce Velocity heavy rescue for the Emergency Services Team of the [Northern Illinois Police Alarm System](#), a mutual aid organization comprised of suburban police departments in the Chicago metropolitan area. [See specs and larger photos](#). And here's a shot of the thing in a [Chicago airport fire station](#). Google finds a few other NIPAS vehicles, like this [special operations truck](#) and this [rescue vehicle](#). Thanks to Jeff Harkey for passing along this one. Makes you think of the Navy rigs of long ago...



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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

This Morning's Fire in Durham

01/02/11 39 W - + 7 - 2

[Footage from WTVD](#) of the commercial structure fire on Angier Avenue near Driver Street this morning. Bars and locks prevented immediate entry. Looks like she was rolling by the time they gained access.

I used to live in that area of the city. some of those buildings in that area have been there along time. Dfd's facebook page says it was three buildings destroyed by fire. Engines 3,1,4, L1, squad 1, so1 and MS1 along with B1 And B3 were on the first alarm along with Bethesda L413. the second alarm brought E8 and E13.

charlie - 01/02/11 - 15:22

That darn Julian is "Johnny on the spot"! Great footage....

Silver - 01/02/11 - 20:29

channel 11 had better video than any of the area stations.

charlie - 01/02/11 - 22:02

They usually do...there's a freelance guy named Julian that sells his footage to them. He typically stays in Durham, never seen him in Raleigh.

Silver - 01/03/11 - 13:06

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Matchbox International Brush Truck

01/02/11 57 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Here's another new casting that's appearing on local store shelves. Costs about a buck. See, this is big stuff. For many years, there's been bupkiss in the way of realistic, mass-market miniature fire apparatus models. This one's tampo's are a bit crooked, but otherwise looks good.



i bought this toy and i think it is really awesome.

charlie - 01/02/11 - 18:32

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Calpyso Fire Department

01/02/11 80 W, 2 I - + 4 - 4

Here's a neat former fire station building in Duplin County. The fire department in the town of Calypso occupied this building on Center Street until 1979, whereupon it relocated next door to 109 S. East Center Street. That facility is currently being renovated. The original fire station building was built in 1913. Don't know when the fire department was formed. More pictures [forthcoming on the photo site](#).



Mike Calypso Fire Department was started in 1952.

car3550 - 01/02/11 - 17:46

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Wilmington Crash Trucks

01/02/11 115 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

The public safety station at Wilmington International Airport is equipped with these two Oshkosh airport crash trucks. The station is staffed with one firefighter and augmented with public safety officers on policy duty. The top truck is their active rig; the bottom one is the reserve unit. They're getting a Rosenbauer crash truck, which is a rare breed for these parts. [Myrtle Beach has one](#). Next question, just how many airport fire stations are there in North Carolina? Turns out we already [blogged about that](#). Maybe a more-challenging question is asking how many airports have closed in our state?



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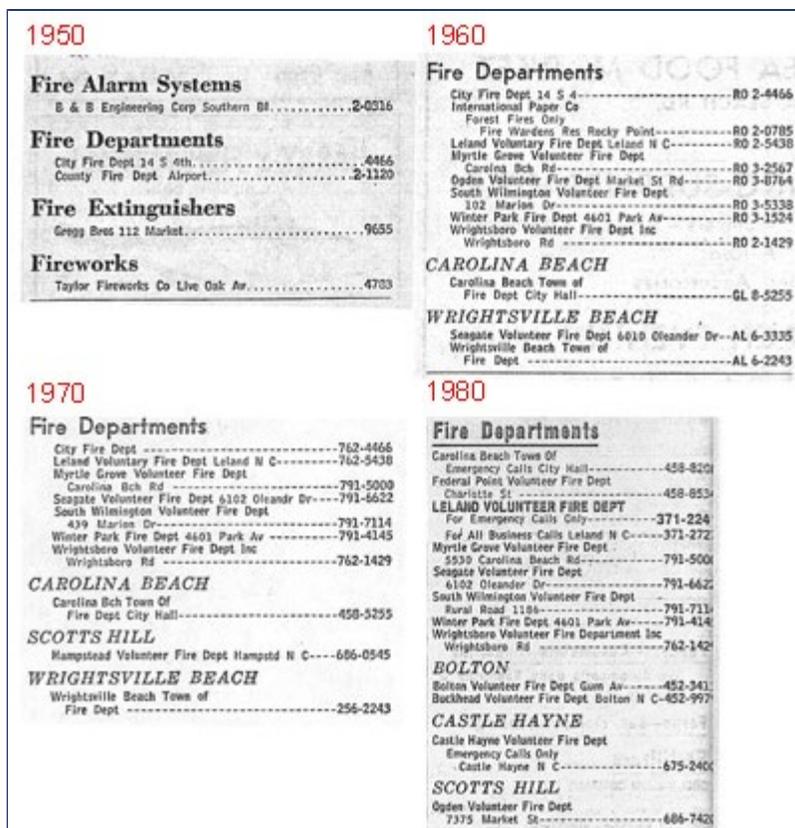
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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Wilmington « Wilmington Crash Truc... » New Hanover County Fi...
 Phone Book Listings, 1950-1980

Wilmington Phone Book Listings, 1950-1980

01/02/11 103 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Took a trip to Wilmington last week. Local history library visit. Copied quite a few things, including these phone book listings. Four decades of fire departments in the Wilmington area. A number of them no longer exist. The New Hanover County Fire Department in the 1950 listing was the first version of a county-run (or at least county-sponsored) fire department. It didn't last past the decade. Other former fire departments in the listings are Scotts Hill FD (Pender), Seagate FD, South Wilmington FD, and Winter Park FD. [Read more about former departments](#). Click once or twice to enlarge:



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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - New Hanover < Wilmington Phone Book... > Wake County Firefight... County Fire Apparatus Chart, 1971

New Hanover County Fire Apparatus Chart, 1971

01/02/11 93 W, 2 I - + 6 - 6

Here's another historical treat. Two-page chart of fire apparatus in New Hanover County. From a January 1971 report by the Wilmington-New Hanover Charter Commission. Technical Report #16, Fire Protection. Absent are Wilmington city units, which consisted of seven engine companies and one ladder company, plus unstaffed units including one fire boat and one rescue unit. The report notes that the area's two Air Force installations also maintained fire departments, including a crash truck that served the 48th Interceptor Squadron at the airport. [Click to read the PDF document](#) :

NEW HANOVER COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS						
DEPARTMENT	ACTIVE FIREMEN	MAJOR EQUIPMENT	PUMP CAPACITY (gpm)	BOOSTER TANK CAPACITY (gals)	STATION LOCATION	TYPE FIRE ALARM
South Wilmington	18 volunteers	1959 International Pumper	500	640	102 Marion Drive	Siren at station Telephone answering service
		1953 Ford Tanker	150	1650		
		1952 Dodge Wood Truck	250	360		
Castle Hayne	25 volunteers	1958 Chevrolet Pumper	500	800	US 117 and Skipper Road	1 siren at station 2 at other locations Telephone emer- gency reporting system
		1964 Ford Pumper	250	500		
		1948 Ford Pumper	150	1000		
		1962 Chevrolet Auxiliary	100	200		
Myrtle Grove	35 volunteers	1966 International Pumper	500	1000	Myrtle Grove Junction US 421 & NC 132	1 siren at station 2 at other locations Telephone emer- gency reporting system
		1963 International Pumper	500	1000		
		1948 International Pumper	100	750		
		1952 Dodge Woods Truck	100	380		
		1951 Dodge Woods Truck	100	380		
Ogden	22 volunteers	1963 Ford Pumper	500	1080	US 17 at Ogden	Siren at station Telephone emer- gency reporting system
		1947 International Pumper	750	1000		
		1952 Dodge Woods Truck	200	380		
		1953 Dodge Woods Truck	200	380		
Seagate	24 volunteers	1946 G M C Pumper	500	1000	6102 Odeander Drive	Siren at station Telephone at station with 2 extensions
		1951 International Pumper	400	750		
Winter Park	28 volunteers	1961 Chevrolet Pumper	500	750	4401 Park Ave.	Siren at station Telephone answer- ing service
		1965 Chevrolet Pumper	500	585		
Wrightshoro	29 volunteers	1966 Chevrolet Pumper	500	500	100' East of US 117 at Wrights- boro Rd	Siren at station Telephone emer- gency reporting system
		1952 Dodge Woods Truck	40	150		
		1956 International Pumper	500	2000		
		1969 Chevrolet Pumper	750	750		

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Wake County Firefighter's Association Scholarships

01/04/11 72 W - + 5 - 1

Applications for the Wake County Firefighter's Association scholarships are now being accepted. The association will award \$500 to a firefighter and \$500 to a firefighter's child, to be used towards a course of study at a community college, college, or university. The deadline for application is May 10, 2011. Scholarship winners will be announced at the association meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2011. See www.wakefirefighters.org for more information, including application forms.

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North Carolina State Firemen's Association Scholarships

01/04/11 59 W - + 6 - 2

Speaking of financial awards, the North Carolina State Firemen's Association 2011 scholarship program was recently announced. To eligible, your fire department must be a current member of the association. The award and grant amounts range from \$6,000 to \$500. There both regional and statewide awards. [See this web page](#) on the NCSFA site for more information.

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Garner Men Honored as Firefighters of the Year

01/04/11 89 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

[This Garner Citizen story](#) reports that Garner Fire Department members Jimmy Franks and Allen Dudley were awarded Firefighter of the Year at the department's annual ladies banquet in early December. Franks has been a volunteer firefighter for over 30 years. Dudley is a District Chief who has been a member of the department for 25 years. These are the first awards in 15 years. The awards were restarted this fall by Fire Chief Matt Poole. [Read the story.](#)



Garner Citizen photos

Here's a second Garner Citizen story about GFD adding two UTVs to their fleet. Chief Dudley led the project, which was completed with donations and support from local businesses: [http://www.garnercitizen.com/2011/01/02/.](http://www.garnercitizen.com/2011/01/02/)

Legeros - 01/04/11 - 08:11

These are two of the finest individuals that I know and are most deserving of their awards. Both of these fellas are in this line of work for the right reasons as can be seen by their length of service. I am proud to have worked along side both of them when I worked with EMS in Garner and learned a lot from them. Guys like them put the citizens first and politics last. Keep up the good work!

Jason Thompson - 01/04/11 - 18:10

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 No

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Public Workers, Public Salaries, Public Reactions

01/04/11 104 W - + 6 - 2

[Here's another interesting article](#), this time from the *New York Times*. Public outrage as public employee salaries and benefits stay large as budgets get small. The story's not necessarily targeted at public safety employees. And it talks much about unions and their impact in the issue. We reside in a non-union state, so it's a bit of apples to oranges. But it's an interesting issue for discussion. How do you keep the citizens supportive of salaries and benefits (as well as other budget expenses), as revenues drop or stay dropped in these turbulent economic times? Discuss as desired.

First, you have to remember that you're talking an environment up there that is very different than Raleigh. Unions have been running cities for decades; the relationship between the unions and politicians are pretty strong. It's easy to give away citizens' tax money in return for political support.

But how do you keep the citizens supportive?

1. Give great customer service, so the citizens support you BEFORE the crisis comes.
2. Be reasonable. Don't demand raises when nobody in the private sector is getting raises.
3. Share the pain. Wake County employees are in their third year without a raise.

Historically, public employees did jobs that were considered "undesireable" by many people because they were dangerous (law enforcement, firefighting), dirty (trash collection, sewer maintenance) or otherwise undesirable. They were also low-skill and low pay. To get people to take the jobs, they offered instead good benefits and lifetime economic security (retirement).

Like many good things, it got out of hand. In many places public employees do the same work as folks in the private sector, get paid the same or better, and still get the better benefit package.

Citizens don't like to see that waved in their faces.

SkipK - 01/04/11 - 19:42

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No

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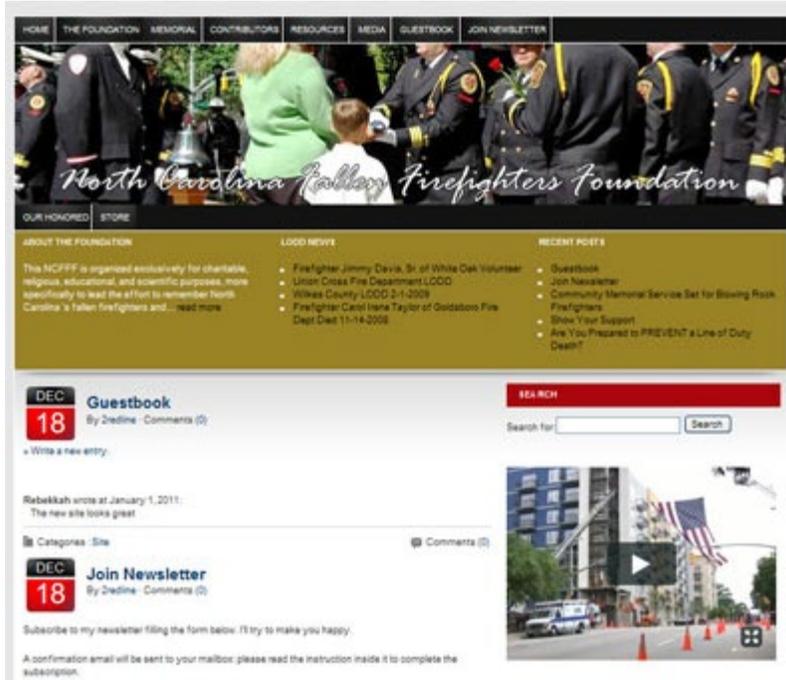
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New Web Site For North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation

01/05/11 33 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Also a second new site listing the honored. Visit www.ncfff.org and www.ncfff.org/honored.



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When is Funny No Longer Funny?

01/05/11 99 W - + 5 - 3

Two stories. [New York Times article](#) about the Navy officer relieved of his duties, for raunchy videos show to crews in 2006 and 2007. [Statter911 posting](#) of a YouTube video of a firehouse prank, involving painful physical contact with neither regions. Discussion question for the day. When is funny no longer funny? And, in this age of social media, what should be the statute of limitations on such behaviors? Think about the latter when engaged in your own attempts at humor. Will it impact your career if evidence surfaces one, two, or five years later?

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This Morning's Two Alarms / Portree Place

01/06/11 143 W, 2 I - + 7 - 1

Two alarms at [5420 Portree Place](#). Engine 8 arriving at a two-story, wood-frame apartment building with 12 units and 9,990 square-feet. Built 1969. Engine 8 found a fire in Unit #12, interior attack. Working fire, then upgraded to major working fire. Dispatched 1:58 a.m. Controlled 2:44 p.m. First alarm: E8, E14, E5?, L7, R3, B3. Working fire: E20, A1, C10, C20, D5, M91. Second alarm: E1, E16, E13, L4, R2, B4. Special called: E9. Medical: EMS 4, EMS 8, EMS 19, EMS 53, D5, E1, M92, T1. Who's missing? Move-ups E4 to Station 8, L8 to Station 1, E21 to Station 1 (canceled en route). Approximately 15 people displaced. Three units rendered uninhabitable. One civilian transported for smoke inhalation. Cause determined as incendiary. [WRAL reporting](#) police believe related to earlier domestic dispute. Dark 'n' rainy photos forthcoming from Legeros.



E17 was later dispatched, but isn't noted above as special-called. They were sent a couple hours later, versus Engine 9, which was called at the beginning of the incident. Perhaps for to assist with investigation.

Legeros - 01/06/11 - 19:25

Correct! E17 was called for relief about 1.5 hours after the initial dispatch. C20 (assigned) was acting on E9, so the entire company was called for the investigation.

A.C. Rich - 01/08/11 - 11:49

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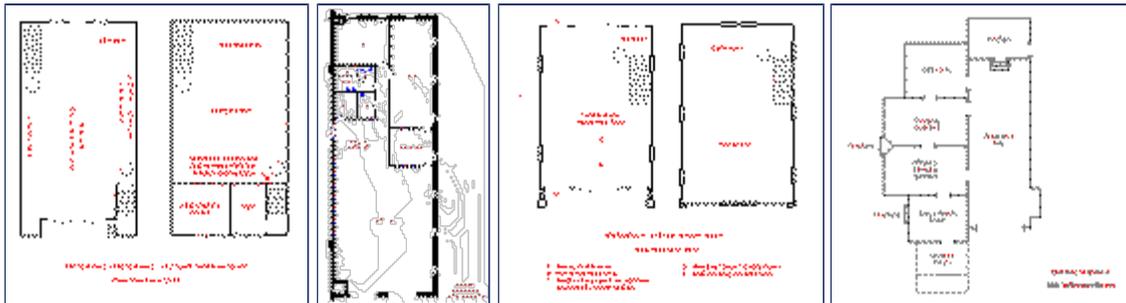
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Raleigh Fire Department Historical Drawings

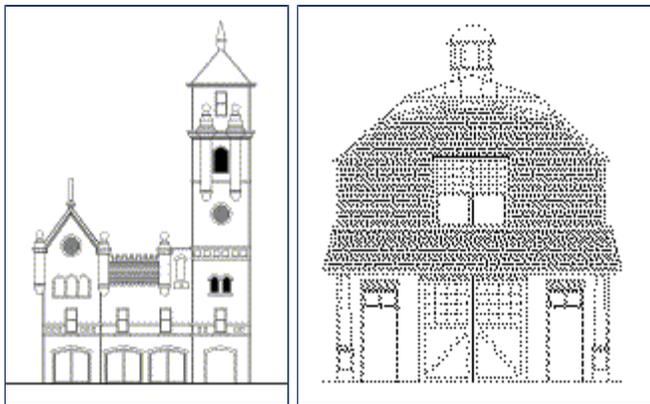
01/06/11 173 W, 8 I - + 6 - 7

For your hysterical historical enjoyment, here are some fire department drawings done by Yours Truly a few years ago. They were drawn with either Microsoft Paint or Macromedia Fireworks. The floor plan for Old Station 2 is based on the blueprints to Memorial Auditorium, found while exploring old records at the City Clerk's office one year. Old Station 4 is based on the building diagram in tax records, if memory serves. The other two floor plans are based on oral histories. The building facades are based on various photos and might be to scale. Or at least reasonable proportions. The drawings are available on their respectively linked web pages.

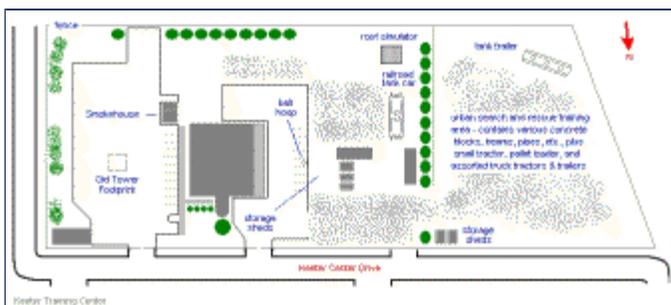
Floor plans of [Old Station 1](#) (South Salisbury Street), [Old Station 2](#), [Old Station 3](#), [Old Station 4](#):



Facades of [Old Station 1](#) (West Morgan Street) and [Old Station 3](#):



[Training center](#) from a few years ago. Too much on time on a certain someone's hands here!



Fire department sites [past and present](#). Will give walking tours for food:



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This Morning's Major Marina Fire in Washington

01/07/11 180 W, 2 I - + 3 - 6

Some 30 boats were damaged in a major fire at [McCotters Marina](#) in Washington this morning. The fire was reported about midnight with Bunyan Fire Department dispatched. Some of the boats were occupied, and residents literally jumped for their lives. Two people were transported, [reports this WITN story](#). One for hypothermia, after jumping into the water. Another for burns to face and hands. Some 80 boats were docked at the marina, and several were occupied. Fuel from some dozen boats has brought a Cherry Point FD team to the scene. That's about a 60 mile response, says Google Maps.



WITN Photos

[FireNews Incident Reports](#) has more details. As units were rolling, communications advised an explosion had occurred with one dock fully involved and people trapped on other boats. Bunyan Engine 10 arrived and found heavy fire conditions. Command requested two more fire companies, two EMS companies, and two water rescue companies. Departments on scene included Bunyan FD, Chocowinity FD, Washington FD, Sidney Dive Team, and Broad Creek EMS. [Read the incident report for more details](#).

Pretty good summary from the next day's news: <http://www.wdnweb.com/articles/2011/01/0..>

Legeros - 01/08/11 - 12:25

Those are my boys that worked that one. That's where the "73" comes from in my e-mail address. With help from Blounts Creek, Washington, Chocowinity, Bath, and Sidney, they all did a great job from what I've heard from some of the guys that were there. Thanks for grabbing the coverage, Mike!

Duda - 01/09/11 - 11:30

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

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Yes
No

Comment:

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Chapel Hill's First Fire Station

01/07/11 64 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

Here's a picture from the North Carolina State Archives (N_2002_3_10) of Chapel Hill's first fire station and pumping engine on Main Street, later named Franklin Street. The engine was purchased in 1921, so the picture probably dates around then. It's a halftone image, thus the dotted look. [Read more CHFD history](#). Click to enlarge:



Courtesy North Carolina State Archives

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Going Postal in Newport

01/07/11 41 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

[Dave Statter has the story](#) of a postal delivery vehicle on Christmas Eve and the large-diameter hose it crossed not once, not twice, but four times at a fire in Carteret County.



Newport FD/Statter 911 photo

the postal carrier should be ticketed with obstructing a fire operation. those hoses could have busted.

charlie ([Email](#)) - 01/08/11 - 01:38

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The Big Stop

01/07/11 48 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

[WTVD has aerial stills and raw footage](#) of this afternoon's vehicle chase that ended on Interstate 540 at Six Forks Road. Among the outcomes was the suspect vehicle sideswiping another at the Interstate 40 exchange. Morrisville FD responded to that one. One person injured.



WTVD image

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North Carolina State Firemen's Association Group Photo, 1929

01/09/11 147 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Here's another neat treat from the [North Carolina State Archives](#) (N_2000_12_6-9), a panoramic photo from the [North Carolina State Firemen's Association](#) convention in Hendersonville in July 1929. It's a stitched image from four scans of four photos of the original oversized image. That was the 42nd annual convention and one of only a couple held over five days.

The tournament events that year included (with winners noted) a hand reel contest (Kannapolis and East Spencer tied), a grab race (East Spencer), motor contest for flowing water (Sanford), and a motor contest for flowing chemicals (Lincolnton).

[Read about tournament history](#) as well as [convention history](#). That would make a neat project and accompanying book. Finding group photos from as many early years as possible, plus tournament and other pictures. Click once or twice to enlarge:



North Carolina State Archives photo

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Who Publishes Newsletters?

01/09/11 63 W - + 5 - 1

Open question for Sunday conversation. What newsletters are available around the state, both organizations and agencies? Couple come to mind:

- North Carolina State Firemen's Association - [Line of Fire](#)
- Office of State Fire Marshal - [Fire & Rescue Journal](#)
- [Charlotte Fire Department Credit Union](#) - [Fireworks](#)
- Raleigh Fire Department - [Quarterly Newsletter](#)

We'll revise this posting as input is received.

Wilmington has one now as well. "Port City Heat".

Ryan - 01/09/11 - 19:21

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Saturday Concert Postscript From Wake & District Pipes & Drums

01/10/11 106 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Wake & District Public Safety Pipes & Drums has posted a [postscript to their concert Saturday night](#) at the Venue Formerly Known As Memorial Auditorium. They've thanked a number of people and groups, as well as posted links to photos from the show. Three sets of pictures are available so far:

- [Concert practice](#) by band photographer Vero McMillan.
- [Concert photos](#) by Matthew Kent.
- [Concert photos](#) by Vero McMillan.

There's also a [Year in a Review](#) on the site's news site by founding member Lloyd Johnson that 's compelling reading, and provides a peek into their world.



Thanks for posting Mike – and thank you to all of our fire-fighter friends who attended

Joseph Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/10/11 - 13:03

Correct link for concert postscript: <http://www.pdcpd.org/wand/?p=433>

Joseph Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/10/11 - 13:44

Thanks, updated.

Legeros - 01/10/11 - 20:38

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Blog and Photo Site Stats and Such

01/10/11 180 W - + 5 - 3

Speaking of recaps, here's our look back at last year...

Blogging

- 1043 entries
- 3076 comments
- 188,339 user visits
- 59,190 unique visitors

That's data from Google Analytics. The most commented postings were:

- [Old School Dispatching Starts at Midnight](#) - 54
- [Raleigh City Council Approves New Fire Station](#) - 53
- [Hazing?](#) - 47
- [This Morning's Major Fire / West Millbrook Road](#) - 41

The most viewed postings were:

- [Really Big Wrecker](#) - 1,284 views
- [Raleigh City Council Approves New Fire Station \(Updated\)](#) - 1,185
- [Last Night's House Fire / Gum Leaf Drive](#) - 1,029

Nope, no millions of hits here.

Photo Site

- 305,442 user visits
- 88,908 unique visitors

Most viewed photos of those posted on legeros.com? No data! That technical error has been rectified for 2011.

Photo Taking

- 300 or so incidents and events photographed.
- 35,000 or so pictures taken that were keepers. Double or triple that for total taken.
- See some of the photographer's favorites in [Year in Review Part 1](#) and [Year in Review Part 2](#).
- Total man hours spent on scene and behind the computer afterward? Too many to count! See you at the next big one...

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Raleigh Fire Hydrants

01/10/11 75 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

How many different fire hydrants can be found in Raleigh? Here's an exploration on the south side, as photographed on Sunday. Any hydrant experts out there, who can identify some or all? (See FireHydrant.org for reference material.) The oldest, shown on the lower-right, is a two-nipple hydrant that dates to 1939. We'll post these to the [photo site](#) a bit later. Maybe we'll get some identification on them. Click to enlarge:



Okay, I'll step out there...here are my guesses:

Top row, 1st – Waterous
 Top row, 2nd – Waterous
 Top row, 3rd – Darling
 Top row, 4th – ?
 Top row, 5th – Darling
 Bottom row, 1st – Mueller
 Bottom row, 2nd – ?
 Bottom row, 3rd – Clow
 Bottom row, 4th – Matthews
 Bottom row, 5th – Matthews

I also recall Raleigh having Kennedy hydrants, not pictured.

AP - 01/11/11 - 08:23

Thanks AP. Kennedy photos: <http://www.firehydrant.org/pictures/kenn..>

Legeros - 01/11/11 - 09:22

I might be wrong, but I believe the top row 4th is a Mueller and the Bottom First is an MH.

House - 01/11/11 - 12:42

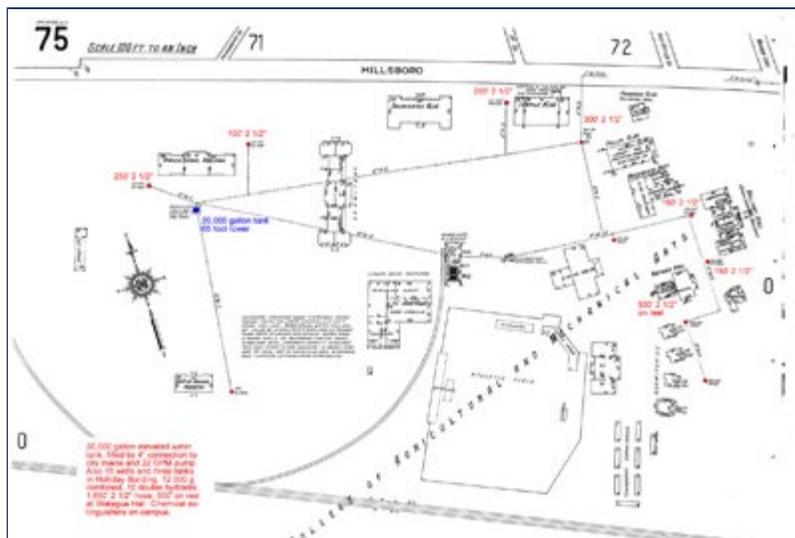
I think number 4 is a Muller, and I would not be surprised if number 9 and 10 are Woods.

Bparn ([Email](#)) - 01/11/11 - 14:25

Fire Protection at State College, 1914

01/10/11 77 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Speaking of history and hydrants, here's a look at the fire suppression systems at what was called North Carolina College of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts back in the day. They had their own water system and elevated tank, as well as hydrants and hose. (The college was outside the city limits.) Below is an annotated Sanborn Map showing same. [See more of those maps](#) (and in color!). Or click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

This Morning's Major House Fire / Carriage Park Court

01/11/11 181 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Five fire departments assisting Fuquay-Varina and Holly Springs early this morning at [5705 Carriage Park Court](#), off Sunset Lake Road. With multiple calls reported and icy road conditions for responders, Holly Springs Car 1 was first on scene. Heavy fire showing throughout the two-story, wood-frame structure with 3,217 square-feet. Built 2000.

Engine 2 first engine on scene. Engine 1 laid supply line back out to roadway. Defensive operations with three-inch lines. Drop tank deployed and water shuttle started. Water point at Bass Lake and Sunset Lake roads, one-half mile north. Special call for additional tankers three times. Ten tankers reportedly operated. Road conditions impacted water shuttle. DOT called for sand/salt.

HSFD Car 1, then FVFD Car 1 in command. Dispatched about 3:15 a.m. Controlled in about 90 minutes, [reports the News & Observer](#). Occupants out safely. Departments on scene: Fuquay-Varina FD, Holly Springs FD, Apex FD, Fairview FD, Swift Creek FD, Garner FD, Northwest Harnett FD. Medical included EMS 17, EMS 14, EMS 7, M91, D2, T1. Wonder what the move-ups were? Thanks to Lee Wilson for monitoring and providing play-by-play.



WRAL photo

Northwest Harnett 1441 (engine) at Fuquay station 1 with 4 personel.

jk - 01/11/11 - 12:13

Off duty A-shift special call to come in to work the fire.

DM - 01/11/11 - 19:28

NBC 17 has two short videos of F-V Engine 2 arriving.

http://nbc17.com/ar/685158/?sms_ss=email..

http://nbc17.com/ar/685158/?sms_ss=email..

911 - 01/11/11 - 23:59

Charlotte MEDIC Readies For Weather

01/11/11 85 W - + 4 - 5

Here's a short article from the [Charlotte Observer](#) on the county's emergency medical service's preparations for icy roads. Yesterday, MEDIC had 47 ambulances in service, versus the normal 40. They also added three more dispatchers to their usual staff of eight. Yesterday's call volumes, however, were only 10 percent above average. The weather also changed their policy on patient-chosen destination. Units instead transported patients to the closest facility. What weather changes changes has your EMS/fire/law/dispatching agency implemented yesterday and today?

I don't think they changed anything major operationally. The ambulances were still going to coverages and transporting to whatever hospital the patient wanted as far as I know.

Citizen - 01/13/11 - 23:58

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.

Orange Smoke?

01/11/11 54 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

You probably saw this footage from Philly on the national news yesterday. Five alarms at a 90-unit condominium building. What's the deal with the orange smoke? Trick of the late-day light? (It's called the [golden hour](#) for a reason.) Particular type of burning materials? [Below photo from Firegeezzer posting.](#)



NBC photo

That smoke looks more brown to me which means that the interior wood structural members are burning

Mike - 01/11/11 - 13:59

Looks brown to me too with a strong beam of sunlight hitting the smoke column, making it appear orange.

Silver - 01/11/11 - 14:22

Late stage heating prior to ignition of unfinished wood, structural, like Mike said.

Jake T. - 01/12/11 - 00:06

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Fire Commission Meeting Notice, January 20

01/11/11 42 W - + 5 - 2

The next meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission is next Thursday, January 20. Agenda and handouts forthcoming as available. See you there:

- Thursday, January 20, 2011
- 7:00 p.m.
- Wake County EMS Training Facility
- Commons Building, Lower Level, [4011 Cary Drive](#).

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.

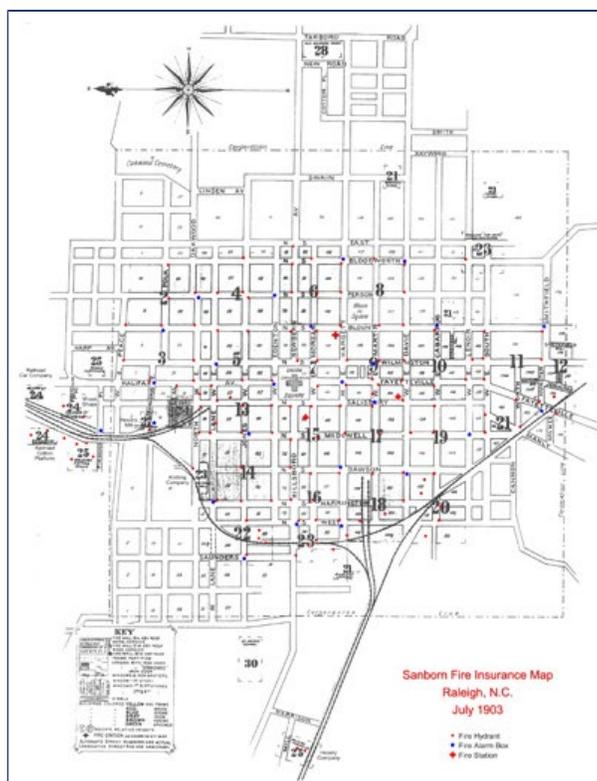
Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Raleigh Fire Hydrant Map, 1903

01/11/11 113 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

Here's a look at the city's hydrant system a century ago. By 1903, the water system was 15 years old. The number of public hydrants was at least 120. Also noted on the map are fire alarm boxes, which numbered 32. Nearly all are shown on this Sanborn Fire Insurance index map.

By this era, hydrant pressure supplied all hand lines. Three of the four fire companies had hose wagons, and the old 1870 steam engine was out of service. (It was replaced two years later, and only called for large fires or to serve outside the corporate limits.) [Read more history](#). Or click once or twice to greatly enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

What The Heck Are Sanborn Maps?

01/11/11 131 W, 1 I - + 3 - 2

A reader asks, who or what was Sanborn and what was their mission that resulted in such amazingly detailed maps? They were map-makers who charted urban areas of the United States for fire insurance purposes. Some 12,000 cities and towns were mapped between 1867 and 1970.

The map-makers noted building construction, water supplies, fire equipment, and even exposures. Among many other things. And the maps were *big*. We're talking bound volumes, with each sheet measuring 21 by 25 inches. And the maps were in color.

[This Wikipedia entry tells more](#). Or you can [view digital versions of many](#). We have also blogged often about them. Do a blog search on Sanborn, in the search box on the right side of this page.



Where is that photo taken from? Does the State Archives keep these or elsewhere? The website is neat, but I imagine browsing through the actual map books would be mo' cooler.

Richie - 01/13/11 - 22:53

That's a stock photo from Google, Ritchie. I don't know if physical copies are available for reading around here. The big books are exceptionally cool, those few times that I have encountered them. But I expect they are similarly fragile, and perhaps thus restricted for viewing.

Legeros - 01/14/11 - 07:46

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

How to Read Back Issues of the News & Observer

01/12/11 337 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Question from a reader, how do you access the archives of old *News & Observer* issues? Do you visit the newspaper? Does a web site exist for same? The answer is neither. Instead, back issues are [available on microfilm](#). Local locations with copies of old papers-- notably also the *Raleigh Times*, which was the city's other daily paper for decades-- include the state library on Jones Street, the library at State College (sue me for using their historical name), and a couple branches of the Wake County Public Library System.

At the Cameron Village branch, they have a single microfilm reader and a century or more's worth of papers on film. Better bet is [Olivia Raney Local History Library](#), off Poole Road at the Beltline. They have a research room with six or eight film readers. And a staff available to instruct and assist on the process. Bring a memory stick, as the film readers at Olivia Raney are connected to computers. You can produce very good quality scans of what you're viewing. Or you can print and pay for printed copies there.

Reading old newspapers is a blast, let me add. And the learning curve to using microfilm is hardly steep. Next question, are our local papers digitized anywhere? Don't believe so. [Google News Archives](#) has made quite a few newspapers available (and search-able) nationally, but I have not yet noticed *News & Observer* or *Raleigh Times* issues in there. You can still find local stories, however. They were just reported by other papers.

For a wee introduction to microfilm, see these [slides of mine from a 2006 presentation](#)  on researching fire department histories. [Here's a prior blog posting](#) on the work flow that I have utilized at Olivia Raney. And these [four electronic books](#) of mine demonstrate the quality of said newspaper scans. More on the last item a bit later. Might have bound copies of those four e-books available in the future. Contain your enthusiasm, please.

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.

Three Alarms in Charlotte in Two Days

01/12/11 102 W - + 3 - 2

Three-story apartment building on Queens Road on Tuesday night. IPN notes from the [RR live audio site](#) for Mecklenburg County: 20:14 hours. Second alarm transmitted for heavy fire on floors two and three. Battalion Chief 1 in command. 20:23 hours. Third alarm transmitted. Two lines stretched and operating. One deck gun.

News links:

- [FireNews](#)
- [WBTW](#)
- [WCNC](#)

Two-story condominium building on Winery Lane on Monday afternoon. IPN notes from above site: 17:16 hours. Heavy fire and smoke showing. Ladder setting up for defensive operations. 17:37 hours. Several lines stretched and one ladder in operation. Car 5 incident command.

News links:

- [WBTW](#)
- [WSOC](#)

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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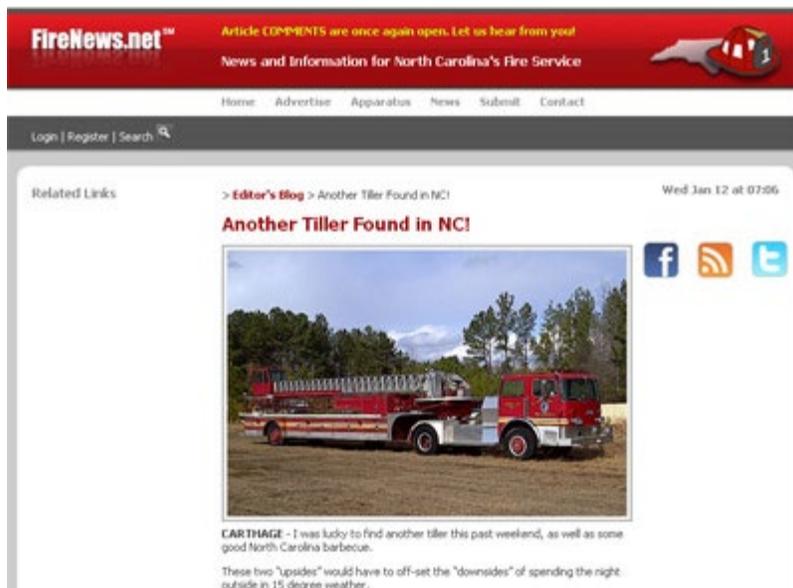
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *FireNews Finds Another Tiller (or « Three Alarms in Charl... » Textures Two)*

FireNews Finds Another Tiller (or Two)

01/12/11 55 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Three tillers in our state, right? Raleigh, High Point, and Cornelius-Lemley in Mecklenburg County. Pierce, Pierce, Seagrave. Hold onto your leather helmets as FireNews Editor Jeff Harkey has found another. And learned of one other. [Read his blog posting](#) to learn more.



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.

Textures

01/12/11 43 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Those are the Raleigh Apartments on West Peace Street. Scene of laundry room fire late yesterday afternoon. Beautiful buildings, built 1938 say tax records. Don't know if that's the year for the entire complex or not.



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.

Fayetteville's Water Emergency

01/14/11 164 W - + 4 - 4

The rupture of a high-pressure water line at a water treatment facility in Fayetteville early yesterday evening drop pressure for three-quarters of the city. The problem was isolated about 9:30 p.m., three hours later, with water pressure returning to normal after a few more hours. [This Fayetteville Observer article](#) has details on the impact on fire protection.

The Fayetteville Fire Department positioned their reserve engines in affected areas, including stations on Stacey Weaver Drive, Santa Fe Drive, Bailey Lake Road, Stamper Road and Langdon Street. They also upgraded their response criteria, to add more units to reported fires. County departments were notified, and mutual aid was ready as well.

FFD helped supply Cape Fear Valley Medical Center with water, at least 300 gallons as donated by Wal-Mart. The hospital also has a three-day stockpile for just such emergencies. The hospital also placed staff members on fire watch on each floor, since their fire suppression system was also impacted. [Read the entire article.](#)

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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FireNews Profile of Chapel Hill's New Rescue Pumper

01/14/11 107 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

Another apparatus story, this time from FireNews. They've got the skinny on Chapel Hill's new Engine 34, a 2003 HME/4-Guys rescue pumper purchased from a department in northern Virginia. The truck includes some additional features such as an SCBA filling station, hydraulic rescue tool reels, and a heavy-duty winch. The rig arrived white with a red stripe. To save money, they've only repainted the red part. [Read the FireNews story](#). The prior Engine 34 was a 2003 KME. [See pictures of the entire fleet](#) on their web site. Some guy named Lee Wilson took the photos.



Chapel Hill Fire Department/ FireNews photo

Hey Chaoel Hill folks, did the original 34 get in an accident or something? You would think that this nice ride would replace one of the 2001 commercial cabs.

Silver - 01/15/11 - 11:37

If I recall correctly, CHFD was receiving delivery of a new engine X months ago, and the thing experienced an accident in the process. Perhaps the original Engine 34 has been moved to another unit. Our friends to the west can advise. Speculation is fun enough, though!

Legeros - 01/15/11 - 11:59

The Old 34 (2003 KME) is now E31. The old E31 (2001 International) is now E33. The old Squad 33 is now a training unit numbered E36. The Department did away with the Squad callsign with the addition of the new E34. The 1996 ferrara pictured on the site is now a reserve unit and is Lettered E39. The other two reserves not pictured are E37 and E38 (1988 Eones). E32 now operates a 2009 KME Predator pumper (see link below). The C4 vehical has been replced also. The Town Of CH website is outdated.

<http://www.slaglefire.com/New%20Deliveri..>.JPG

Michael ([Email](#)) - 01/15/11 - 13:27

<http://www.slaglefire.com/New%20Deliveri..>

Michael ([Email](#)) - 01/15/11 - 13:28

Is it just the picture or is this engine running the "super single" rear wheel/tire? I haven't seen this before on fire apparatus.

firedriver - 01/17/11 - 20:57

Its just the picture. It has tandems.

Michael - 01/17/11 - 21:02

It's a mud flap. Most apparatus have em.

911 - 01/17/11 - 21:24

Tandems? Don't you mean dual wheels?

FG - 01/18/11 - 08:05

Yea duals

Michael ([Email](#)) - 01/18/11 - 08:54

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Fire Commission Meeting Agenda & Documents, Jan. 20

01/14/11 245 W - + 4 - 1

[Here's the agenda and related documents](#) for this week's Wake County Fire Commission Meeting on Thursday, January 20, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., at Wake County EMS Training Facility, at the lower level of the Commons Building, 4011 Carya Drive.

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
 - Invocation
 - Roll of Members Present
 - Approval of Agenda
- Minutes
 - Adoption of Minutes for November 18th, 2010, Regular Meeting
- Regular Agenda
 - Fire Commission Chair Election
 - Fire Commission Vice Chair Election
 - Facility Committee
 - Town of Zebulon Fire Department Satellite Fire Station
 - Apparatus Committee
 - Equipment Committee
 - Wendell Fire Department Proposal
- Information Agenda
 - Fire Tax Financial Report
 - Budget Update
 - Pager Replacement Update
 - Chair Report
 - Fire/Rescue Services Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
 - 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person
- Adjournment - Next Meeting March 17th, 2011.

Documents

Copies placed in <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/wcfc/2011-01>

1. Agenda
2. Draft Minutes of the November 18, 2010, Regular Meeting
3. Facility Committee Report
4. Letter from Zebulon Fire Department Regarding Satellite Fire Station
5. Apparatus Committee
6. Equipment Committee Report
7. Helmet Color Survey
8. Financial Report
9. Draft 2012 Budget Calendar

Notes

Among the information in the documents, the Apparatus Committee provides information on tanker replacements, including a proposal to purchase a Wake New Hope tanker as a replacement for a Wendell tanker. The Equipment Committee conducted a survey of helmet colors in Wake County fire departments, and recommends standard colors for probationary members, junior firefighters, captains and lieutenants. The

Mystery Hydrant

01/16/11 28 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Seen somewhere in Raleigh. Might be private service and not connected directly to city water. American Foundry with 1973 date.



Mallinkrott Property?

idunno - 01/16/11 - 15:24

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](#))

Raleigh Fire Hydrants Again

01/16/11 107 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

First, [see our prior posting on this subject](#). How many different fire hydrants can be found in Raleigh? That was our original question. Readers helped identify models and a couple dropped private notes about others. [We even blogged about map](#) showing all city hydrants in 1903, when the water system was 15 years old.

Upon further explorations, here's a second-attempt overview. Working from [FireHydrant.org](#) as a reference source--- as well as what's stamped on the damned things-- we've found American Darling, American Foundry, Clow, Kennedy, Mueller, Waterous, and Wood around town. See below. What's wrong, what's missing? Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



If I'm not mistaken, the one labeled American Darling 2001 is a Clow.

JJ - 01/16/11 - 15:16

Thanks JJ. Yes, the AD 2001 and the AD 1997 are both Clow models. And, to complete the inaccuracies on the American Darling section, the AD 1996 is a Mueller.

Legeros - 01/16/11 - 16:00

Montage updated with two American Darling hydrants, seen in the prior posting.

Legeros - 01/16/11 - 19:52

I think some people refer to the Woods hydrants as Matthews hydrants and vice versa. And rightfully so, since the two merged at some point if not mistaken. I also think they were later bought out by Kennedy.

Useless knowledge - 01/16/11 - 20:36

And UL, which is exemplified in that old-looking Kennedy with the "high top.". The names Matthews and Wood are also stamped on the thing.

From what I have read, this type of plug was produced right after Kennedy took over Matthews-Wood.

Just what I need, another research rabbit to chase down a hole...

Legeros - 01/16/11 - 21:33

No, don't know, don't know.

Welcome to the hydrant spotters secret club.

Legeros - 01/20/11 - 20:59

The mystery hydrant is American AVK Company.

Legeros - 01/20/11 - 22:14

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake County School System and Responders to Practice Crisis Response

01/17/11 153 W - + 3 - 4

Press release. The Wake County Public School System, along with fifteen other law enforcement and emergency response agencies and organizations, will be conducting a major crisis drill on January 24. The drill will test the agencies' combined planning and reaction capacities in the event of a serious incident -- in this case, a simulated attack on a combined elementary and middle school campus. By conducting an exercise dramatizing a truly worst-case scenario, the agencies hope to better prepare for a range of emergencies. The event is scheduled for Monday, January 24, a teacher workday, in Raleigh at Dillard Drive Elementary School and Dillard Drive Middle School. WCPSS is communicating with area residents to prepare them for potential disruptions. The participating fire and EMS agencies are Cary EMS, Cary FD, Raleigh FD, Swift Creek RFD, Wake County EMS, and Western Wake FD. [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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This Morning's Fire in Durham

01/17/11 54 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Here's your morning fire photo, single-family dwelling in Durham on Baptist Road. Reported just before 2:00 a.m. Two occupants escaped safely. **They credit newly installed smoke detectors for getting them out.** Have you checked the batteries in yours lately? This low-resolution image looks like a viewer-submission.



WTVD photo

Durham, Bethesda, and Redwood departments responded to that Structure fire.

charlie - 01/17/11 - 13:35

Durham Hwy on scene as well.

DHFD - 01/17/11 - 16:04

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'?

Heavy Rigging in Morrisville

01/17/11 58 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Saw this in Morrisville today. Might be the largest wheeled crane to come through the Triangle, at least as I have observed. Terex-Demag AC700, with 700-ton capacity? Gear heads, please advise further. Imagine if fire apparatus got this large! [See more photos](#) on Mr. Blogger's Flickr site.



Name: (real name)

Remember personal info?

Fully Involved on Forty

01/17/11 61 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

After photographing said super-crane in Morrisville, plus a bit of shopping at Sam's Club, imagine my surprise at seeing an increasingly darkening smoke plume in the direction of Interstate 40 and Interstate 540. That's Durham Engine 13 in the background. They arrived thirty seconds after Mr. Camera did. [The entire sequence](#) is forthcoming has been posted. Click to enlarge:



Please lord tell me that DOT truck was in place when the Engine arrived! If not, that crew was extremely exposed to all the @sshholes coming up behind them. FTM PTB! Protect your people.

ncff - 01/18/11 - 18:37

If you click the link for "The entire sequence" located in the paragraph above the photo, the first photo in the gallery is of E-13 passing the already parked DOT truck.

Watson - 01/18/11 - 22:52

Thank you sir. I see that now. I hate interstate calls!

ncff - 01/19/11 - 10:39

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Interesting Reading

01/18/11 289 W - + 5 - 4

Two editorials out of Camden County, New Jersey, on the subject of regional police and fire coverage. [Here's the proponent](#). And here's [someone with a better idea](#). Camden County is home to the city of Camden, which has announced some of the most-severe public safety cuts to date. Police to be cut by 50% and fire by 30%. [FireFighterCloseCalls has that story](#), and passed along the editorial links.

[New York Times article from Sunday](#), about the victim's services division of the Pima County, AZ, attorney's office. That's home to the city Tucson, and the site of the January 8 shooting that killed six people and injured over a dozen, including Representative Gabrielle Gifford. Nice profile of the volunteers who respond to police incidents and help victims, witnesses, and family members cope with what has happened.

[Firehouse.com article from late last month](#), about an Oregon firefighter who has invented a "hydrant snorkel." Water pipes that extend hydrant connections upward, and thus negate the need to dig during snow. Additional extensions can be added as snow gets heavier. The things can then be removed in winter weather. Here's the [product's web site](#).

U.S. Fire Administration's provisional [firefighter fatality statistics for 2010](#). Total of 85 duty-deaths last year. Plus 15 more classified as hometown heroes. The latter are fatalities classified under the Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefits Act of 2003, which presumes that a heart attack or stroke is a line-of-duty-death if the firefighter was engaged in non-routine stressful or strenuous physical activity and becomes ill either on duty or within 24 hours after engaging in that activity. Three of last year's fatalities were from North Carolina: [Jonathan Lewis](#) (Pineville), [Jeremy Bolick](#) and [Tommy Wright](#) (Blowing Rock). Thanks to Mrs. Blogger for finding this story.

Those guys that were killed while drag racing another car on the way home from a fire college should not have the honor of being put on either the NC or National memorial. I very seriously doubt that their families will see any money.

Mike - 01/18/11 - 09:56

Speaking of Tucson, MSNBC has an interesting article regarding medical response times to the shooting.

<http://openchannel.msnbc.msn.com/news/2..>

Paul - 01/18/11 - 10:52

Regarding the "hydrant snorkel", without commenting on the practicality/safety, it would seem a bit difficult to justify in these financial times. Given the number of hydrants in even a mid-size community, plus the labor involved in seasonally deploying, extending, and retrieving them, I suspect you're looking at high \$\$\$.

RWECC - 01/18/11 - 22:06

That's an interesting take, and one that I was wondering about, just how much time and energy is require to deploy and retrieve them.

Legeros - 01/18/11 - 22:08

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Live Scanners at RadioReference and Other Stuff

01/18/11 147 W - + 6 - 3

Everyone knows that there are live scanners for listening at RadioReference.com. Right? On the [Wake County live scanner site](#), one of the fire and EMS feeds has been updated. Previously fed from a scanner at Jeff Harkey's house, it's been moved to a new location.

The feed is named [Wake County and Cary Fire and EMS](#) and now includes Cary fire dispatch. The full list of what's being monitored is Raleigh/Wake dispatch, Ops, Tac, and Mutual Aid channels, Cary fire dispatch, and Johnston/Harnett County inter-operational talkgroups.

Couple other notes. The Wake County feed site now includes a "ticker" showing incident reports sponsored by Incident Page Network. That's a neat new addition. And the familiar feed archives are still there. However, a subscription is required to the RadioReference site to access. Not expensive. Maybe \$30 per year.

And as it happens, the scanner site has gone dark at the very moment I am blogging about it. Revisit the site a little later, after they have resolved their technical problems.

Legeros - 01/18/11 - 08:56

And being the primary NC/SC Database Admin/Forum Moderator over at RR.com I am always available to answer any radio monitoring/scanner related questions. :)

Happy Monitoring to all!

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/18/11 - 18:11

Can you monitor individual channels or is it like it use to be on scanner live, where it just jumps from one to another channel.

question - 01/18/11 - 21:15

Did you ever get the feed working? Or is the link just broken?

Paul - 01/28/11 - 15:44

Most radio transmissions are broken and garbeled through the site.

Except RPD...They talk and talk and talk clear as day.

Buckwheat - 01/29/11 - 00:53

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter, Winter 2010

01/18/11 98 W, 2 I - + 9 - 2

The winter edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to the web site raleighfirenews.org. This issue's contents include: New Mechanics at Services; Two Alarms at Metal Plant; Operations Updates; Fire Academy Graduation; New Employees; Promotions & Appointments; Retirements; Deaths; Busiest Units in 2010; Photo Gallery; Retiree Christmas Party; Historical Society News; Code Save Ceremony; Calendar of Events; Training Updates; 12,000 Surveys and Counting. [See the web site](http://raleighfirenews.org) for back issues. The *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. [Read the issue](#) , or click to access:



Name: (real name preferred)

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Comment:

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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'?

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

Everyone's a Critic / Row House Fire in DC

01/19/11 150 W, 1 I - + 8 - 1

Of the handful of fire blogs that I read, [Dave Statter's site](#) remains the best destination for watching quarterbacking in action. The readers are quick to discuss, debate, comment, criticize, speculate, cite facts, and dispute facts. Blog readers in that area are a lively and vocal bunch. You'll see the same on, say, the [Baltimore City Watch Desk](#).

The latest lively discussion centers on video of a row house fire that went to two alarms. The comments are part of a [posting about a pair of fires](#). They run the gamut from big water to paramedic engines. Dave's posted links to some great still images, raw video from Vito, and other goodies. And, most importantly, they never attain a critical mass of toxicity. What are your favorite destinations for watching (or participating in) quarterbacking in action?



Elliot Goodman/DCFD.com photo

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

Remember personal info?

- Yes
- No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Vintage Roanoke and Battleship Gray

01/19/11 136 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

From a reader, here's a historical treat from VAFireNews.com. Apparatus buff and photographer Mike Sander shares his pictures of RFD apparatus from the 1950s through the 1970s. Most of the shots were taken in 1973 and 1974, and include a number in beautiful battleship gray¹. One example is below, Engine 18 as a 1946 Seagrave. [See more and the entire article.](#)



Mike Sander photo

¹Why battleship gray? War-time restrictions on paint, presumably. Chrome was also absent from many pieces of apparatus built during World War II, including the bells. And speaking of battleships, did you know the Blues Brothers recorded a cover of *Sink the Bismark* for the 1980 movie *The Blues Brothers*? The song was cut from the final cut. The footage was subsequently lost, but an audio recording remains. [Listen on YouTube.](#)

I could DEFINITELY see them doing that at Bob's Country Bunker ("What kinds of music do you *usually have here?" "Oh, we got BOTH kinds; country AND western!") But, being as that's my favorite movie EVER, I can see why they would've cut the scene. It really wouldn't have fit. "Stand By Your Man" was MUCH more funny.

Duda - 01/20/11 - 11:54

As for the paint job, I would think that that grey paint would be more in-demand than red. You know, since they were building ships like crazy and all. But I defer to someone that knows more than I.

Duda - 01/20/11 - 11:55

Duda, agreed on the paint, but I have heard the same story about the battleship gray. You would think that there would be less of it...As I hear it, it happened that it was the easiest to get because everyone was making it. The other colors were harder to get. Something like that...

Rhett Fleitz ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/20/11 - 18:02

War restrictions were tough. In Raleigh, we couldn't build a new Central Fire Station for several years. Nor was new apparatus available, so we bought a used one from Farmville, a 1916 or so ALF as the first Engine 6.

Legeros - 01/20/11 - 19:05

Mystery History

01/19/11 26 W, 1 I - + 5 - 1

What are we looking at here? Little blurry, but that probably won't stop someone from rapidly identifying...



I'll take a wild guess, some kind of stabilizer arm for a ladder or bucket?

2redline - 01/19/11 - 22:12

What Rod said. More specific, right front corner.

DJ - 01/19/11 - 23:47

See, that didn't take long. No flies on this crowd! Here's the rest of the picture (scroll to bottom of page):

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/appar..>

Legeros - 01/20/11 - 07:20

Name: (real name preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Mack Fire Apparatus by Lee Wilson

01/20/11 156 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

As mentioned in our prior posting, Lee Wilson has started scanning and posting [photos of Mack fire apparatus](#) he has photographed around North Carolina. There are also regional shots from Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, etc. As he notes in notes, most were scanned from film. Several date to the early 1990s. He's also adding information for each truck.

Among the many glorious pieces of rolling stock are Raleigh's well-known former fleet of Mack CF pumpers and lone tower. There are many other beautiful models and colors and types of trucks. There's even a quad in there! (Check out [Walt McCall's new book](#) on that subject, if you haven't seen it. Good reading.)

It's a work in progress, says Lee. And if he hasn't photographed your department's Mack, as he notes, give him a shout! [See the photos](#) and click **Detail** view on the page for larger sizes.



Lee Wilson photos

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

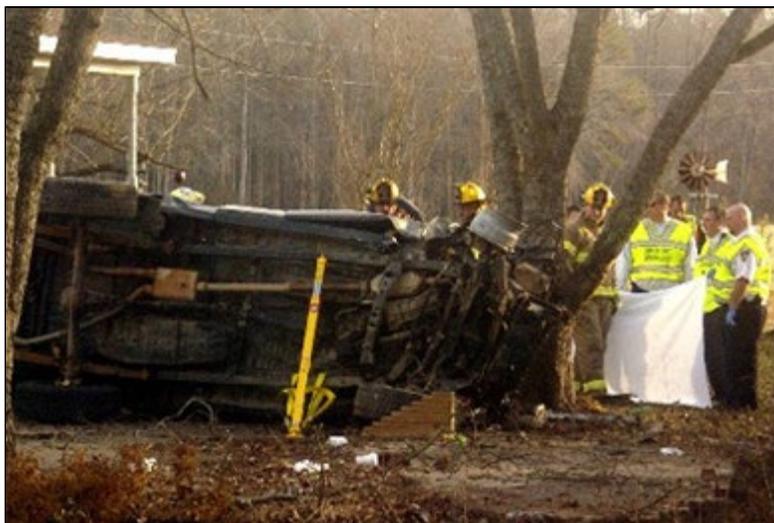
/ [Textile](#)

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Pine Level Junior Firefighter Killed

01/21/11 87 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

[FireNews reported yesterday](#) that a Pine Level Junior Firefighter was killed Thursday morning in a motor-vehicle accident. Christopher Peedin, 17, died after his 1997 Toyota truck left the roadway in the 8700 block of Hinnart-Edgerton Road. The accident occurred around 6:45 a.m. as Peedin was headed to school. He was a senior at North Johnston High School. This is also the second wreck this week to kill a Johnston County student. Other media coverage includes [WRAL](#) and the [Smithfield Herald](#).



Carter Rabil/FireNews photo

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

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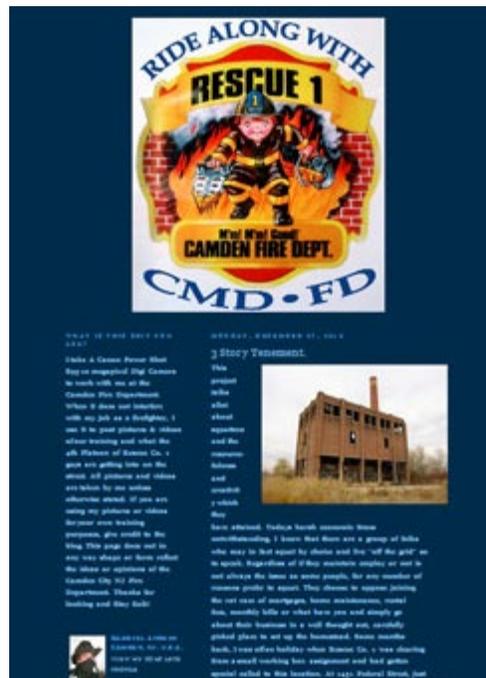
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Camden Fire Department Rescue 1 Blog

01/21/11 105 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

While you read about and react to the news this week of drastic public safety cuts in [Camden, NJ](#), you can tour the city and its fire department through the [Rescue 1 Blog](#). Neat site that combines job reports, operational tips, and explorations of a distressed urban environment. [Looks like CFD operates](#) (or operated?) eleven companies in two battalions: six engines, three ladders, one squad, and one rescue. The 10.4 square-mile city looks like an interesting and perhaps dangerous place to tour. Memo to self, take a tentative peek the next time passing through Philly.



This is actually one of the members on Rescue 1's personal blog about the job. Pretty good tips and some nice short helmet cam videos. Rescue 1 also has a facebook page for those interested

Mike - 01/21/11 - 10:37

Name: (real name preferred)
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Yes
 No

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Wilson by Wilson / 1934 Mack Service Truck

01/22/11 96 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

Here's another beauty as photographed by Lee Wilson, and surfaced in his ongoing [Mack Fire Apparatus photo compilation](#). Wonder how the truck looks today? Hopefully just a lovely! Couple prior postings of ours: [the origin of the term "service ladder truck."](#) [Musings on who ran service trucks](#) in our state. And as noted before, if you're a fan of vintage service trucks (and quads), check out [Walt McCall's new book](#) on that subject, if you haven't seen it. Can't go wrong with his books.



Lee Wilson 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'?

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Water Pump? Water Fountain? Looking Closely at Metropolitan Hall

01/22/11 181 W, 3 I - + 4 - 4

You've probably seen the below picture of Metropolitan Hall from the North Carolina State Archives (N_53_15_7925). Built in 1870, the three-story municipal building ([and fire station](#)) was located on the east side of Fayetteville Street between Morgan and Hargett Streets. Click to enlarge:



North Carolina State Archives photo

Upon close examination of that photo, the below object is noticed. Click to slightly enlarge.



North Carolina State Archives photo

Water pump? Water fountain? In the map accompanying my [essay on the fire of 1851](#) , one of the city's few water pumps was located in front of the former City Market at the same location. This object is perhaps a successor of a "city pump." Looks like a water fountain, for humans and horses. Perhaps there's also a spigot not show? Or even an attachment for fire hose, er, suction hose? The picture isn't dated. The fire hydrants, which appeared in 1887, were not installed in front of this building, and thus would not be pictured. Time for more research!

Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

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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.

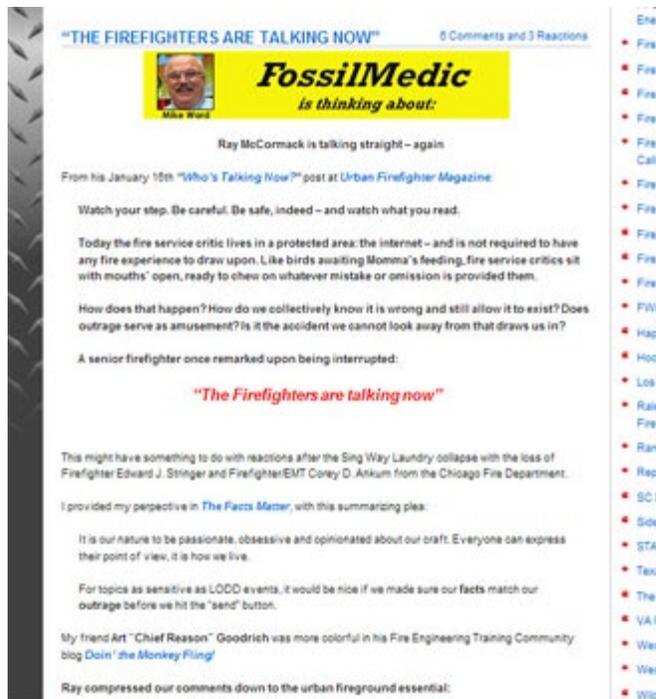
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

"Operational Blogs Demand Competency and Awareness of the Subject Matter"

01/22/11 108 W, 1 I - + 3 - 6

That quote's from Ray McCormack from the Fire Engineering Training Community, cited by Mike Ward in this [excellent posting this morning](#) on Firegeezzer. The subject is fire service criticism and more specifically online criticism. Discussion boards. Forum comments. Blog postings. Issues include the "broadcast" of unsafe tactics, hence the quote at the top of this post. And the reality that inner-city urban firefighters comprise only a small percentage (15%) of the nation's firefighting community. Which is a factor in the tenor of conversations involving the other 85%. Read, reflect, discuss.



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No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Old Station 6

01/22/11 83 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

Here's what [old Station 6](#) looks like these days. Engine 6 operated from the left side of this building at 2519 Fairview Road from 1943 to 1948. Don't be confused with the two-story building beside it, which is incorrectly shown as the station location in my first volume of *Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting*. Easy mistake to make, perhaps. Until an a-ha moment some years later, while comparing a vintage photo showing a single-story building with the incorrectly identified two-story structure. Duh! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Old Station 4

01/22/11 55 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

And here's how old [Station 4](#) looks these days. Engine 4 operated at 505 Jefferson Street from 1926 to 1963. The owners have been doing some work on the property for some months. No other information known. Or, if you prefer in the vernacular of radio traffic, no other information known at this time. Click to enlarge:



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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Fires Burn Through Red Cross Funds

01/22/11 84 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

That's the headline from this [WRAL story](#), about the Red Cross exceeding their budget for family assistance at house fires in December. The Triangle Red Cross responded to 130 (!) single-family homes that month, nearly double the amount from last year. Red Cross provides food, clothing, and emergency shelter to victims of fires. Learn about the [Triangle Area Chapter of the American Red Cross](#). You can also [donate money](#) on their web site.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?

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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.

Close View of Raleigh Fire Apparatus Circa 1922

01/23/11 380 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

This is a panoramic-style photo cropped from a full-frame view of Raleigh fire apparatus in the 1920s. The location is Station 1 on West Morgan Street. The source is the North Carolina State Archives, call number N.2005.7.14. The cited date is 1920, but closer examination suggests a couple years later. Click **once or twice** to greatly enlarge:



The three trucks on the right are pumpers and each has a hose reel. In 1920, the city only had two pumpers (with reels) and two chemical hose trucks (without reels) on the roster. The next pumper was added in 1922. Thus the picture probably dates to 1922.

The pumper on the left has thicker and presumably newer wheels. And looks quite a bit like our surviving 1926 American LaFrance. That was a Type 75, one of two delivered that year. The 1922 pumper was also an American LaFrance Type 75, as was a 1925 delivered three years later. Since only one newer-looking pumper is shown, let's date the photo to circa 1922.

The chief's car, far left, could be a 1911 model. The aerial apparatus is a 1916 American LaFrance Type 17 tiller. The two pumpers on the right are thus likely the 1914 Type 12 and 1918 Type 45. Not pictured is the 1922 American LaFrance Type 14 combination service truck, delivered September-October 1922. Perhaps the picture was taken before that date? (The 1922 pumper was delivered August 1922. Maybe the photo dates to that month.)

What else are we seeing? Notice the hand-cranked siren on each apparatus. Also, the fleet is now painted red. The first trucks were delivered as white, with gold and blue trim. The entire fleet was repainted in the early 1920s. Based on this and other photos, the fleet had been repainted by late 1922.

That looks like [Fire Chief Hubert Horton](#) standing second from the left. He served from August 1919 to June 1923. That further reinforces 1922 as the probable year of the photo. Unsure who is pictured on the left. Perhaps the Asst. Chief. From [data in my fire department timelines](#), W. Ernest Holland was Asst. Chief in 1922. But the person on the left isn't in uniform. Maybe it's the Mayor? Or another official?

Guess that's enough photo play and detective work for one morning. Time to resume work on other projects. [Read more RFD history](#), and see more [historical photos](#).

Chief Holland is pictured on the right of the ladder truck. Notice the double-breasted coat, compared to the single-breasted versions worn by nearly everyone else.

Legeros - 01/23/11 - 11:52

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Snow at the Beach

01/23/11 83 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

That's the beach at Atlantic Beach with a rare coating of white stuff. They received a whopping seven inches of snow this weekend, [reports this WITN story](#). Havelock and Emerald Isle were also among the seven-inchers. Newport had six, Morehead City had five, and so on. [See WITN's home page](#) for more reports. Wonder what the snowfall records are for there? The below photo is from [this Carteret County News-Times story](#).



Dylan Ray/Carteret County News-Times 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](#))

The Other Old Station 4

01/23/11 81 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

And here's what the other old [Station 4](#) is looking like these days. The address is 2913 Wake Forest Road and the station operated from 1963 to 1993. Also housed a Battalion Chief (then called District Chief) and a tanker, for a number of years. Commercial property and presently for lease! You could occupy your very own former Raleigh fire station! Formerly housed a software company, which I believe has been the owner since the station closed. Click to enlarge:



What's the cost to lease something like this?

BC - 01/23/11 - 16:09

boy what a screw up it was to let that one go

oops - 01/23/11 - 18:06

maybe raleigh can lease this building and find a use for it. perhaps e-13 could move in or wake county could use it as an ambulance base.

anonymous - 01/23/11 - 18:51

ISO stated the city needs a station in that vicinity.

RescueRanger - 01/23/11 - 18:55

Station 4 was relocated during the administration of Chief Pickard. That same year, he proposed to City Council the consolidation of Station 1 and Station 3, and Station 5 and Station 6. His proposal cited the ability to trim 24 positions, and save up to \$800,000, but benefits. Citizens protested, including one M. Legeros, who had a weighty letter published in the News & Observer. The proposal was eventually scrapped.

Legeros - 01/23/11 - 19:04

Lease it and put a heavy rescue in it....perfect spot.

Silver - 01/23/11 - 20:26

A heavy Rescue Company to respond to structure calls, extrications and technical rescues plus put an engine company in it and number it station 13. if they still need two Engines downtown then they can put A E30 downtown, assuming that E29 still goes to leesville rd. then in a few years when station 30 is built, move E30 to station 30 and replace the second engine downtown with a E31. then with the new heavy rescue, perhaps the city could put more ladders in service. that would be cool for raleigh to have about a dozen ladder trucks.

charlie - 01/24/11 - 00:24

Hey Charlie, I know we're just throwing our dream world FD fantasies around, so here's mine; no need for a double engine house downtown, ridiculous mindset. Sorry Brothers, but 2500 calls a year isn't busy. Another firehouse inner city (old #4)? Definitely. A two engine firehouse? Silly...just my opinion.

Two heavy rescues to split the city (when Rescue 2 comes up for replacement, just phase it out and add a third person to the other two Rescues, then budget for Captains) because we're pretty darn spread out. Put one at 9's, and the other maybe at Central Firehouse and staff them with a boss and three. Twelve Ladder Companies would be awesome!! Beef up the fire responses to 3, 2 and a Rescue and rock on!! Oh well, if we could just wave a magic wand and get the cash to appear....

Silver - 01/24/11 - 00:46

I can assure you we'll never see a 4-man rescue company. Rescues are just not needed in this city and don't carry any weight with ISO. I ride a rescue and am still shocked we haven't been put out of service due to budget constraints. Think about it, what does a rescue really do that a ladder company can't besides provide 2 more bodies on the scene?

RescueRanger - 01/24/11 - 12:09

@RR; I know, just sharing dreams. I wouldn't say "never" though. I keep hearing talk about one, six member heavy rescue. It was brought up during the last Fire Officer class at KTC by the top dog.

Silver - 01/24/11 - 12:17

Silver I like the way you think, and always look forward to seeing your thoughts on here.....

jkay - 01/24/11 - 15:53

LOL. Silver, is your second screen name jkay? :)

gen3fire - 01/24/11 - 16:43

KC, LOL!!!

KP - 01/24/11 - 21:37

Thanks Jimbo!!

Nice KC, real nice. You know I don't get off on others digging my perspective on things. Some agree, some don't. No big deal!!

Just think how much more efficient we could operate though, if a 4-member Ladder and a 4-member Rescue would be operating at a job. Love ya' KC....

Silver - 01/24/11 - 22:17

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'?

Cumberland County Fire Department?

01/23/11 51 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

What's the story behind this patch, found for sale on eBay? Did Cumberland County operate a fire department at one time? Was this perhaps a placeholder patch, for county departments that didn't have their own (or couldn't afford their own)?



Based on the open space at the bottom of the Maltese Cross, I am guess this was a generic patch for county departments, and perhaps they stitched their department number at bottom?

Legeros - 01/24/11 - 08:47

I have never seen that patch before in the few fire stations in the county i have visited. Pretty interesting!

Cmac - 01/24/11 - 21:35

From what I remember when I worked in Cumberland Co. It was a generalized patch that all county departments had. The open space at the bottom of the maltese cross was to allow the station number to be stitched into it. As the individual departments grew, they began to design thier own patches. Was more for having uniformity across the county as they did with basic SOP/SOG, truck specs, etc...

Swiman - 01/25/11 - 16:56

I went to Chief Brunacini's seminar in Fayetteville in the 80s and a lot of the folks there had this patch.

DJ - 01/25/11 - 17:07

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Task Force Fleet

01/24/11 157 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

For your Monday enjoyment, here's a montage of the rolling stock of [North Carolina Urban Search & Rescue \(USAR\) Task Force 8](#). These trucks are parked at the Raleigh Fire Department training center. The task force is comprised of personnel from Raleigh, Durham, Cary, and Chapel Hill fire departments. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Pictured top to bottom, left to right:

- USAR 1 - Primary USAR equipment.
- USAR 2 - Additional SAR equipment, rigging, confined-space equipment, ATV.
- USAR 3 - Base of Operations (shelter system).
- USAR 5 - Logistics unit, MRE, drinking water, PPE.
- USAR 6 - Communications unit.
- USAR 8 - Preloaded shoring materials, ATV.
- USAR 801 - Water rescue unit.
- Car 72 - Task force leader.

Not pictured:

- USAR 4 - Tractor-drawn box truck. Logistics, maintenance, additional rescue equipment. In service March or April.
- USAR 802, 803, 804 - Water rescue units assigned to the other member fire departments. Identical to USAR 801. [See photos.](#)
- SR3 - Commercial bus for transporting personnel. [See picture.](#)

Not Quite Reality

01/25/11 74 W, 1 I - + 4 - 8

[News & Observer story](#) this morning about promotional commercials for Sunday's NHL All-Star Game and one particular image that depicts the RBC Center smack dab in the middle of downtown Raleigh. Guess it could happen in a future decade. Don't arenas require replacement every couple decades, or at least as their owners (or affiliated sports teams) advocate? Might be time to bring one downtown!



oh lord parking and traffic would be HORRIBLE!!

one of the main reasons it didn't happen in the first place

shevais - 01/25/11 - 12:28

You are right Mike, arenas are ususally rebuilt or altered after awhile. The RBC center just underwent major upgrades, including a new jumbo tron, re-built suites, new credit card machines for concession stands, just to name a few. I do know that the RBC center has reached its "half life", in that, the building is at the peak of its potential, and will be on the downward slope. There has been talk of its replacement, with an eye on locations downtown, some of the rumored areas include land adjacent to the convention center where the outdoor theater is now, as well as the open land on South Saunders St. by the Red Roof inn. Another favorite going around, but nothing heard spoken by those that know – using Dix Campus land. But Shevais is right, parking sucks, and without the expanse of more hotels, any site other than immediately attached to downtown will require some thought. As for me, I'm not worried – I have my entry to the All Star Game already!

A.S. Meier - 01/25/11 - 14:49

It would be nice if the downtown streets were actually that wide! ...arena or not!

A.C. Rich - 01/25/11 - 23:52

Talk about bringing a lot to downtown. If this happened, downtown would be nuts.

Silver - 01/26/11 - 14:52

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Limits Sought on Release of 911 Calls

01/25/11 70 W - + 5 - 4

[Another News & Observer story today](#), this one about efforts in North Carolina to limit the release of 911 recordings. The proposed measures would provide only transcripts or distorted recordings to hide the caller's identity. Our state is only one of two that identify 911 recordings as public record. The other is North Dakota. A handful of states outright prohibit the release of 911 recordings. Your thoughts?

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.

Firefighter Mert Miller Memorial Service

01/26/11 228 W - + 5 - 6

Shiloh-Columbia Fire Department Firefighter Mert Miller lost his battle in the UNC Chapel Hill Burn Center on Saturday, January 22, 2011. Firefighter Miller was recovering from injuries in an off-duty accident on November 9, 2010. Firefighter Miller served his community as a volunteer fireman for four years. He leaves behind a wife and two sons, ages 10 and 9.

A Memorial Service for Firefighter Miller will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 29, 2011, at the Penderlea School Auditorium, [82 Penderlea School Road](#), Willard, NC, 28478.

Emergency apparatus that wish to attend are asked to stage at Malpass Corner Elementary School, [4992 Malpass Corner Road](#), Burgaw NC, 28425. That's the intersection of Highway 421 and Malpass Corner Road. Lining up for the memorial service will start at 12:00 noon and will depart for the service by 1:15 p.m. Please enter the school grounds from the Highway 421 entrance.

Departments planning to attend is asked to contact tbatson@pendercountync.gov with the type of apparatus and number of personnel.

Directions to Malpass Corner School:

- I-40 from Raleigh or Wilmington: Exit mile marker 398, turn left, take NC Highway 53 (5.5 miles), left on Malpass Corner Road (4.9 miles). School is on your right.
- US Highway 421 from Wilmington: North on US Highway 421 (16 miles north of I-40) and the school is on your right.
- US Highway 421 from Harrells: South on US Hwy 421 (18 miles south of Harrells) and the school is on your left.

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.

Raleigh to Use Web and Smart Phone Technology to Receive Citizen Report Non-Emergency Issues

01/26/11 153 W - + 6 - 2

Interesting press release. Raleigh residents, beginning Jan. 10, will be able to use a web and smart phone application to report potholes, graffiti and other non-emergency issues to the City.

The City Council on Dec. 7, unanimously endorsed a proposal that the City use the social media SeeClixFix (SCF) for non-emergency matters. With SCF's web application and smart phone technology, citizens can report non-emergency problems and request municipal services for such things as sidewalks or stop signs.

When issues are reported via web or by smart phone, City staff is alerted by email so that a response can be accurately and efficiently coordinated with City of Raleigh staff and tracked to ensure satisfactory resolution

[Read entire press release.](#) Next question, how long until emergencies can be reported through similar channels? Or is that an if question, rather than a when question?

It is probably more a when than an if, but the so-called "Next Generation 9-1-1" applications will open up the scope of emergency reporting. That being said there are many bridges that have to be crossed before we get there as the current 9-1-1 network, equipment, and the social networks/web apps themselves are not yet ready to meet all the requirements for timely and verified emergency reporting.

RWECC - 01/28/11 - 20:13

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.

Here's Another Reason Why People Wreck on I-40 at Wade Avenue

01/26/11 14 W - + 4 - 6

Bad stripes.

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.

Last Night's Overtaken Tanker

01/26/11 69 W, 1 I - + 10 - 2

Speaking of which, here's a [picture from WRAL](#) of the tractor-drawn tanker that overturned last night on westbound I-40 near Wade Avenue. The accident occurred just after 11:00 p.m. The truck was hauling 6,000 gallons of soybean oil. The road was closed for hours. Western Wake and Raleigh fire department units were also on scene for hours. Other coverage: [News & Observer](#), [WTVD](#).

*WRAL photo*

Western Wake 196, 295, Raleigh E8, L3, EMS 4, D5, among units on scene. And a couple big honkin' wreckers from Barbour's, to right the thing after it was unloaded.

Legeros - 01/27/11 - 08:42

Add WWT198, RFBATT3, E14, R3, L7 (not 3), another EMS unit, DOT, and a LOT of equipment from Barbour's (two big heavy wreckers, one medium heavy, one light wrecker, a service truck, a light tower trailer, a tandem trailer with tools/equipment, and probably one more wrecker whose driver was manpower. Oh yeah, and another tank truck from Opies into which the product was offloaded. Plus RPD, SHP/MCE. It was a big production and from what I saw, everybody worked well together. Surprised we didn't see Mr. Blogger!

And let's throw a BIG thanks to the volunteers that came to the station to staff E191 should we have gotten another call.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 01/27/11 - 09:29

I have a couple questions, If this was only soybean oil, and there was no leak, no injuries and the overturned truck was off the roadway. Why was I-40 shut down for so long and why were there so many fire units tied up to babysit an upside-down tanker with no hazards. I understand that units could have come back out after the second tanker arrived to control a spill if that was to happen while transferring/uprighting the trailer but to stay all night seems crazy to me.

WFFD - 01/28/11 - 14:59

Easy Links To This Blog, Our Photo Site

01/27/11 88 W - + 5 - 3

Real easy to reach this blog, as well as our photo site. Next question, why aren't these the links themselves, instead of redirects? Well, cough cough, someone behind a computer and wearing a Hawaiian shirt just didn't think far enough into the future when he created those sites.

- Raleigh/Wake County Firefighting Blog
Blog by Mike Legeros
www.legeros.com/blog
- Raleigh/Wake County Fire Department Incident Photos
Photos by Mike Legeros and Lee Wilson
www.legeros.com/firepics

Wait, if those are the links then how did I get here? And where am I? And who am I? Inquiring minds want to know :-)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/27/11 - 19:22

You think you've got it bad, my address for the Engine 1 accident contains 2012 as the year, instead of 2011. One more thing to fix.

Legeros - 01/28/11 - 08:57

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.

Crash Truck Master Stream in Norfolk

01/27/11 68 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

From [WVEC's coverage](#) of today's warehouse fire at the Norfolk Naval Base. The blaze at the 63,000 square-foot and nearly empty structure near the base airport started about 10:20 a.m. Both base and Norfolk FD crews have been on scene for hours. Here's something you don't see every day, an Oshkosh crash truck utilized as structural master stream!



Brien Aho, MC1 photo

That's awesome! I've used the turrents on RDU's trucks before and talk about a real life video game. Just squeeze the trigger on the joystick and wait for water.

ab - 01/28/11 - 09:18

Yeah, that is pretty cool!!

Silver - 01/28/11 - 11:16

Does that give credence to the term "any port in a storm"?

Duda - 01/29/11 - 10:30

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Citizens Have a Reasonable Right to Photograph Federal Buildings

01/27/11 158 W - + 9 - 7

For those interested in the always-interesting issues surrounding public photography and rights therein, [this New York Times blog entry](#) talks today about an October settlement reached between the New York Civil Liberties Union and the Federal Protective Service of the Department of Homeland Security. The federal agency has pledged to inform its officers that people have a general right to take pictures outside their buildings.

Public photography is not a crime, but it has historically raised suspicions and perhaps more so in these terrorism-laden times. (Lots of folks have stories about "official" harassment in this regard. I recall a security guard at a subway stop in New York City telling me that photography of the tunnels was prohibited. That was some years ago.) Anyway, it's interesting reading, with links to other interesting reading. For general information, Google "photography and the law." Plenty that's out there.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Snorkels and Squads and Chicago

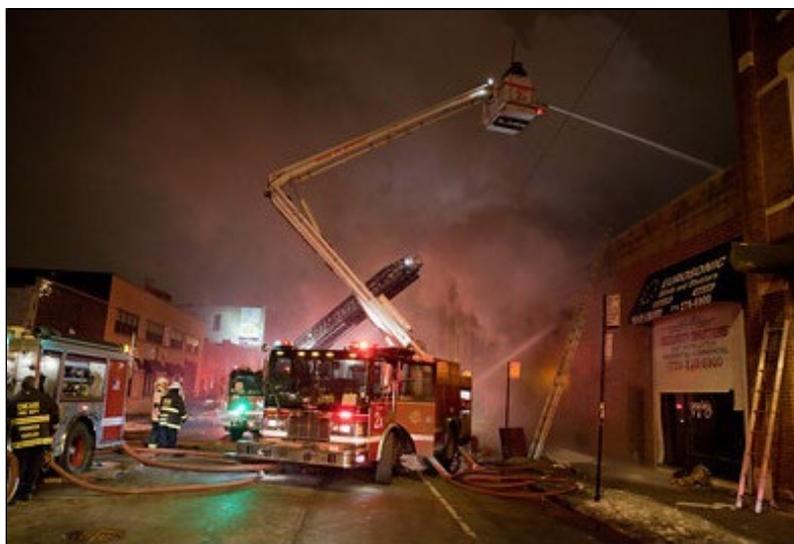
01/28/11 235 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

My morning browsing noticed this Steve Redick photo in this [Statter911 story about a 2-11 fire in Chicago](#). That's one of Chicago's snorkel squads in action, the second of a two-piece company equipped with a 55-foot articulating platform. They've been running snorkel squads for decades. Here are some [new and old apparatus photos](#), for example, found by Google.

But what's theory or practice behind those short-reach snorkels? Google also finds [this Firehouse.com thread](#) and provides some answers. The smaller snorkels are designed to access the rear alleys that are so common in Chicago. Cites a poster, there are lots of wooden porch fires that benefit from an elevated master stream. And their smaller wheelbase and tighter jack spread makes it easier to get close. What other departments use short-reach snorkels?

That thread-- last updated in 2008-- also discusses the future of Chicago's snorkels, as American LaFrance has discontinued the Snorkel line. What's happening there? Seems the booms are no longer being built, notes these October 2010 comments to [this ChicagoAreaFire.com posting](#), about the sale of a reserve snorkel. Interesting reading.

Finally, the photo below is by Steve Redick. He and his father have been photographing fire and fire apparatus for decades around Chicago. He's even [authored a couple books](#), available for sale on Blurb. Check out the one on [classic Chicago rigs!](#)



Steve Redick photo from [Statter911.com](#)

Seems like they could have someone re-certify the booms for installation on new apparatus. Don't they do that with ladders?

Duda ([Email](#)) - 01/28/11 - 09:33

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Wake County EMS Old-Timer Reunion, March 11 (New Date)

01/28/11 44 W - + 9 - 3

Veteran Wake County EMS member Fred Loy passes along this announcement, a reunion for old-timers and original members of Wake County EMS. Be there or be missed!

March 11, 2011 (New Date)
Barbecue Lodge
4600 Capital Boulevard
2:00 p.m.

Updated with new date. Same time, same place.

Legeros - 01/30/11 - 22:31

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Cary Fire Department Parking Lot

01/29/11 116 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

This parking lot is a recent addition to the downtown Cary railroad corridor. It's located opposite the train station on Academy Street, and is being utilized by Cary Fire Department administrative vehicles. They were previously parked in the lot of the train station, which is presently being expanded. The building that is. CFD administration is housed in old Station 1, which is behind the photographer and just across the tracks. (Wasn't there a tunnel proposed at this location in recent years, to take vehicles under the tracks?) That's the [Page-Walker Arts & History Center](#) in the background, along with the railroad sign "Cary."



Walker Street will be extended from where it ends at Cedar, just behind admin past the town hall campus, out to chapel Hill rd. Project construction begins this winter, opens in 2013. <http://www.townofcary.org/Departments/En..>

tunnel - 01/30/11 - 09:47

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Ward LaFrance Command Towers?

01/30/11 160 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Over on the [Carolinas Fire Page Yahoo group](#), we've taken notice of this picture of a Houston Fire Department command tower in action at the [Englewood Railroad Yard explosion on September 21, 1974](#). The photo was taken by Chuck Buschardt and scanned to disk and archived by Ken Paradowski. They were posted to [firepics.net](#) and re-posted in the above railroad forums posting in 2008.

The command tower was a product of Ward LaFrance and first introduced at the IAFC convention in Louisville in 1968, notes my *Ward LaFrance Fire Trucks 19176-1978 Photo Archive* book by John J. Burzichelli and Richard J. Gergel. The elevating platform could be mounted on any custom or commercial chassis, had a height of 22 feet, and a pre-piped master stream with a 1,000 GPM nozzle.

How many departments in North Carolina operated these? The town of Boone had one, as did Idlewild Fire Department in Mecklenburg County. Who else? And who has pictures??



Chuck Buschardt photo

The Idlewild and Boone command towers are the only ones I'm aware of. Not sure where Idlewild's truck ended up, but the Boone truck has served several departments. It later served Deep Gap (east of Boone), then served Collettsville in Caldwell County for a brief time. It can currently be found at a motocross track in Gaffney, SC right off I-85.

BFD1151 - 01/30/11 - 12:46

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Rekindle Society Muster and Parade, Apr. 2, 2011

01/30/11 82 W, 4 I - + 11 - 1

The [Rekindle Society](#), the Carolinas chapter of SPAAMFAA, announcems their third annual muster and parade in Cheraw, SC, on Saturday, April 2, 2010. The event coincides with the town's [36th Annual Spring Festival](#) . Antique apparatus will again be displayed, be paraded, and even pumped. The event will also feature a flea market, fire safety displays, and firefighter challenges. Here's [the interest card and itinerary](#) and there's [here's the general flyer](#) .

**The Rekindle Society
Muster and Parade**

Saturday, April 2, 2011

The Rekindle Society invites you to join us for our Second Annual Muster and Parade. On this day the Society and other Fire Departments will respond to Cheraw, SC. There our apparatus will be shared with all those that attend the Spring Flng. During the day antique and modern apparatus will be paraded, displayed and pumped for all to see. Stop by and experience first hand the sights and sounds of antique and modern fire apparatus that are serving communities across the country. This event is free to the public. More information can be found at: www.rekindlesociety.com or www.cherawcheater.com

Date: April 2, 2011
Start Time: 10:00 am
Location: Cheraw, SC

The Rekindle Society
8035 Bird Pond Rd.
Adams Run, SC 29023
Phone: 803-609-9498
President: Travis Stafford
E-mail: shaggy844@yahoo.com
Website: www.rekindlesociety.com

- Parade: 10 am, Downtown
- Muster: 11 am, Cheraw High School
- Competitions, Pumping and Fire Safety Activities: 12 pm-5 pm, Cheraw High School
- Spring Flng: All day, Downtown
- Cost: Free

Come celebrate our Society's 18 year anniversary!

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

History on Display in Norwood City

01/30/11 55 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

[Read this FireNews story](#) about the Stanley County fire department's efforts to expand its collection of historical items, and which are displayed at the fire station. Norwood City Fire Department was established in 1947, though many of the display items date to earlier times.



Stanley News and Press 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.

Public Safety RAPS Race, Friday, Apr. 8

01/30/11 80 W - + 8 - 3

The next [Raleigh Area Public Safety Racing League](#) (RAPS) endurance kart race is Friday, April 8, 2011. Practice and team qualifying begins at 3:00 p.m. The 90-minute endurance race begins at 6:00 p.m. Entry fees remain just \$150 per team, payable the day of the race. The location is Rush Hour Karting at [5335 Raynor Road](#) in Garner. And which is located just down the road from the new Garner Station 4. Double your pleasure with a station visit!

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Mystery Perspective

01/30/11 27 W, 1 I - + 10 - 2

This caught my eye the other week. Towers and cranes. Pretty easy to tell what's shown. But where's the photographer standing? Click to enlarge:



Corner of Dawson and Martin facing east.

RescueRanger - 01/30/11 - 10:58

... on the northwest corner of the intersection. Likely on the sidewalk. Maybe under an awning. Probably wearing a Hawaiian shirt. And certainly fighting the urge to turn to your left and take pictures at Station 1.

rfburns - 01/30/11 - 17:02

Martin Street is right...

Legeros - 01/30/11 - 17:11

Possibly in front of the prevention office?

RescueRanger - 01/31/11 - 11:37

Bingo. South side of Martin Street, opposite Dillon Building. Telephoto lens that makes it look a little bit closer.

Legeros - 01/31/11 - 20:01

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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News & Observer Closes Office of Film Criticism

01/30/11 354 W - + 8 - 6

Which is a fancy way of saying that they've fired their last film critic. Craig Lindsay and nineteen other staffers recently received their walking papers, [reports this Independent Weekly story](#). Lindsay was the last daily film critic working in North Carolina. The story is good reading on the state of film and film criticism.

Prior to being a fire blogger, Yours Truly was a movie critic. Started in college at NCSU. Resumed after returning to school in 1992, for additional undergraduate course work. Published in the school paper, *The Technician*. Even won an award one year, in the category of criticism at the state or maybe national level.

Leaving school, my reviewing continued as postings to the USENET newsgroups rec.arts.movies.reviews. Plus a private mailing list. After a few years, they were posted to a web site, which was later named [Movie Hell](#).

For several years, I saw two or three movies a week. Wrote reviews on the weekend, and posted on Sunday. Saw and reviewed some 150 films per year. Ranged from blockbusters to art films. Toward the end, saw a lot of free movies. Maybe once a week, during a mid-week promotional screen.

Went cold turkey in 2001. Just lost interest in it. Had had enough. [The archives are still available](#), however. They total 1063 reviews, plus 157 other pieces. The latter included anything from reader mail (with sarcastic responses) to Oscar predictions to rants about quality at local theaters.

Everything worked out well. Saw a ton of good movies, in addition to the truckloads of crap. Developed a critical eye and a better ability at critical thinking. And learned how to write (or at least got better at writing). The better to later blog with, my dear.

Oh, and what movies lately have I liked? Here's a quick recap. *True Grit* is pretty good, though I never really settled into Jeff Bridges' performance. Plus he sounds exactly like Billy Bob Thornton in *Swing Blade*. *The Green Hornet* is awfully fun and fairly awful. *The King's Speech* is an absolute delight. Good historical peek at British royalty, too.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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This Evening's Water Search

01/30/11 107 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

That's Bay Leaf Fire Department Boat 2 on the west side of the Six Forks Road Bridge, just south of the Upper Barton's Creek boat landing. They've been on scene for a couple hours-- along with boats from Stony Hill and Falls fire departments-- searching for a missing kayaker. A helicopter from the State Highway Patrol is also aiding in the search. Other participating agencies including Six Forks EMS, Wake County EMS, Wake County Fire Services, Wake County Emergency Management, and Wake County Sheriff's Office. The incident is still ongoing. More photos later from Legeros, taken early in the incident. Click to enlarge:



Thinking about this incident over the last day has me wondering, what sort of water rescue response protocols are in place for Falls Lake? Is it strictly jurisdictional, based on fire district? I am guessing that's the case. But like auto-aid engines are dispatched to structure fires, I wonder if auto-aid boats should be dispatched (or even placed on stand by) for incidents at Falls Lake? (Does CAD support stand-by as such? Where, in this case, BLFD is dispatched, but, say, SHFD and FFD receiving notifications only at the time of initial dispatch?)

Legeros - 02/01/11 - 07:36

Mike,

The north region has adopted an agreement in regards to the lake. The three northside companies (SHFD,FFD,BLFD) that have lake area are supposed to call for one another whenever a call is received on the lake. The three trained together in 2010 on the lake for incidents such as this and many others.

Northside - 02/01/11 - 14:09

Body of missing boater found, three days later. http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/sto..

Legeros - 02/04/11 - 08:33

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Robeson County Firefighter Dies at Station, Updated

01/31/11 150 W, 1 I - + 13 - 7

Parkton Volunteer Fire Department Firefighter James Walters Sr., 57, died of an apparent heart attack on Saturday night, after collapsing while on duty at the fire station. He and another firefighter were doing paperwork at the time he collapsed. CPR was performed at the station, and a defibrillator was used. Emergency medical crews took him to the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead shortly after arrival. Walters was a training officer. His wife Jackie also works for the department. More information is forthcoming. Sources: [Firefighter Close Calls](#), [FireNews](#), [WRAL](#).



WRAL photo

Monday evening update, funeral arrangements, [from FireNews](#):

Visitation will be Thursday, February 3, from 18:00 to 21:00 hours at the First Baptist Church, [195 W. David Parnell Street](#), Parkton, NC, 28371. The funeral will be Friday, February 4 at 14:00 hours at the First Baptist Church. A full fire department honors funeral is planned.

sad to hear. I am Praying for the family.

charlie - 01/31/11 - 00:10

The location of both today's visitation and tomorrow's funeral has been changed to the National Guard Armory, 439 Washington St, Parkton, 28371.

Legeros - 02/03/11 - 22:19

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Charlotte's New Fire Boat

01/31/11 193 W - + 9 - 5

From the [Charlotte Fire Department's You Tube channel](#), here's some footage of their recently delivered Fire Boat 38. The Response FR-30J is a 30-foot craft with a welded aluminum hull, built by Viking Welding & Fabrication in Kensington, NH. The boat will substantially increase response capabilities in and along Lake Wylie. It can also be transported by trailer to other area lakes as needed.

Fire Station 38 is located at 12100 Shopton Road West and includes a three-bay boat house on the water. (See small photo of the boat house [on this station page](#).) Says this [page found on Google](#), the boat house has been used to house a dive rescue pontoon boat, a wildlife officer's boat, and a citizen's patrol boat owned by CMPD.

Neat boat and great clip. Love the hard-rockin' soundtrack! And what's that steam-stack in the background? Nuclear plant? Next question, so how many other 30-foot or larger fire boats are operated either inland or at the coast in North Carolina? We've blogged about [Wilmington's fireboat history](#) before. Cornelius-Lemley FD in Mecklenburg County has a 33-footer for use on Lake Norman. Who else has big boats?

Couldn't find the length of Morehead City's boat, which they received about three years ago: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/5..> That's a Lee Wilson pic.

Legeros - 01/31/11 - 08:55

The steam stack is probably Allen Steam Station a coal fire steam powered power plant. It appears similar to the one at Marshall Steam Plant on Lake Norman.

Chad ([Email](#)) - 01/31/11 - 09:00

U sure about that Chad? Dook power has a nuclear plant near there...

Chuck - 02/02/11 - 21:20

You've got Mc Guire Nuclear on Lake Norman to the north and Catawba Nuclear on Lake Wylie on the south side.

Luke - 02/03/11 - 23:27

Morehead City Ship Explosion Footage, 1961

01/31/11 62 W - + 11 - 3

While using Google and trying to find the length of Morehead City's fireboat, this Youtube clip presented itself. It's camera-shot video of projected color film footage of the USNS Potomac, which exploded and burned at the state port on September 26, 1961. [We've blogged about that history before](#). Read the story, then watch the footage. Pretty cool.

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'?

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

How New Bern Prepares For Boat Fires

01/31/11 54 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Guess it's boat day Monday. From a reader, here's a New Bern *Sun Journal* story about how the [New Bern Fire Department prepares for boat fires](#). The context is recent marina fire in Washington. That's the department's 25-foot Boston Whaler pictured below.



Byron Holland/Sun Journal

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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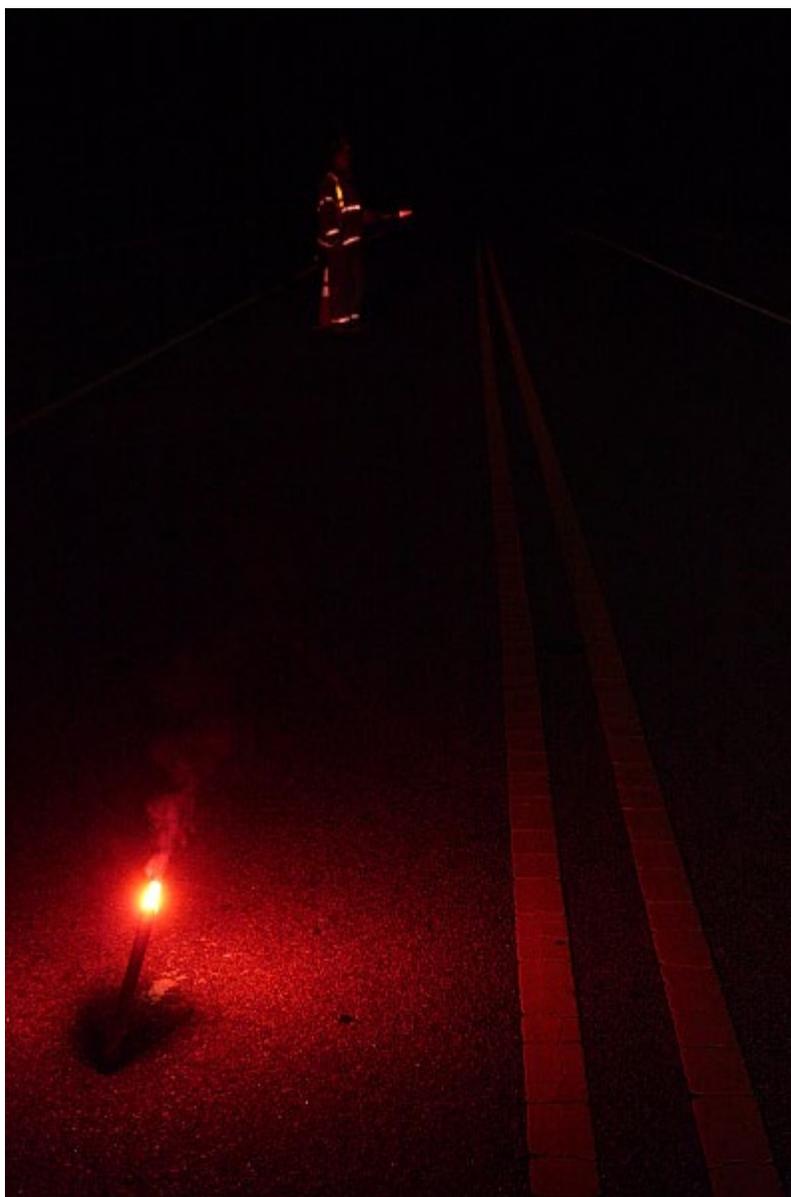
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

What Dark Looks Like

01/31/11 86 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

Here's another photo from last night's water search operations on Falls Lake. This is facing north on Six Forks Road, several or a dozen feet past the parked emergency vehicles. Edge of the bridge before Upper Bartons Landing boat launch. Looking uphill. What does everyone think, is this a realistic representation of a dark country road? Or has the camera and its exposure rendered the thing even darker than it really was. You tell me.



Personally I think it looks darker than it really is. Just my opinion.

Joe - 02/02/11 - 22:05

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morrisville Offers « Robeson County Firefi... » Wake County Firefight... Volunteers Stipend to Attract Interest

Morrisville Offers Volunteers Stipend to Attract Interest

02/01/11 132 W - + 4 - 4

As this [Cary News story reports](#), the Morrisville Town Council last Tuesday voted to offer a \$50 stipend to each volunteer firefighter per 12-hour shift. The town and its fire department are trying to attract more volunteers. They have eight on the roster these days, cites the story. That's a far cry from the all-volunteer force of fifty years ago. The Morrisville Fire Department hired its first paid staff in 1988, which consisted of six part-time members including current Fire Chief Todd Wright. Today, the department has some 40 career members staffing three stations. In addition to stipends, the town is offering free memberships to a local "aquatic and fitness center" as well as an opportunity for possible employment as a full-time firefighter. [Read the story.](#)

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.

Wake County Firefighters Association Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 8

02/01/11 85 W - + 6 - 1

The winter supper and meeting of the [Wake County Firefighter's Association](#) will be held on Tuesday, February 8, at Apex Fire Station 4, [1615 E. Williams Street](#). That's an A-shift day. Serving starts at 6:30 p.m. The agenda includes more information about the upcoming [Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser](#) in Knightdale on March 13. See the [WCFA web site](#) for more news and announcements, including a reminder to schedule the fire safety trailer for this year, and that scholarship applications are now being accepted.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Interesting Reading

02/01/11 121 W - + 5 - 5

Firegeezzer contributor [Glenn Gaines comments](#) on the need for the American fire service to broaden its business portfolio, from being largely reactive to entirely proactive. He cites successes in Europe and all-hazards approaches in some countries. There's your heretical thought for the day, transforming U.S. firefighters into a risk reduction and prevention force.

Dave Statter finds this fascinating [Boston Globe story](#) about shift-swapping in Beantown. The story authors scrutinize all aspects (current and historical) of approval, tracking, and payback. And they find abuses.

[Wall Street Journal story](#) on the rise of vending machine theft, and ways operators are trying to curb theft. Such as wireless notification systems and the fingers in the pies such systems can catch.

Don't we do the risk-reduction and prevention with Pub-Ed?

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/02/11 - 09:31

Drop in the bucket. Or is it ocean?

Snort - 02/02/11 - 09:40

let's face it, pub-ed for most departments is a joke, it's an afterthought on the back burner of the budget. It is crucial, and it does yield results... but I regress....

I think we're talking more of hazard and risk analysis and then mitigation tactics before an incident happens... kind of like taking inspections to another level all together.

But see here in the good ole' U S of A we have these things called lobbyists... and they work for big \$\$\$\$ corporations... and well the fire service just isn't that united, or well funded, for that matter to lobby effectively for the changes in things like building codes that could really aid to "reduce risk" or "prevent" incidents from occurring before they start.

shevais - 02/02/11 - 13:40

Public Education is only one component of Risk Reduction that centers around fire prevention. "Community Risk Reduction" is more holistic in that it takes a all-hazards approach at a community level. "America at Risk – America Burning Re-Commissioned" (USFA) initially explores this ideal and is what Chief Gaines is focusing upon. The NFPA also has the "Risk Watch" program that is an expansion of the ideal. As the USFA report elaborates upon – the local fire station is THE CLOSEST link citizens have to government, especially in a crisis, so why can't we play a more proactive and focused role in "educating" them to be safer in other aspects of living (examples are: fall prevention, bike safety, water safety, injury prevention, and, yes... car seats). It is really not all about fire and EMS anymore.... See these links for more information:

<http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?cat..> and <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/pu..>

A.C. Rich - 02/02/11 - 23:14

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Raleigh Fire Department Fleet Listing, 1970-1971

02/01/11 140 W - + 7 - 3

Thumbing through some records this evening finds this fleet listing for Raleigh's rolling stock in 1970 and 1971.

- Engine 1 - 1961 ALF then 1970 Mack
- Engine 2 - 1953 ALF
- Engine 3 - 1968 ALF
- Engine 4 - 1957 FWD
- Engine 5 - 1961 ALF
- Engine 6 - 1950 Mack
- Engine 7 - 1953 ALF then 1971 Mack
- Engine 8 - 1951 ALF
- Engine 9 - 1951 ALF
- Engine 10 - 1958 ALF then 1961 ALF
- Engine 11 - 1958 ALF
- Engine 15 - 1970 Mack (second engine at Station 1)
- Reserve - 1950 FWD at Station 2
- Truck 1 - 1958 ALF tiller
- Truck 5 - 1960 ALF midmount
- Truck 6 - 1964 GMC service truck
- Truck 7 - 1963 Ford service truck
- Tanker 8 - 1960 GMC/Alexander
- Tanker 9 - 1960 GMC/Alexander
- Foam Unit 1 - 1966 Dodge (pick-up with high-ex generator)
- Foam Unit 5 - 1965 International (same)
- Rescue 1 - 1966 Chevy panel van
- Rescue 2 - 1953 Reo Civil Defense heavy rescue, not staffed
- Fire alarm truck (at Station 1)
- Maintenance truck (at Station 2)
- Hydrant truck (at Station 1)

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Our Summers Might Be Stifling...

02/02/11 35 W, 1 I - + 9 - 1

...but our winters are pretty mild compared to such places as Chicago, one of many places hit with yesterday's big / giant / colossal / gargantuan / supercalifragilisticexpialidocious blizzard:



Scott Stewart / Sun-Times 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'?

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

EMS World: From Fire Scene to Cath Lab

02/03/11 133 W - + 10 - 4

From a reader, from the [EMS World web site](#), here's an article by Johnston County EMS Training Officer Joshua Holloman, about a September structure fire and a 48 year-old firefighter who complained of chest pains. Though the EMS crew had cleared, a paramedic unit was summoned. An ECG was performed and an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) was revealed. (Yours Truly has to Google that one, to fully understand.) The firefighter was transported to the appropriate facility 30 miles away-- bypassing three community hospitals unable to offer the necessary treatment-- and he received a record door-to-balloon time at the heart center. He was discharge and home a few days later. As the sub-headline notes, the effective programs worked together to prevent a firefighter death. [Read the story.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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EMS World Q&A with Chief Kirkwood

02/03/11 46 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Also on the [EMS World web site](#), here's an interview with own Wake County EMS Chief Skip Kirkwood, on the subject of career opportunities. The segment runs just over six minutes. [Watch the video](#), or click to access:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Goldsboro B-52 Crash 50 Years Later

02/03/11 153 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Also from a reader, the *Goldsboro News-Argus* commemorates the approaching anniversary of the B-52 bomber crash that killed three of eight airmen on January 24, 1961. Two nuclear weapons were aboard the aircraft that crashed in the farming community of Faro.

Both bombs were jettisoned as the plane disintegrated in midair 12 miles north of Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. One bomb was found in the woods, hanging by its parachute. The other buried itself in a field after a free-fall speed estimated at 700 MPH. Needless to say, no nuclear explosion resulted.

The *News-Argus* has two stories about what happened, a [recounting of the incident](#) and a planned reunion for those [involved in the crash](#). Read more on [this Wikipedia page](#) as well as [this historical account](#). (And didn't we blog about this with a retrospective some years back? Can't find the thing, alas.)



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Car Versus House in Raleigh

02/04/11 26 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

Rumson Road off Raleigh Road near Capital Boulevard yesterday afternoon. Driver with minjor injury. [WTVD with short story.](#)



WTVD photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Wake New Hope* « **Car Versus House in R...** » **Bailey Fire Departmen...**
Firefighter Injured in Auto Accident

Wake New Hope Firefighter Injured in Auto Accident

02/05/11 251 W - + 6 - 2

Yesterday morning [Friday, Feb. 4] at 7:00 a.m., Lt. Keith Murray of Wake New Hope Fire Department (A shift volunteer) was involved in a serious vehicle accident. He was on his way to work when he struck a deer. The animal struck him in the head and came to rest in the back seat. The vehicle then continued on into a tree. The collision took place on Forestville Road, near Old Watkins Road. He was transported to WakeMed by Eastern Wake EMS. He was attended on scene by Raleigh E28 and New Hope E3, R14, and Car 1.

Keith has been admitted to WakeMed on New Bern Avenue. He has a crack to a vertebrae in his upper cervical area, and also broken left eye socket and cheek bone. As of yesterday afternoon, he was in a C-collar and resting on his back. His spirits are good, but he is in quite a bit of pain. He has significant swelling to the left side of his face. Surgery may be necessary for his facial injuries. As of last night, he was resting but still in pain. The results of a CT scan are pending to determine how soon he'll be coming home.

Please keep Keith and his family in your thoughts and prayers. As we receive more information we will pass it on to all of you. If you have any questions please contact Capt Hickman.

Don Hickman, Captain
Wake New Hope Fire Dept.

Keith was moved to a room overnight. The Doctors have decided that Keith will not need surgery for the facial injuries. His break is to the C-1 vertebrae. This injury will require Keith to wear a collar for at least two weeks. Keith is in very good spirits. Keith and his family thank everyone for their continued support.

Don Hickman ([Email](#)) - 02/05/11 - 11:12

Best wishes for a speedy recovery!

charlie h. - 02/05/11 - 15:56

Glad to hear he's going to be OK. Any current updates?

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/07/11 - 10:53

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'?

Bailey Fire Department Gets Highway Cut Through

02/05/11 95 W - + 6 - 5

This is a [WTVD troubleshooter story](#) about the Bailey Fire Department in Nash County, and ten years worth (!) of efforts by the department get a cut-through constructed on Highway 264 between the Middlesex and Bailey exits. Previously, the 4.5 mile distance between the two exits could result in a 10 or 12 minute delayed response, if units were committed in one direction, but were needed in the other. The cut-through's been cut, as they reported. (And originally investigated in May.) Paving and signs are still pending. Total cost, \$150,000. Total value, priceless.

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.

Lumber Here / Warrenton Fire Photos

02/05/11 94 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

That intentionally ironic photo is one of a couple hundred taken by Mike Legeros at Wednesday's major fire in Warrenton. He's posted his entire set of images as of this morning. They start at about three hours into the incident. (Took an hour get there, plus thirty minutes of indecision prior.) Photos have also been posted by WRFD member John Franks. And the [previously posted incident details](#) has also been updated.

[See photos by Mike Legeros](#)

[See photos by John Franks](#)



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

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Remains of the Race

02/05/11 83 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

The registrants numbered about 7,500 for the annual Krispy Kreme Challenge, a four-mile race that starts and stops at the North Carolina State University bell tower. Midpoint is the Person Street Krispy Kreme, where a dozen donuts are consumed. Yours Truly neither participated nor watched, but did snap a couple photos of the scene after all the shouting (and gagging?) was over. Judging from the pallet, said dozen donuts were probably consumed cold.



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](#))

What's Unusual About This Picture?

02/05/11 32 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Looking north on McDowell Street just north of Morgan Street. Taken this morning. There's something different about what we're seeing.



What appears to be a foot bridge?

Zack A - 02/05/11 - 13:16

It appears to me that the top light is yellow. Or either I'm color-blind.

house - 02/05/11 - 18:36

Since I can't enlarge it, I'm thinking that the truss structure is new. Foot bridge?

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/07/11 - 10:48

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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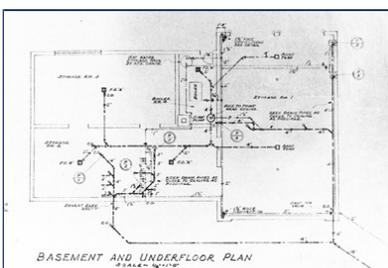
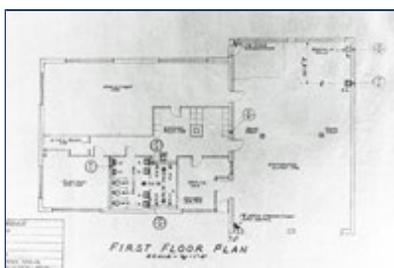
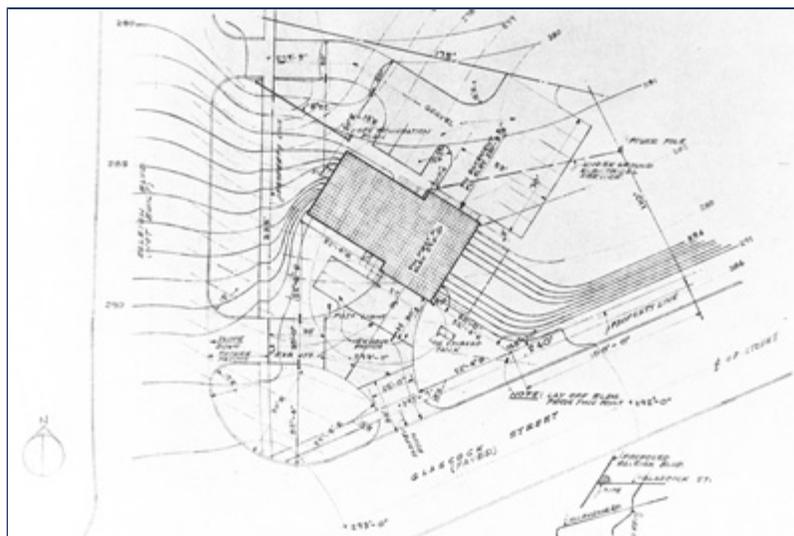
UPDATED - Blueprints of Station 7, 1958

07/10/12 256 W, 3 I - + 47 - 47

For your Saturday hysterical, er, historical enjoyment, take a peek at these drawings from the blueprints of Raleigh Station 7. The top image shows the site plan, which was originally on the north side of Glascock Street. Note the angular placement of the building and the driveway that exits to both cross streets. Looks like a full basement was also planned, with a couple storage rooms. Only a boiler room was built below.

Why did the station cross the road? ~~To be determined. Maybe just to get to the other side.~~ One story goes like this: construction was started on the current site, on the wrong side of Glascock Street. This error wasn't noticed in advance, and the city had to scramble to acquire the current site. (Need to research that one.) Another "story" about Station 7 is that the parking lot's land isn't owned by the city, which is why it's remained dirt for decades. Based on the city-county iMAPS system, the lot is on land perhaps originally intended as an extension of Colleton Road. Makes for a good tale, if nothing else.

Station 7 opened on December 30, 1959. It was the first of a couple dozen built with the [same basic building design](#). The station is also unique from its successors in a couple ways. It's the only one with a watch room on the same side as the dorm. And it's the only one with separate officer's quarters. [Read more station history](#). Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



Don't see a day room or kitchen listed, either.

Rescue Ranger - 07/10/12 - 12:42

White on blue drawings converted to black on white. Click REFRESH button on your browser if they don't display.

Legeros - 07/11/12 - 21:52

Mutual Aid versus Automatic Aid

02/05/11 110 W - + 3 - 4

An engaging discussion on this familiar topic is underway in [this Statter911 story](#) about a Denver TV station that's looking closely at mutual aid agreements, after a house fire involving a woman trapped in a basement and that the closest department was requested not to respond. We've discussed aspects of this issue on occasion. On several occasions, actually. The name on the side of the truck doesn't matter to the person in need. And seconds can indeed count when a closer fire department isn't dispatched. Lots of reasons behind the reasons for the way things are done. Take a deep breath and [join the discussion](#).

The only time it matters what name is on the side of the truck is when it's YOUR house that's on fire as proven in this video along with comments.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ad7YA3nIF..>

RescueRanger - 02/05/11 - 20:49

Auto-aid continues to be a misleading factor here in Wake-Raleigh and does require some additional consideration and communication; especially between Raleigh FD and the bordering departments. Naturally, monetary subsidy of the response is a question or concern for both sides. For example, does Wake continue to allow bordering departments to respond free-of-charge into Raleigh (which also demonstrates higher statistical justification of county department activity); or does Raleigh appropriately issue contracts to these departments that include "capability based" performance standards of response? Someone must decide. Also, and in contrast, public understanding of the established response structure is a key aspect too. Simple discussions with HOAs go a long way as to the "name on the truck." RR is right.

A. C. Rich - 02/06/11 - 14:54

I'm an automatic aid, closest forces response fan. Of course, everybody needs the same capabilities so that units can interchange as needed, but the citizens really DON'T care who comes to help them, as long as someone comes quickly and mitigates the emergency. Nor, if you ask them, do they care much about the tiny amount of their property taxes that go to support fire or EMS (or the tiny portion of the tiny portion that might be accounted for by over-some-line response). Again, I'm biased, but the AVL-drive, closest unit, single system approach works really well for the EMS system – maybe fire could give it a try! And if the "city money, county money" is such a big deal, show everybody real numbers (not estimates or extrapolations) and have some negotiations about it.

CH100 - 02/08/11 - 08:29

The playing field is probably pretty level around here, with regard to aid and cross-district assistance. There are no grand disparities in service levels or staffing, etc. (Right?) Witness the opposite, Philly possibly aiding severely-cut Camden, as reported by Statter911 and via this Philly fire blog: [http://firstin.wordpress.com/2011/02/04/..](http://firstin.wordpress.com/2011/02/04/)

Legeros - 02/08/11 - 13:28

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Wilson's Mills Fire Chief Dies, Update #2

02/08/11 206 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

[FireNews has reported](#) the death of Wilson's Mills Fire Chief Richard L. "Ricky" Barbour, 54, who passed away Friday night at WakeMed in Raleigh. He had recently suffered cardiac problems and was receiving treatment. Chief Barbour was also the Safety and Health Director for the state of North Carolina. [Read his obituary.](#)

Memorial arrangements are as follows: Visitation is Tuesday, Feb. 8, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Wilson's Mills Baptist Church, [652 Swift Creek Road](#), Smithfield. The funeral service is Wednesday, Feb. 9, at 11:00 a.m. at the same location. Burial with fire department honors follows at Knollwood Memorial Cemetery.

Tuesday, Feb. 8 update. For tomorrow's funeral, any agency sending apparatus (Fire/Rescue, EMS, Law Enforcement, etc) must report to Level I Staging which at the NCDOT Equipment Yard located at [2861 US Highway 70 West](#), Smithfield, NC, 27577. The staging area will be opened at 0900 hours and further instructions will be given by the Staging Officer.

Also, [Firehouse.com is reporting](#) Chief Barbour's passing as a line-of-duty death. He suffered an apparent heart attack on January 30, the following day and within 24 hours after responding to a woods fire. See also this [USFA fatality notice](#).



Firehouse.com photo

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Chief Barbour.

Charlie - 02/05/11 - 23:42

RIP Chief, thoughts and prayers to the brothers at Wilson's Mills

ALFD Car6 - 02/06/11 - 11:30

funeral plans for Chief Barbour are as follows : Funeral services will be conducted at 11 AM, Wednesday, in the Wilson's Mills Baptist Church. Burial, with Fire Department Honors, will follow in Knollwood Memorial Cemetery.

Read more: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/newsobs..>

1969 Ford C/Ward LaFrance Command Tower

02/06/11 89 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Last week we were discussing [Ward LaFrance command towers](#). A couple served in North Carolina, including this 1969 Ford C/Ward LaFrance 1000/500/22-foot that Andrew Messer photographed. This picture is available in this collection of [Western North Carolina apparatus pictures](#). (And that is one sweet collection of pictures, let me tell you!) The truck served Boone FD, then Deep Gap FD also in Watagua County, then Collettsville FD in Caldwell County for a brief period. Click to see larger version:



Andrew Messer photo

Say what you want...the Ford C series made a good looking fire truck.

DJ - 02/06/11 - 17:18

think they could get that monitor mounted any higher?

ab - 02/07/11 - 09:53

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Train Horns For Fire Apparatus

02/07/11 38 W - + 9 - 4

From the [Carolinas Fire Page mailing list](#), here's your video of the day. Granville Fire Department in West Virginia. Train horns for fire apparatus. Also posted on [The Fire Critic](#). Wow.

not the first to do this by any means (and a great idea in my opinion).

<http://www.shrewsburyfire.com/rescue61.p..>

and videos on youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/shrewsburyfi..>

Shrewsbury is using a much higher quality Nathan Air Chime

shevais - 02/07/11 - 22:50

Ha the best part of the vid was the front of the ladder..."Cancel the engine."

Zack A - 02/08/11 - 13:03

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

House Boat Burns in Carteret County

02/09/11 141 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

That's a reader photo from the *Carteret County News-Times*, as found by FireNews. Don't see that terribly often around here. Nine fire departments responded to the fire in the Core Creek community, including a haz-mat unit from Otway. Read the [Times article](#) or the [FireNews story](#).

Why are we linking to both versions of the same story? That's easy. Each site has its own comments section. Just linking to one means you might miss interesting conversation on the other. (And not everyone thinks to click through from FireNews to the originating story site.)

And while we're on the subject, note that FireNews has upgraded their commenting technology. It's easier to leave comments across the site. There's also a new interface being tested on the **Headlines** stories, to the upper-right. Try it out!



News-Times photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Durham Helmet Cam Action

02/09/11 69 W - + 9 - 1

[Statter911 found and blogged about](#) this YouTube footage from a house fire Monday morning at [2814 Crest Street](#) in Durham. Engine 2, Engine 10, Engine 11, Ladder 2, Ladder 11, Squad 2, Battalion 2, and other units. Haven't seen a lot of helmet cam action around here. Does it get posted fairly frequently (for Durham or elsewhere), or is this a rare treat? (At least, among those departments that permit same.)

There hasn't been a lot of usage or posting of helmet camera footage, or even regular video camera footage in the area. Some department policies forbid the use of these devices, while those that do permit them – their members either don't have them, or if they do, may forget to turn them on when responding to a scene.

With all of the fear of liability and privacy, it's hard to find good footage, however in my opinion, it can be a great training aid if applied properly.

A.S. Meier - 02/09/11 - 09:04

There are more videos, including helmet camera footage, on the unofficial DFD website. <http://www.durhamfire.net>

Durhamfire.net - 02/09/11 - 14:31

I have used one from time to time and I discovered that I do a lot of boring stuff and look at the ground a lot, that does not make for exciting video.

helmet cam user - 02/09/11 - 17:56

helmet cam user = Silver's other screen name. LOL. I would have to agree that a video of the ground outside the Northway Ct. firehouse would be a bit boring to watch.

RescueRanger - 02/09/11 - 21:39

Wrong my friend....I had one, and didn't post any footage on _____ (insert site here). I'm not here for the "look at me, look at me" factor. They're a great training tool, and I wish a policy would be put in place to allow them. Review them as a crew post fire and critique it. No posting allowed on any sites, and if you do, HOLD THE INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABLE.

The few fires I caught with mine in operation (when allowed), I cared less about producing a decent video. Lots of shaking cam stuff, looking at the sky, ground, left, right, high and low (and all over again). I caught a few clips of good venting practices and ground ladder placement, but all in all, I had a job to do and if it caught good footage, then so be it. If not, oh well.

Yet another instance that proves we are our own worst enemies...

Silver - 02/09/11 - 21:57

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Stimulus Grants A Success At Local Fire Stations

02/09/11 156 W - + 6 - 2

Press release. A simple idea with strong environmental implications was the focus of today's press conference at Fire Station #6 at 2601 Fairview Road. The City of Raleigh, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources highlighted one of the benefits and success stories from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The focus of the event was the benefits and simplicity of a cistern system installed at nine Raleigh area fire stations and a Wake County EMS Station and the Willow Springs Fire Station. The project, paid for almost entirely with grants from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and a grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, installed a system of cisterns to harvest rainwater from the roofs of the stations. The cisterns are capable of collecting more than 4,000 gallons of rainwater at each location. [Read entire press release.](#)

I thought the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's purpose was to put Americans back to work? I guess the cistern jobs maybe kept a small business alive even though the installers which were also the owners of the business said they were swamped with business but had to put the other jobs on hold since the cistern contract was paying so much. I guess the city can consider these jobs a success since now the city has new energy-conserving equipment that was paid for by the entire nation. Seems like a scam of the system to me. I know I'd probably go to jail if I came up with a scheme like that.

RescueRanger - 02/09/11 - 21:35

The creation of jobs is just one area that the ARRA grants focus. They also fund improvements in education, building roads, public transportation, criminal justice, health care, environmental improvement and preservation. In this case, the cisterns fall in the latter.

AP - 02/09/11 - 22:38

Stimulus funding is also being used to install 12 solar collectors at four fire stations. From: <http://www.raleighnc.gov/home/content/Pu..>

"Solar Thermal Water Heating (\$150,000) – Funding is for installation of 12 solar collectors at four City of Raleigh fire stations. Use of the solar collectors will reduce energy costs and dependence on fossil fuel for water heating the fire stations' domestic hot water. It is estimated that more than 20 metric tons of carbon dioxide will be reduced annually. Sundance Power Systems has tentatively been awarded a contract for the solar collector installation, pending final approval."

As well as efficient lighting at 12 fire stations...

"Government Buildings Lighting Efficiency Improvements (\$500,000) – Fund is for retrofitting interior lighting with more energy efficient lighting at the City's One Exchange Plaza building (formerly 219 Fayetteville St.) and at 12 City fire stations. Energy savings from the project are estimated at 40 percent. Pinnacle Lighting Contractors has been issued a contract for the One Exchange Plaza lighting and Gaylor Inc. has been awarded the contract for lighting at the fire stations. Design review is currently under way, with retrofitting for both projects scheduled to begin in March. Completion will be in the summer."

Legeros - 02/10/11 - 06:56

Seems to me that funding solar panels to power entire fire stations would be better use of the money rather than collecting rainwater. It's better as the systems, if installed and used properly with conservation-minded staff efforts (turning off lights, etc.) end up putting energy back into the grid. Do the systems pay off over time? The jury is still out, to a point. But it's a far better venture, in my mind, to conserve electricity rather than collect rainwater. Of course, I'm guessing the cisterns are meant to use rainwater to irrigate and perhaps wash apparatus? A good idea, but still a little off the mark. But at least the city recognizes the need and is taking baby steps in the right direction. Just my opinion.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/10/11 - 10:18

Code 3 Collectibles FDNY Engine 63

02/10/11 150 W, 1 I - + 10 - 9

It's been a while since I have bought a [Code 3 Collectibles](#) model. Maybe two years, maybe three. Their last couple dozen releases haven't exactly had me reaching for my wallet. Even their long-awaited American LaFrance 900 Series tiller tooling, issued late last year, was a no sale. Thus my excitement over the latest addition to the man cave model collection, this 1:64 scale replica of a Seagrave Maurader II engine lettered for [FDNY Engine 63](#).

Really, really good detail on the piece. And a half-cab that actually (though minimally) tilts! Could this be a sign that better days (or, at least, better releases) are coming for Code 3? We can hope. Next in the release schedule is a Seagrave Marauder II aerial platform. That one should be a beauty, too. Visit the [Code 3 web site](#) for more pictures. Bought mine through [Past-Time Hobbies](#).



Pretty cool! I have not added a Code 3 in about 6 years. Maybe time to start back. Maybe not. We'll see.

DJ - 02/10/11 - 14:15

You have a PDF file showing an "Orange County, FL" engine company. It is California FYI and located in Mission Viejo, CA. Engine 9 was numbered 9109 back when OCFD was distinguished from other departments as Station 91.

Rocco DiFrancesco ([Email](#)) - 06/15/15 - 18:13

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

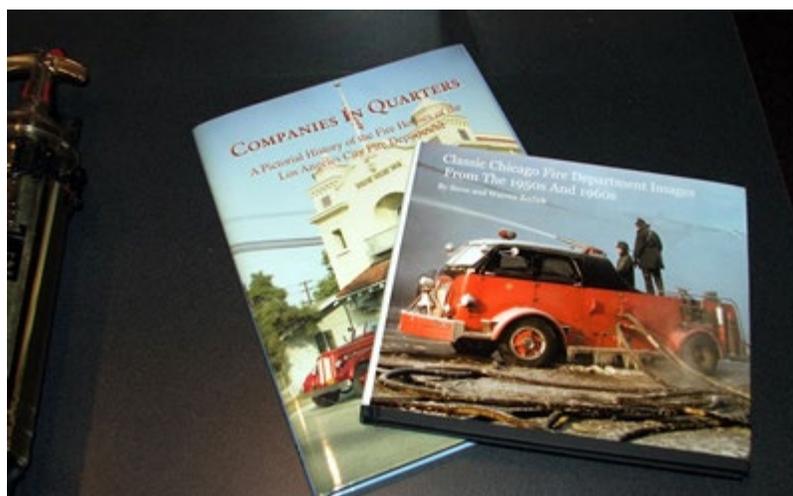
Book Report

02/11/11 236 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Couple books to report about. From [M.T. Publishing](#) comes a second volume by the Los Angeles Fire Department Historical Society. *Companies in Quarters: A Pictorial History of the Fire Houses of the Los Angeles City Fire Department*. [Here are product details](#). Hardcover, over 200 pages. Section of color photos. Features pictures of all 106 current LAFD stations, and over 120 former engine houses. Entire section in fact on bungalow-style stations, which were popular early in the last century. If you're a fool for old firehouses (is that one word or two words?), this one's worth a look.

Next is a print-on-demand book published by [Blurb](#). This one's called *Classic Chicago Fire Department Images from the 1950s and 1960s*. [Here are product details and a preview](#). The authors are Steve Redick and Warren Redick, veteran son and father fire photographers from the Windy City. We [blogged about](#) their old photos before, which are found on Steve's web site. Here's the [historical section](#).

The book is available in three formats, with soft- or hardcover options. The picture quality is very good. The color images-- many presumably scanned from 35mm slides-- leap from the page. And it passes the proof of concept test for Yours Truly, who has wondered just how well photos reproduce using some of these self-publishing services. Might be time to try a collection of my own incident photos...



Would similar book projects be on tap for the RFD Historical Society down the road?

Emily - 02/11/11 - 20:46

There are plans to create a commemorative history book for fire department's 100th anniversary as a paid department in 2012, which will involve RFDHS, for starters. I also have a couple ideas brewing for bound historical matter. Catch me in person to hear more.

Legeros - 02/12/11 - 08:51

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

More Books

02/12/11 89 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

Speaking of reading, here's a peek at the personal library of Mr. Blogger. This is one of several shelves in Mike's man cave. There are many more around the entire house. (The peril of being married to another avid reader.) Subject matter shown in these two pictures includes fire departments, fire apparatus, fire stations, fire alarm systems, FDNY badges, Chicago firehouses, Baltimore apparatus, Japanese fire engines, general firefighting history, general architecture, and maybe a graphic novel or two. Click **once or twice** to greatly enlarge:



Yeah...I am hoping to build my collection up some more. I had a really good collection, but a couple of moves and a divorce thinned it out some (actually, a lot). Centerpiece of my fire/EMS collection is my autographed 'Fire Command'. Then of course there is my original EMT text-
Emergency Care, 1st ed.

DJ - 02/12/11 - 10:31

Y'all really don't want to see my Stephen King collection :))

Over the years I have spent waaaay too much money at The Readers Corner on Hillsborough St.

I have also acquired a Kindle 2 that goes with me everywhere with about 90 books loaded onto it.

Rik Rasmussen in Durham convinced me to read War and Peace so I am reading that alongside about 5 other books.

Add in my Monitoring Times Magazine collection from the last 20 years. Oy Vey.

Attention Deficit Disorder FTW! :))

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/12/11 - 15:21

Any Firefight er/ing Graphic Novels out there?

Jake T. - 02/12/11 - 16:51

I love seeing bookshelves of avid readers and especially firebuffs/enthusiasts. One curious item in the left shelf photo – I also own the Zurier/Bounds tome on the American Firehouse. My edition is copyright 1982. It looks like the spine of your edition is just title "The Firehouse." What is the copyright of this edition? I also own a hardback. Interesting that they had different titles per edition. The Zurier book is brilliant. We're due for another massive history of the American Firehouse – who wants to team up to write one?

-Trevor

Trevor James ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/12/11 - 20:12

Ah – I see in the 2nd photo that it's an edition published by Artabras. The edition I have is published by Abbeville Press. Here's some research/info on your edition: http://isbndb.com/d/book/the_firehouse.h... Looks like it was reissued in 1991. Very cool.

-Trevor

Trevor James ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/12/11 - 20:15

Researching an Oxford Fallen Firefighter From 1935

02/13/11 338 W - + 6 - 2

This morning's pre-breakfast activity is augmenting my fallen firefighter records. My data was last collected in 2007, with research in public records and other sources. Everything was passed along to the [North Carolina Fallen Firefighter's Foundation](#), to help their records. My [history site](#) database is out of date, and I am slowly working on an updated version. (Do a little research, then work on the other dozen-plus fire department projects on my plate.)

One old-new fallen firefighter is Scott Burwell, a member of the [Oxford Fire Department](#) and who died March 15, 1935. Source is the NCFFF web site for those but no other details. The best source for additional data is the death certificate, but that requires a physical visit to [Olivia Raney Local History Library](#) and either microfilm or their subscription to [Ancestry.com](#). There is pretty good death information on the [Family Search web site](#), including many of the data fields included in death certificates.

Search Family Search for Scott Burwell who died in Oxford, NC, in 1935, and no matching results return. Searching for any Burwell finds William Manor Burwell, who died in Oxford on that date. Sounds like a potential match. His race is listed as black. Ding goes the idea bell and next checked is my annotated copy of [Early Black Firefighters of North Carolina](#). In the Oxford section, Scott Burwell is listed as a member of the town's colored fire company.

His cause of death is noted, fell from the running board while responding to a fire and died of his injuries. Its source is a historical article from the newspaper in 2005. That tells me that even the fire department itself probably lists the name "Scott" in their records. Is William Manor Burwell, age 50, also Scott Burwell? Next step will be the death certificate, at the next opportune time to visit the library. More later, and perhaps even a discussion of the ethics of presenting such historical records on firefighter fatalities.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Far from Afar

02/13/11 45 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Another one of the day's working fires, this one on Bladen Street in downtown Raleigh. And another smoke plume, this one reported by Ladder 4 as it was nearing Fayetteville Street. After-the-fact photos from Legeros forthcoming.



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.

Hosed, Episode 2

02/13/11 34 W - + 8 - 0

Bar room sequence and with a bit of language not appropriate for sensitive ears. Probably won't generate the same sort of discussion as the first episode. Happy early Valentine's Day...

Funny, but not quite as funny as the first. But it SO mirrors my love life prior to my nuptials. And by "mirror", I mean that it was the exact opposite of what usually happened to me.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/14/11 - 11:28

Am I the only one that caught the crazy guy with the Hawaiian shirt at the end!?!?  Mikey, you made it to the bigtime!!

Silver - 02/15/11 - 01:11

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'?

Red Flag Warning For Today's Weather

02/14/11 130 W - + 7 - 5

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN RALEIGH HAS ISSUED A RED FLAG WARNING...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 10 AM THIS MORNING TO 9 PM EST THIS EVENING. THE FIRE WEATHER WATCH IS NO LONGER IN EFFECT.

SOUTHWEST TO WEST WINDS AT 15 TO 25 MPH ARE EXPECTED TO GUST BETWEEN 32 TO 40 MPH TODAY. THE STRONGEST WINDS WILL OCCUR BETWEEN 2 PM AND 8 PM. THESE STRONG WINDS COMBINED WITH LOW HUMIDITY AND VERY DRY TREE AND LEAF LITTER WILL POSE A RISK FOR EXPLOSIVE FIRE GROWTH. ANY FIRES THAT OCCUR WILL QUICKLY SPREAD AND GROW OUT OF CONTROL. FIRES MAY BE EASILY IGNITED BY SPARKS OR BY DISCARDED SMOKING MATERIALS.

PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO POSTPONE ANY BURNING UNTIL TUESDAY...AND TO PROPERLY EXTINGUISH ALL SMOKING MATERIALS.

[Read entire weather statement](#)

Assorted news reports from yesterday...

NBC17, including a Raleigh brush fire on Atkins Drives, seven crews to extinguish, took an hour, one firefighter injured with sprained back. Also Fuquay-Varina brush fire, took two hours to control, with four to five acres burned, <http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2011/feb/14/8..>

WRAL, about the Fuquay-Varina fire as well as the brush fire that closed Interstate 40 in Orange County, <http://www.wral.com/weather/story/911063..>

WTVD, with aerial photos of the brush fire that closed I-40, <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/gallery?sect..>

Legeros - 02/15/11 - 08:24

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 Neck Vampire Warning For Today

02/14/11 167 W - + 6 - 2

The National Center for Undead Tracking (NCUT) has issued a vampire warning for the Raleigh-Durham metropolitan area. They cite news reports of unusual activity related to neck biting as well as individuals claiming to be the Count himself.

[The News & Observer](#) reports today on a Morrisville man charged Sunday with assault, after biting another man on the neck with sufficient force to rip a portion of flesh away. He claimed to be a lay preacher, though any aversion to religion symbols was not reported.

[NBC17 last week also reported](#) that Durham man repeated called 911 for non-emergency reasons, and was hearing identifying himself as Dracula. He was arrested and charged with misusing the emergency telephone system. No information was provided on any Transylvanian heritage, however.

NCUT is particularly concerned about activity today, February 14. They have issued a particular warning for young women, who may find themselves bitten on the neck by their young male companions during the course of Valentine's Day.

That goes along with the WRAL.com story I saw yesterday about a 15 year-old girl who claimed she had been sexually assaulted to cover up for bite marks she had from a vampire fantasy encounter with a 19 year-old man. She apparently cried "wolf" b/c she was afraid her mother would see the marks. And yes, they were role-playing from the stupid "Twilight" series. Really, people? Get a life.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 02/14/11 - 09:20

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.

Charlotte Plane Crash Press Photo, 1974

02/15/11 117 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

[Unusual item for sale on eBay](#), press photo from the September 11, 1974 plane crash in Charlotte of Eastern Air Lines Flight 212. [We've blogged about that incident before](#), after finding an Hose & Nozzle article on same. The fatalities totaled 71 of the 82 souls aboard. And what is the origin of the phrase "souls on board?" That's a holdover from maritime tradition. [Here's a discussion thread](#) on same. Key quote: "Ships required a term that comprehensively covered everyone who could possibly be on board, in whatever capacity: the officers, the crew, the crew's families, the supercargo, the passengers, the local pilot, native bumboatwomen, etc."



Back in my RDU days, one of the pilots I knew with one of the smaller airlines said 'souls on board' meant 'live' persons, i.e. no one in a casket was included. I don't know if there was any truth to it, but that meaning has always stuck with me.

DJ - 02/15/11 - 15:33

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Garner Fire Department's First Annual Relay For Life Golf Tournament, Saturday, March 26 02/16/11 145 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

On Saturday, March 26, the Garner Fire Department hosts its First Annual Relay For Life Golf Tournament at Pine Hollow Golf Course, [3300 E. Garner Road](#), Clayton, NC. The Captain's choice superbowl tournament will raise money for the American Cancer Society's [Relay For Life](#). The shotgun start is 12:00 p.m. Come early for a complimentary lunch a putting contest that starts at 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$70 per golfer and includes green and cart fees, range balls, lunch and a BBQ chicken, raffle, tournament champion prizes, and Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, and Hole in One contests. [Visit this web page](#) for registration and sponsorship forms. Team slots are limited, to register as soon as possible! Fore! For more information, contact Ronnie Correia at rcorreia@garnerfire.com.



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Flyer For Public Safety RAPS Race on Friday, April 8

02/16/11 25 W, 2 I - + 5 - 6

Click to [view this PDF flyer](#)  for the public safety RAPS race on Friday, April 8:



**Are you a cop?
A paramedic?
A firefighter?
A telecommunicator?**

Enter your team in
Raleigh Area Public Safety Racing League's
RAPS Race

A 90 minute endurance kart race for public safety professionals at
Rush Hour Karting in Garner.

Bring a team of 4 drivers from your public safety agency
Entry fee only \$150 per team

Face car driven by
Sheriff Donnie Harrison

Official Starter
Raleigh Police Chief Harry Dolan

Fri. April 8
Contact Jeff : pio@wakeems.com

	Practice and Qualifying 3:00 pm 90 Minute Endurance Race 6:00 pm Rush Hour Karting 5335 Raynor Rd. off Hwy 70 Garner RapsRacing.com RushHourKarting.com
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Italian Firefighting Action

02/17/11 70 W - + 4 - 3

From [this updated Firegeezer story](#) comes this well-shot video of a food distribution warehouse fire in Caldierino, Verona, Italy. The eight-minute video includes quite a few apparatus shots, including what looks like an Iveco/Magirus Dragon airport crash truck being utilized as a master stream. And those typically lean ladder trucks. No ground ladders or equipment racks on those things! Some interior footage as well.

Mike, this is not an Iveco-Magirus Dragon. If you take a close look at the monitor, it reads "BAI". That 's for Brescia Antincendi International. The crash tender appears to be a "Striker" model, which is built in cooperation with Oshkosh. See also: <http://www.bai.it>

thomas - 02/17/11 - 09:55

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North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Database Updated

02/17/11 121 W - + 7 - 3

Speaking of historical information, Yours Truly has updated his [North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Database](#) this week. First and foremost, the information should not be considered an official representation of any fallen firefighters organization. The data has been compiled from multiple sources (NCFFF, NFFF, NCDIOI, USFA, etc.) and includes quite a bit of expanded information from death certificates before 1976. Such as full names, birth dates, burial information, gender, and race. No photos at this time, however. The database is strictly text. The descriptions of the fatal incidents are also relatively brief, and not intended as extended narratives. [View the database](#), and also see this [historical article on North Carolina fallen firefighters](#) from a few years back.

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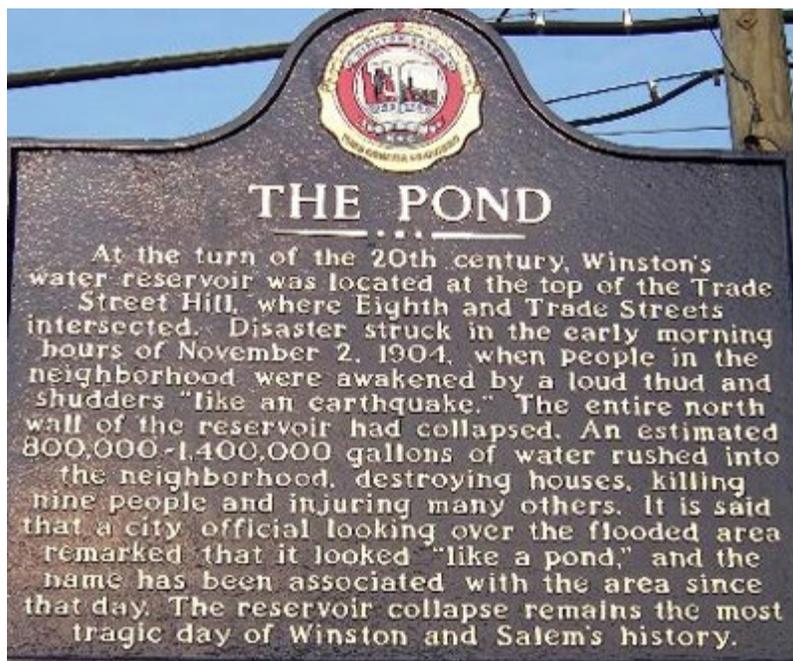
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Winston Reservoir Collapse Kills 9, 1904

02/17/11 61 W, 1 I - + 12 - 2

Speaking of disasters of yore, this historical marker tells the story of Winston's water reservoir, which collapsed early on the morning of November 2, 1904. That's a decade before Winston merged with Salem. Around a million gallons of water destroyed homes, drowned nine people, and injured many others. [Read this GenDisasters account.](#)



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Falls/Wake Forest Merger Again on the Table

02/18/11 107 W - + 8 - 7

The [Wake Forest Gazette this week](#) reports on the status of the merger of the Falls Fire Department with the Wake Forest Fire Department. Discussions are still underway between the two departments, reports the *Gazette*, and they are developing a timeline to see if the merger can be made to happen. Factors include the county's desire to close the Falls fire station, the need for that territory to be covered in the event of station closure, and the absence of hydrants in areas of the Falls fire district. [Read the story](#). Or see the earlier [Gazette story on same](#).

their are benefits such as the former falls district would have a ladder truck available to respond quicker if needed. Wake forest would have apparatus for a fourth station should they demolish falls station for widening of falls of neuse rd. downside would be that some areas of falls district might have longer response times due to Raleigh, Wake Forest, Stony hill, and Bay leaf having new territory to cover.

Charlie - 02/18/11 - 19:24

Falls FD is going to eventually cease to exist anyway...whether they merge with WF or get overtaken by Raleigh.

Northside FF - 02/19/11 - 09:12

The benefit of a ladder being able to respond more quickly is a moot point. Falls can have it added to the run card now and it will get enroute just as soon as a Falls eng or even quicker if they don't have a duty crew

Mike - 02/19/11 - 10:26

I think you mean a moot point.

guy - 02/19/11 - 14:55

Thanks webster

Mike - 02/19/11 - 18:26

And if anyone actually cared to look. Falls is and has been running their wheels off for the last year. Both district and mutual aid. Closing the station makes little sense to me when they are as busy as they are.

Just my 2 cents - 02/22/11 - 17:37

the "county" does not count ANY calls that are mutual aid or auto aid in your run totals when dealing with closing a station... and that's a fact.

for what it's worth - 02/22/11 - 18:51

@Just my 2 cents: what exactly is your definition of "running their wheels off"?

JK - 02/22/11 - 21:35

being a member of another dept that is NOT on the closure list and had FEWER calls than Falls did. They have run numbers of 3 calls per day on AVERAGE. Last Friday they ran 11 calls. A first in house fire and 2 pin in 10-50's a few days before that. that has been the trend now for more than 8 months. So while not a Raleigh Station 1 or 3 in volume. They numbers are significantly more substantial than anyone on the closing committee wants to give them credit for.

Just my 2 cents - 02/24/11 - 14:58

@2cent: The problem with Falls is all the calls have been with the city or mutual aid as previously stated. If you look at their runs in the little territory they have you'll find they run about 20 calls a year.

RescueRanger - 02/24/11 - 15:28

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Yes

Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation Golf Tournmanet, March 28

02/20/11 142 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

[This week's Midtown Raleigh News](#) reported that registration is underway for the second-annual Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation Golf Tournament on March 28 at North Ridge Country Club. Proceeds will help raise the estimated \$250,000 needed to erect a memorial for fallen members of the Raleigh Police Department. Photos of the fallen officers are also displayed at the event, on signs at the tees. [See photos from last year](#). The article also talks about the foundation and its origin, which began several years ago when Raleigh officers were participating in the Road to Hope bike ride from Virginia Beach to Washington, D.C. To register for the tournament, to learn more about the foundation, and to remember those who died in the line of duty, visit the web site rpdmemorial.org.



Great tournament! Last year FD team did very well, lots of prizes and a chance to play at north ridge!

Jason Lane - 02/20/11 - 23:38

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Mystery Chevrons

02/20/11 29 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Seen outside a fire station today and one that's not terribly difficult to identify. Now that's one compliant cargo trailer!



It's located at Bay Leaf #2.

DJ - 02/20/11 - 18:55

Jimmy Mac finally made the big time!! And its a toboggan, not a wool cap! Love ya, mean it.

AP - 02/20/11 - 19:58

LOL Adam. I guess Jimmy hasnt learned that a toboggan is not a sled yet!

gen3fire - 02/20/11 - 20:56

That dang Webster musta' been a Yankee....

Toboggan = a sled with the curved front.

Wool cap, skull cap, knit hat = something you wear to keep your head warm!

Silver - 02/20/11 - 21:25

"3 chiefly Southern & Midland : stocking cap " Webster might have been a yankee be even he knew that once you moved south, a toboggan is a stocking cap. From Webster dictionary online.

gen3fire - 02/20/11 - 23:34

Hahahahahahaha....

Silver - 02/20/11 - 23:35

Name: (real name preferred)

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North Carolina Counties to Get Updated Aerial Photos to Aid 911 Response

02/22/11 113 W - + 5 - 6

[FireNews finds this News & Observer story](#) about a \$12.3 million grant awarded to the city of Durham, which was applied for on behalf all 100 counties in the state, so their emergency communications centers can receive updated high-resolute color aerial photos of its county and surrounding counties. The updated imagery both unifies and replaces the patchwork of images that differ by year of creation, level of public access, and image quality. Durham and Orange counties received their new images last week. Wake and Johnston counties get theirs next month. Sounds super-cool. Can't wait to pay a visit, and see the imagery in action.

A new feature that's new to me is the updated iMaps page on Wake County real estate page. You can now see aerial imagery from multiple years that dates back to 1981! Just go to the page, click on "aerial", and select the year.

<http://maps.raleighnc.gov/imapsraleigh/i..>

RescueRanger - 02/22/11 - 10:26

We've actually had Pictometry up and running since sometime last year and it's a good tool when used for the appropriate situations. At this point it's not something we turn to on every call, but helpful when it's needed.

RWECC - 02/22/11 - 21:41

And what does Pictometry offer that you can't see with Google Earth and Streetview?

Driver2310 - 02/23/11 - 09:33

From my experience, Pictometry provides higher resolution than Google Earth and more perspectives than Street View. It also synchs up with the street center lines of the databases used by municipalities for mapping and interfaces with CAD. Because it runs in-house there is no exposure to malware, viruses, etc. that would be had with any Internet based solution. I know some agencies that do use web-based services such as Mapquest to provide directions to first responders, but typically these apps are not designed to integrate with other public safety applications. Just this week folks in Australia had some significant issues with viruses, so the more we can keep technology behind the firewall the better.

RWECC - 02/23/11 - 18:28

There are enterprise versions of Google Earth and such that would probably work well too. They also come with technical support should there be problems. If there really is a concern of viruses, I don't think using a whitelist and allowing only the map server would pose any risk at all. I'll agree that perhaps having to have a constant internet connection may not be the most reliable, but I bet theres a way to increase the map cache size so the majority (if not all) of the county is stored on the computer. In terms of interoperability my guess is that CAD is probably capable of XML style output and with a little work could easily interface with something like Google Earth for the times when the folks at the ECC need it.

Joey - 02/23/11 - 21:24

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No

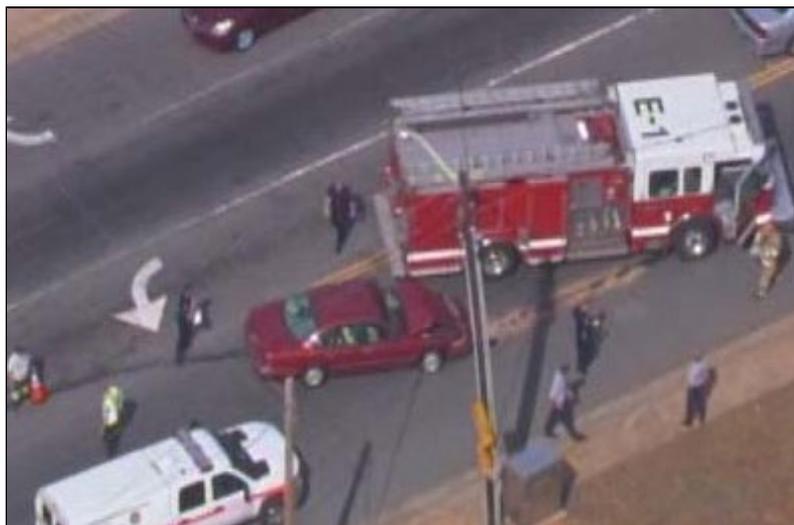
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Charlotte Engine Collides with Car

02/22/11 62 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

[As this WCNC story reports](#), Charlotte Engine 1 collided with a car this afternoon at the intersection of North Davidson Street and Parkwood Avenue. It was responding to the two-alarm condo fire on Donatello Avenue. [Read this Charlotte Observer story](#) about that fire. The person in the automobile was treated at the scene, and transported.



WCNC photo

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Burke County Fire* « **Charlotte Engine Coll...** » **This Morning's Two Al...**
Apparatus Accident

Burke County Fire Apparatus Accident

02/23/11 69 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

[This Morganton News Herald article](#) reports on Tuesday's apparatus accident in Burke County, when a West End Fire Department unit overturned on Dysartsville Road while responding to a reported structure fire about 2:30 p.m. Firefighter Donald Hughes was injured, suffering leg fractures and broken ribs. He was transported to Grace Hospital, and airlifted to Charlotte. The 2000 International fire engine was totaled.



WSCO-TV photo

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This Morning's Two Alarms / Hoyle Drive

02/23/11 140 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

Two alarms at [4716 Hoyle Drive](#). Battalion 1 arriving with heavy smoke and flames showing from the rear of a two-story, wood-frame townhome building with 7,804 square-feet. Built 1983. Engine 19 first engine on scene, with crews going inside structure. Dispatched 6:49 a.m. Controlled 7:18 p.m. One unit rendered uninhabitable. Other units with smoke damage. Eighteen residents impacted. Cause under investigation Also reported as house fire on Presley Court off Hargrove Road. Units dispatched to second fire utilized as second alarm assignment. First alarm: E19, E15, E11, L2, R1, B1. Second alarm/Hargrove Road: E27, E21, E22, L5, R2, B2. Working fire: E__, A1, C10, C20, C40. Other: C2, C4. Medical: EMS 2, EMS 3, EMS 15, EMS 121, EMS 7, D4, D1, M92, T1. Few more details forthcoming, notably medical units on scene. Plus late-arriving pics from Legeros.



WTVD photo

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

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One Meridian Plaza - Twenty Years Later

02/24/11 704 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Yesterday was the twentieth anniversary of the One Meridian Plaza fire in Philadelphia that killed three firefighters on February 23, 1991. The twelve-alarm (!) blaze in the 38-story high-rise office building changed the way such fires were fought. The fire started on the 22nd floor and burned out of control for hours, until it reached the sprinklers on the 30th floor. It destroyed eight floors, and damaged neighboring buildings.



During the second hour of the fire, as it spread onto the 23rd and 24th floor, Captain David P. Holcombe, Firefighter Phyllis McAllister, and Firefighter James A. Chappell from Engine 11 were assigned to ventilate the stairwell at the top level. They entered a center staircase from the 22nd floor, and soon reported they were disoriented by heavy smoke on the 30th floor.

They reported their distress and broke a window for ventilation, search teams were sent to that floor, and did not locate the crew. That team moved to upper floors, and became disoriented and required rescue. Hours later, the team from Engine 11 was found, all unconscious and out of air. They could be not be resuscitated.

That's a condensed summary of some of what happened. Here are some links to learn more about the incident, its impact, and the building itself, which was demolished years later. At the time it was destroyed, it was the world's third tallest building to be demolished:

- [CBS Philly - Anniversary Article](#)
- [Failures - One Meridian Plaza](#)
- [ikilm - Analysis of Fire](#)
- [Wikipedia - One Meridian Plaza](#)

And this week in the Firehouse.com forums, user FWDbuff posted this run card for the incident:

Saturday, February 23, 1991, "A", "D" Platoons, F.C.C. Platoon 2, 4, 1

8:27 P.M. - Box 495 - 15th & Chestnut Streets
 Sq.43, Engine 1, 20(LDH), 11, Ladder 9, Snorkel 5, B.C. 5,4

8:29 P.M. - Special Call, b/o FCC - Medic 7

8:34 P.M. - 2nd Alarm, b/o B.C.5

Sq.8, Engine 10, 24, 44, 13(LC), Ladder 23, B.C.3(LO),11

8:37 P.M. - Special Call, b/o FCC - Medic 13, D.C.1, Air Unit 2

8:39 P.M. - Special Call, b/o B.C. 5 - Ladder 1

8:47 P.M. - 3rd Alarm, b/o D.C.1

Engine 49(LDH), 40(LDH), 60, B.C.1

8:48 P.M. - Special Call, b/o FCC - Chemical 1, 2

8:56 P.M. - 4th Alarm, b/o D.C.1

Engine 5(LDH), 29, 16, 3(LDH), 34(LDH), Air Unit 1

8:58 P.M. - Special Call, b/o FCC - Snorkel 2

9:00 P.M. - Special Call, b/o FCC - Medic 21B

9:04 P.M. - Special Call, b/o FCC - B.C.8, Medic 25B

9:05 P.M. - 5th Alarm, b/o D.C.1

Engine 33, 27, 53, 25, Light Wagon 1 w/Ladder 11

9:55 P.M. - 6th Alarm, b/o Car 1

Engine 12, 22, 50(LDH), 59, Medic 3

10:00 P.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - ES-10

10:23 P.M. - 7th Alarm, b/o Car 1

Sq.57, Engine 63, 14, 28(LDH)

10:37 P.M. - 8th Alarm, b/o Car 1

Engine 61(LDH), Sq.9, Engine 56, 41, Medic 16, Car 6

10:53 P.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Pennstar Helicopter from H.U.P.

11:05 P.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Ladder 13

11:12 P.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Medic 1

11:30 P.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - B.C. 2, 10

12:01 A.M. - 9th Alarm, b/o Car 1

Engine 38, 66, 45, 68, Ladder 18, Tower Ladder 6

12:30 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - B.C.1102

12:33 A.M. - 10th Alarm, b/o Car 1

Engine 72, 18, 7, 2

12:41 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - D.C.1A

1:09 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Ladder 25

1:21 A.M. - 11th Alarm, b/o Car 1
Engine 71, 35, 103, 119

2:21 A.M. - 12th Alarm, b/o Car 1
Engine 125, 181, 36, 52(LDH)

3:13 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - B.C. 13, 9

3:21 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Medic 15

4:45 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Engine 180(LDH/FTA)

5:30 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Ladder 14, Rescue 1

5:32 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Medic 14

5:41 A.M. - Special Call, b/o Car 1 - Engine 19(LDH)

3:01 P.M. - Fire Under Control, b/o Car 1

Note: LDH = Large Diameter (5") Hose

Rescue 1 had not yet been reactivated as a full-duty company

Name: (real name preferred)
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Caption This Photo

02/24/11 42 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Scene from yesterday's two alarm fire on Hoyle Drive. And you know what the motorist is asking these guys... [See more photos](#) by Mike Legeros, taken maybe twenty minutes after units arrived.



Good stop "B". Anyone that was there, fill us in.....why don't we see any ground ladders thrown for egress for the interior crews?

Silver - 02/24/11 - 19:13

Survey said, "Is there a fire"

Rob Mitchell - 02/24/11 - 19:24

Show me a,"Whats going on?"

Jake T. - 02/24/11 - 19:29

Let me try "Can I get through here?"

DJ - 02/24/11 - 19:54

Don't forget the always popular "what's happening?"

Legeros - 02/24/11 - 20:03

As a cop, I find people ask less questions when I have my gas mask on.

rfburns - 02/24/11 - 21:16

@rfburns Do you wear it only at fire scenes or during each tour of duty? :) Cause that might provoke interesting interactions during vehicle stops...

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/24/11 - 21:37

Awesome job north side boys! E-19 pulled a 2 inch and cut that jocker off with the help of E 15 with another 2 inch! A lot citizens still inside the other condos, great evac by 15, Kick butt job by the L-2 boys opening it up inside, looked like a butt kicker when we arrived with fire showing out the roof. But again another great stop with some big cotton on the ground we kept it from burning the whole building and R-1 was there also! Be safe brothers proud to be part on the triangle!

Jason Lane - 02/24/11 - 23:37

Typical Driver Statement.....

Driver – “I live on this street, can I get to my house?”

FD Pointing – “Sure can, just pull up there and park the car and you can walk to your house.”

Middle FD – “Nah man, if he parks there then the truck company won’t be able to come in.”

FD Red Helmet – “Hey Capt., What’s his address...”

Driver – “Um... Ummm.... The white house...”

JM - 02/25/11 - 01:38

“Yes sir, if you just pull to lane 3 we will get that oil changed in a jiffy.”

ncff - 02/25/11 - 10:13

“Sir we come out once a week to different areas and park trucks with lights on just to see who the first dumba__ is to ask what we are doing. Guess what, you won.”

Years ago when we were vollies I actually had a buddy use that line on someone when we were on a call.

Scooter - 02/25/11 - 10:22

Scooter...that’s funny as \$h!t.

whocares - 02/25/11 - 10:26

“Are you guys with the Fire Department?”

Beach ([Email](#)) - 02/25/11 - 13:36

WOW Silver asking why there isn’t ground ladders,don’t think I have ever seen that on the site before. I hope one day Silver gets to fight fire so he can stop telling the rest of the RFD how they should have done it!!!!!!!!!!

Wishing I was Silver - 02/25/11 - 15:44

While there could be many reasons that there were no ladders visible in the photos: picture angle, already taken down, not thrown in the first place, and whatever else, I believe that it is a good subject to discuss on here. I am not trying to armchair QB anyone, but firefighter safety should be more of a concern than it has been to us in the past. We were just discussing the need for our aerial and ground ladders for firefighter egress during our last shift (at my non-RFD company), and we all agreed that it is sometimes overlooked for various reasons. We really should ask ourselves whether there is truly a reason to overlook our safety. Is it reasonable for me to tell someone’s family that we didn’t throw ladders because we "just didn’t have the manpower," or "thought it would be a quick knockdown," or whatever else supposedly surmounts our safety? It simply boils down to a culture change for all of us when it comes to throwing ladders. We need to get in the habit of looking out for ourselves as well as those that we are there to help. While it may seem like criticism to some, reviewing tactics on sites such as this one assist us all in becoming better firefighters, as we can view our mistakes through pictures and video. No fire is ever perfect, and we can always do things better and safer for the next time.

Bob P. - 02/25/11 - 17:18

Great stop by the crews!! The fire was controlled in roughly 15 mins. I wasnt there but looking at the pics, during that 15 mins. they had to pull 3, 2 inch lines (im pretty sure not all had full crews either) attack the fire, get a line into the attic, a backup line, search the primary apartment, search and evacuate several other apts, secondary search, set the aerial up for possible operations (which probably was the crew who has to also set up ground ladders and about 100 other things to get done also, I am also pretty confident that ladders were going to be thrown at any time but by the time more help arrived the fire was put out. Like i said, i wasnt there so i cant say for sure but it damn sure was a great stop and job by the crews there!

gen3fire - 02/25/11 - 18:56

First off, you could never be me, because you’re a punk.

Second, ummmm, yeah, not even the case. Just asking for a rundown from someone that was there, versus just posting something which amounts to drivel, as you did above.

Let me explain how things work son; Jason (who is man enough to post his name and have a discussion with fellow Brethren, all while not taking any offense) explained that a high life hazard and a ton of hook work dedicated the Rescue and Ladder to going interior. This is how justification is obtained, to say, beg and plead the “powers that be” to add extra units to a response or when a “working fire” is declared.

When you're a contributing member attempting to affect positive change (not just change for the sake of change), and constantly evaluating a new procedure/policy that you had a hand in writing, it doesn't hurt to ask questions to obtain valid information, which was the case here (possibly resulting in a review of some things). Had I posted anything which was an attempt at stirring the pot, I would have clearly taken the coward route, like yourself. But, I do have to look myself in the mirror so I tend to man-up (noticing some gray though, yikes!).

I think I'm going to become one of these computer tough guys, so I can sit behind a keyboard and get a jab in without recourse. Man, you really showed me!

Stay safe, thanks for speaking J'....

Silver - 02/25/11 - 19:58

Jeff, all you do on here is bash the way YOUR department does things or the way others do things while trying to make it look like you are just curious. Just worry about what you do when you are at work and not what the rest of the RFD does.

Wishing I Was Silver - 02/26/11 - 17:06

Wrong again tough guy....we didn't spend a year training and developing a policy to shrug things off and not review what we have in place. Don't worry, the 30%ers will handle it while you collect a paycheck (google Jake Rixner 30% b/c I know you have no idea). I have never gone on here saying "we need to do this because so and so does it". Everything we do is supported with fact and justification. If I were to come on here and constantly bash the place that I give 100% for, do you really think I would use my name? You're entitled to your opinion; right, wrong or indifferent. Keep resisting the culture change.....

Bobby P., you're spot on.....

Silver - 02/26/11 - 19:27

And another thing....what I DO do on here is give my opinion and stand behind what I believe, supported with fact, and not be scared (or mad) if someone asks a question to me, face to face. I contribute EVERY DAY when I'm at the firehouse, and I always try to think "what could I have done better" after any incident.

Maybe I'll try the way you're accustomed; pats on the back all the way around, then trash them as soon as they walk away. I'll be the first to say, it's better to ask someone that was there to fill us in then use some stupid, quirky name and bash/quarterback someone. It's obvious you've never worked beside me and already have a predetermined opinion.

I'm done with you...good day.

Silver - 02/26/11 - 20:05

Silver, don't waste your time...you'd have better luck talking to a wall! You have to consider the source and just feel sorry for them if they are that small-minded and visionless.

GH - 02/26/11 - 20:24

Let's keep this civil, gang. Passionate is great. Personal attacks, less so.

Don't make activate my Acme anti-ugliness filter. (Only works on tone, thank goodness, and not also looks. I wouldn't be able to post otherwise!!).

Legeros - 02/26/11 - 20:30

You're right GH, thanks...

Silver - 02/27/11 - 00:25

Jeff thanks for the passionate questions! Ok I will be brief! Just like anything else we train on, they are "tools for the tool box"! Yes a year of training our butts off on ladder ops we have learned allot and added some new stuff on how we operate on the fire ground. We didn't throw any ground ladders due to the high life safety (evac) of the citizens. I will not argue why or why not with anyone! Just like ground ladders our 2 inch attack lines are also tools on the rig! Engine boys opted to stretch a 2 versus the standard 1.5 inch; we (ladder and rescue) chose to go do a quick search and evac on the rest of the building since we had citizens in the other condos. When we saw our engine crews were putting the fire out with the 2 inch we moved on to open up the inside and assist them with the fire! We discussed this at the critique the other night and all of us were on the same page! Every fire is different and you take what you have learned in training weather new or in service to get the

job done! All citizens made it out safe, all firefighters went home safe and we stopped the fire from burning the whole dang building down! So I am also done with this one, for those that don't work with us or want to always Monday morning quarter back us all I will say is when you come on board and make white helmet at RFD, than you can micro manage the way we operate!! Anyway be safe brothers, buckle up it will save your life! By the way Jeff I have been on 13 working fires since I came to the rescue in July!

Jason Lane - 02/27/11 - 12:37

Hi J', thanks for this explanation. As you know, because you have been to some of the meetings, I am a believer in dealing with the fire you have going RIGHT NOW. While it is important to fill gaps for what might develop, if you put the fire out all the danger goes away. I am glad you posted because it confirmed what I thought and it is a reoccurring trend; high life hazard fires are going to require more "special service" units to get all of the necessary "truck work" done.

While I understand we can't get a second Ladder on all fires, because it would really be a statistical nightmare, it would be so helpful to give us one on the "working fire dispatch". Looking at the number of working fires for the past three years, it would only add an average of 169 runs in a year amongst the other Ladder Companies. When members are dedicated to the search, we need help getting the other stuff done (venting, ladders, utility control).

While vertical venting can be considered a "tool for the toolbox", throwing ground ladders for egress ranks up there with primary search and initial ventilation, as it is making the tireground "safer" for us, and gives us a quick way out if "it" hits the fan. Therefore, they MUST be deployed at every working incident, when members are working in the IDLH.

J, 13? Damn, you're lucky!!! I gotta get me one of those "fun" assignments!!!

Silver - 02/27/11 - 13:04

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'?

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

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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 - Garner Fire Department « [Caption This Photo](#) » [When is it Acceptable...](#)
Full-Time Firefighter Positions Available

Garner Fire Department Full-Time Firefighter Positions Available

02/24/11 161 W - + 7 - 6

Annual Salary: \$30,400.00

Job Description: Employee will work twenty-four (24) hours per day rotating shifts (A, B, C). Duties will include, but are not limited to, Fire Suppression, Hydrant Maintenance, Pre-fire Surveys, Equipment Maintenance, Fire Prevention Education, Maintenance of Building and Grounds, and some administrative duties assigned by the Chief.

Qualifications:

- Valid NC Class B Driver's License (within 12 months of employment)
- NC Firefighter Level II
- NC Rescue Technician (Preferred but not a prerequisite)
- NC EMT
- NC Haz-Mat Ops
- Blood Borne Pathogens Training
- NIMS 100, 200, 700, 800
- Current Hepatitis B Vaccination/or Declination Form
- TB Test within the past twelve (12) months/or Declination Form

How to Apply: Specific employment requirements for the job, benefits packet and application may be obtained from www.garnerfire.com or Garner Fire Station One (503 W. Main Street) Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Application must be completed and returned prior to Noon on Friday, March 18, 2011, to the attention of Deputy Chief Herman.

hi my name is brian kindle and i live in apex nc at the current moment and i just recently moved back to sanford nc about two years ago from sunset beach where i was a firefighter at. And the reason i had to move back to sanford was for some family problems and i want to get back into being a firefighter and my dreams has been always to be a career firefighter so i was wondering how i should go about put a application in with you guys at garner fire department.

Brian Kindle ([Email](#)) - 12/28/12 - 14:42

Brian we aren't currently hiring. I would just keep checking Garner's website <http://www.garnerfire.com>

Mike - 12/28/12 - 23:18

Fuquay is hiring 2. [fuquay-Varina.org](http://fuquay-varina.org)

DVD - 12/29/12 - 20:24

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Loud Graphics

02/27/11 40 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Saw this in Morehead City this weekend. Gives me ideas for other things. How about a rapid response vehicle for Yours Truly, done in a bright-colored tropical design? With hot pink chevrons, of course. Click to enlarge:



WOW! Umm...Not feeling it. Eastern NC has way to many medical transport companies.

Zack a - 02/28/11 - 09:54

Agree.

In Pitt County alone we have JAS, Care First, Med One, and Atlas who all run non E911 services. Plus East Care also has it's only non E911 division.

Steven ([Email](#)) - 02/28/11 - 12:11

I've noticed you have what the market will bear. A lot of times a new service will spring up because either employees or customers became disgruntled with the service(s) that existed. I don't know anything about the services referenced above or the one in the picture. But I do know what costs a service their market share. You have to be well managed, be on time, and have nice people. I've seen too many that could not/cannot catch on to those three tenants (and you HAVE to have ALL three).

DJ - 02/28/11 - 22:06

Ugg, I just threw up in my mouth a little bit. Looks too much like those moving billboards...

Joffre - 03/02/11 - 14:04

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Red and White and Green and Yellow

02/27/11 56 W, 4 I - + 6 - 4

How many fire stations do we pass, driving from Raleigh to Morehead City? Believe it's just seven...

1. El-Roy (Wayne)
2. Wyse Fork and pictured below (Jones)
3. Havelock #2 (Craven)
4. Township Six #2 and pictured below (Craven)
5. Havelock #1 (Craven)
6. Wildwood / Morehead City #3 (Carteret)
7. Morehead City #2 (Carteret).

We missing anyone? Click to enlarge:



I do like how the signage on the El-Roy station reads "El-Roy Firefighters".

RescueRanger - 02/27/11 - 20:13

That is a great sign. And helps minimize confusion with El-Roy Farmers, El-Roy Undertakers, El-Roy Affordable Denture Installers, etc.

Legeros - 02/27/11 - 20:35

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Future Home of Morehead City Station 2

02/28/11 456 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

Pictured is the future location of Morehead City Fire & EMS Station 2 at [4034 Arendell Street](#). That's the old News-Times building, a one-story structure with 6,690 square-feet. Built 1977. The structure has both bay space and an office area, the latter which will be converted to living quarters as well as the administrative offices for the fire and EMS departments. The building will also house a relocated satellite police station. The entire structure is planned for use, and without expanding the building's footprint. The property had been on the market for several years, and the town acquired same at a cost below market value.



Funding is being provided by the United States Department Agriculture, though what looks like a combination of a loan up to \$2.1 million and a grant of \$200,000. Early estimates placed the project costs at \$1.05 million for acquiring the land and \$1.3 million for renovation and site improvements. The architect for the renovation is C. R. Francis Architects of New Bern. Renovations are planned for completion this year. Moving the station will also lower the ISO rating for the town, from 5 to 4. (The location is more strategic, the town having developed in directions west and north of the original municipal boundaries.) The project was approved at a special meeting of the city council on November 22, 2010.

The current Station 2 is located at [3308 Arendell Street](#). It's a combination one- and two-story structure with 3,342 square-feet. Built in 1956, it's had additions including a bay extension in the rear and living quarters added on the west side. The station houses Engine 2, a quint, and a reserve pumper-tanker. The fireboat is also housed there, parked in the rear. The boat appears to be out of service, based on reading the below town minutes. The fire station sits on land owned by the Carteret County School System. If the city ceases using the building, the property reverts back to the schools.



Camp Glenn Elementary School is located beside the fire station. It's named after the National Guard camp on that site from 1911 to 1918, and was later the site of a Navy base and the first Coast Guard air station, 1920 to 1921. The first State Highway Patrol training school was also held at that location, at the site of the then-abandoned camp.

[See more photos of both buildings.](#)

Sources:

- [City Council Meeting Minutes, May 11, 2010](#)
- [City Council Meeting Minutes, June 8, 2010](#)
- [Morehead City Fire & EMS](#)
- [News-Times - City has more improvement plans ahead, January 5, 2011](#)
- [StoppingPoints.com - Camp Glenn](#)
- [StoppingPoints.com - N.C. State Highway Patrol](#)
- [Town of Morehead City - Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010 \(page 12\)](#)

Name: (real name preferred)
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No

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Behind The Fire Station

02/28/11 49 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Couple interesting things found behind the Newport fire station on Sunday. Forestry service plow and transport. Tractor-drawn live fire simulator. [See more photos](#). Interesting tanker they've got, as well. That a converted milk tank on a newer chassis?



Looks like an E-One Water Master to me. Very similar to Vance County Tanker 5.

VanceCountian - 02/28/11 - 19:51

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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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'?

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

Response Changes in Chesterfield County, VA

02/28/11 156 W - + 10 - 6

From a reader, [here's a Firehouse.com story](#) about response changes starting tomorrow in Chesterfield County, VA. That's right outside Richmond, if memory serves. Three big things:

- Volunteers will not be using red lights in personal vehicles.
- Tankers will respond to calls without lights and siren and driving the speed limit.
- Volunteer units that are not staffed will not be dispatched.

The last point is something we've discussed here, and which has been advocated by readers for Wake County. Under the new guidelines, notes the story, only staffed units will be dispatched to calls. And only those resources "necessary to mitigate the emergency" will be allowed to respond.

The article also provides some details about CCFD. They only have two full volunteer stations, and their total personnel number 423 career members and 100 volunteers. Read the article, discuss as desired. Or learn more about [Chesterfield County Fire & EMS](#).

Sounds like they need to do a better job of managing their resources, rather than discouraging them.

ncff - 02/28/11 - 23:18

Personally, I think some pro-activeness like this around here wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing. If something pertaining to red light usage were enacted though, I think Chief Officers should be excluded around these parts.

I think the tanker concept running "non-emergency" is great (unless the I.C. deems an emergency response is necessary).

Silver - 03/01/11 - 00:09

I strongly disagree with this move. I know that they are doing this with the best intentions. Not allowing volunteers to respond with a light is mistake one, purely because not everyone can stay at the station! These are volunteers and they will come to staff the truck if they are not there. Eliminating this is leading to problem two, not dispatching unstaffed trucks is not a good idea. If the members don't think they can get it out with the people there or the people coming then they should mark it out of service but not dispatching it is a poor decision. Finally, not running emergency traffic in a tanker is one of the dumbest things I have ever heard. If you are calling for tankers or they are dispatched then they are clearly needed and an engine company can only hold on for so long with no tankers there. I don't know about you but I would prefer to not run out of water while I am holding a hose. Tankers not coming emergency traffic is like saying we should wait a few minutes while running water to go hook up to a hydrant. This whole idea is doomed to fail or get someone killed, it's only a matter of time.

7409 - 03/02/11 - 21:16

I disagree with you 7409.

The way times are now, for every responsible volunteer with a red light, you have 2 irresponsible ones. Not bashing volunteers or anything but I have been "pro no red light" for a while now (with the exclusion of chief officers). Too many firefighter fatalities are coming now on the way to the scene or station in their POV.

The not dispatching unstaffed trucks is a good idea for an area around here as well. Think of out in the county for instance. You could get dispatched out to a house fire, well if you run card in the CAD says you respond with the closest 2 other engines, a rescue, and ladder but those 2 other engines aren't manned at night or even the day, you're in trouble! Why not take one thing off the company officer's plate while on the way to the call like "are my mutual aid stations staffed right now?". Another perspective. You're on a working structure fire and you need additional help, how much easier would it be to say "Central, send me another alarm" rather than central I need "Podunk engine 1, Jonestown engine 3, and whatevertown tanker 6". That's the issue right now in the county, we can't call for another alarm because we don't

know how many people or who is coming.

I don't really agree with never running lights on a tanker to fires, maybe not off an initial dispatch but once you have confirmation of a working fire, then step it up.

We're not in the business of running with all our lights as fast as we can down the road, we're in the business of saving lives and conserving property. You can't do this if you don't arrive safely.

county man - 03/02/11 - 22:38

As for the volunteers using red lights, we are our own worst enemy here. I've been a volunteer for 26 years and have had a red light in my vehicle the entire time. I don't use it on every call, actually use it on about 1 in every 10 calls. The citizens in my town accommodate my request to yield and I drive like I have a head on my shoulders. In my 26 years, I can recall only one time (and that was in 1987) that any type of education, etc. was delivered on the topic of responding POV. We don't allow FFs to engage on calls until they have completed rookie school, been fit tested, etc. but we permit them to do what is likely the most dangerous activity they will undertake in the fire service (responding to stations/scenes) with little to no oversight.

As for the unstaffed trucks, until Wake County is willing to fund and staff a fully career service to include supplementary apparatus such as tankers and rescues, unstaffed trucks will need to remain in service. What we can do is establish a parameter within CAD that will dispatch the next closest capable unit if those already dispatched to do not check enroute within a given timeframe. For many years in EMS we used this for second duty ambulances. Often the first dispatched unit would get enroute before the second dispatched unit was close to the scene, but it never left a call without something responding.

I agree with County Man. Let the tankers roll cold until either a working fire is confirmed or they are cancelled. Tankers are often the first vehicles new folks get checked off on – and they are often the poorest handling vehicles in our fleets. Most every engine that is supported by a tanker has at least 1000 gallons on-board to start with and the second due engine is bringing at least as much. Slow down the tankers.

Olson - 03/03/11 - 12:48

I have to agree that not dispatching unstaffed trucks is a good idea. Waiting on a timeframe to go by only increases the response times for the staffed units that can be on the way as soon as dispatched. When a volunteer gets to the station and has a crew and driver ready then they can put another piece of apparatus in service and can be utilized if needed, If not on the original call, that unit and crew can cover the area for the next possible call. While back in the day it did serve its purpose with EMS, I just don't see the upside with fire departments, in very few cases are they that spread out unless the incident is right next to a station. Besides by the time you get a driver and crew (not just driver and one other person) to the station, put the gear on the apparatus and then start their response the staffed unit from another station will almost be on scene. Now, i have never seen any numbers to back either theory up, that would be a cool thing to look into. In my opinion, i think that departments will have more help and people on the scene quicker by dispatching staffed units. I'm all for having an extra apparatus in service if you have 3-4 vollies hanging out at the station with the paid staff, they can put hit the "in service" button while they are there and then place the unit back out of service when they leave.

As far as red-lights and tankers, i would have to agree with Olsen and County man

gen3fire - 03/03/11 - 17:26

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

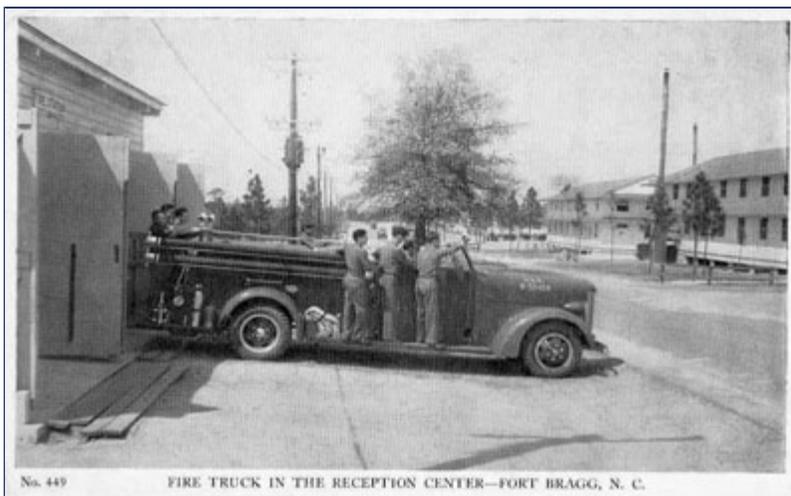
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/ [Textile](#)

Vintage Postcard of Fort Bragg FD

03/01/11 31 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Found for sale on eBay. Undated postcard showing a Fort Bragg Fire Department American LaFrance pumper, probably mid-1930s or later.
Click to enlarge:



No. 449 FIRE TRUCK IN THE RECEPTION CENTER—FORT BRAGG, N. C.

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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Weil's Department Store in Goldsboro, 1948 (Updated)

03/07/11 511 W, 2 I - + 12 - 6

The *News & Observer* of February 10 and 11, 1948, tells more about this incident. The three-story building was the largest and oldest in Goldsboro. The fire started near a freight elevator on the second floor about 4:50 p.m. Employees and customers were safely evacuated. A "capacity crowd" at the presumably nearby Paramount Theater was evacuated within 10 minutes of the fire report.

"All available firefighting equipment" responded from Goldsboro, Wilson (26 miles), Kinston (27 miles), Mount Olive (15 miles), and Seymour Johnson Field (four miles). As a reader indicates, Faison (21 miles) also assisted. Distances from Google Maps. Also, observe the Mack quad in the picture, which was on the roster in Goldsboro in the 1920s.

The front wall of the building collapsed early in the evening. The intense heat broke 25 plate glass windows across Center Street, which was 250 feet wide. Crews worked to protect Goldsboro Book Store, which was located on the north side of Weil's store. The building was built in 1865, and considered a landmark in town.



Homer Ball / News & Observer photograph

The large amount of nitrate of soda stored in the store and the fear of explosion had police keeping spectators in a safe area. Not that you would notice from the above picture, that is. Water froze as it hit the building, with a stiff gale blowing out of the north threatening to spread the flames to other buildings. Four inches of snow had fallen when the fire broke out.

Mayor Scott Berkeley "took over the telephone" at the fire station (to dispatch?), so all firefighters could respond to the scene. The police chief ordered every officer to the scene, to assist the firemen, protect property, and keep the hundreds of spectators from "stepping on hot wires that were snapped by falling debris."

Fire damage was confined to Weil's and next-door Giddens Jewelry Store. Also damaged were Smith Hardware Store and Seymour Funeral Home, on a street in the rear of Weil's. Flames damaged the roof of the funeral home. Crews used sledgehammers to get to the flames in the roof of the hardware store, adjoining the funeral home.

The fire was controlled in three hours. Damage was unofficially estimated at a million dollars. Only the elevator shaft remained standing the following more. Crews remained on scene all night, to prevent the spread of fire from the hot cinders being blown about by a stiff wind.

The north wall collapsed during the night, and brushed the back wall of the bookstore.

Two firefighters were injured. Lt. Lee Sanford of Goldsboro was treated at Goldsboro Hospital for shock and physical exhaustion, after falling at the scene at 11:40 p.m. Robert McCarter was treated at the fire station for shock and exposure and sent home.

Also found for sale on eBay, a 1948 wire service photo of Weil's Department Store in Greensboro Goldsboro burning something fierce. Don't know the month or day. Looks like winter. Click to enlarge:



I remember the fire. I was 5 at the time and lived in Snow Hill, some 20 miles east of Goldsboro. We could see the glow in the sky from the fire. It was a BIG one.

BE - 03/04/11 - 12:11

Thanks BE. That corrects the location to Goldsboro, not Greensboro, as the eBay seller indicated. Google finds the date, February 9, 1948. <http://www.waynecountyhistoricalnc.org/h..>

Legeros - 03/04/11 - 19:15

Mike I have a letter from the mayor of Goldsboro thanking our department for our response despite the blinding snow and freezing temperatures, at that time I believe only Goldsboro, Mt. Olive and Fremont had fire departments in Wayne County. Our department had to travel approx 25 miles to assist.

car3550 - 03/05/11 - 13:58

Interesting, what department is yours? Mt. Olive?

Legeros - 03/05/11 - 17:58

Faison

car3550 - 03/05/11 - 23:55

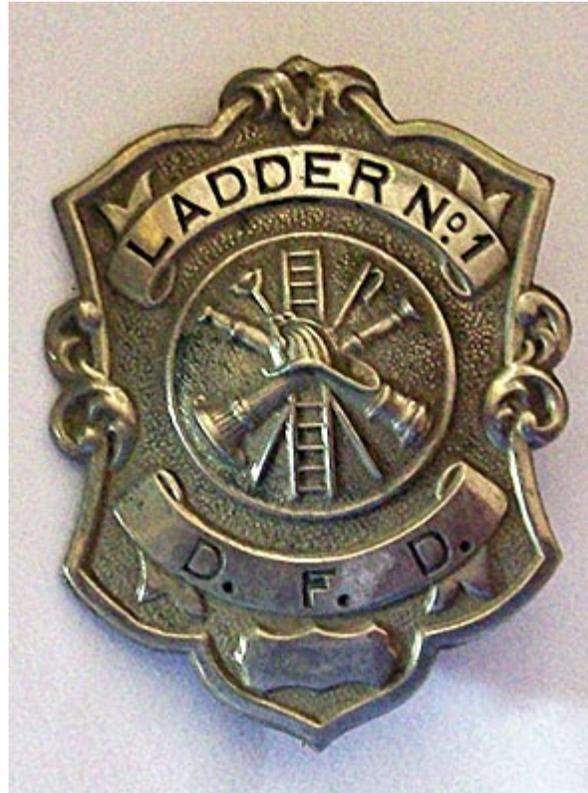
I remember this fire quite well, although I was only six at the time. Snow, especially one as heavy as that on the ground the day of the fire, is quite rare in Goldsboro. My parents were worried sick that night because my sister, Erline, who was a senior at Goldsboro High School, had failed to return home by her curfew. (Not a wise idea at my house!) It turned out that she and many other people had formed a fire brigade to provide coffee to the firemen. As I recall, she was exempted from the punishment that normally would have followed her lateness.

Beverly Griffin ([Email](#)) - 10/14/13 - 10:00

Durham Fire Department Vintage Badge

03/01/11 39 W, 1 I - + 10 - 2

And another item found for sale on Ebay. Vintage badge of the Durham Fire Department, circa 1910s or 1920s. Hallmarked C.G. Braxmar Co. of New York.



I try to get it but was out bid!

Sean - 03/04/11 - 20:06

Them badge collectors are FIERCE!

Legeros - 03/04/11 - 20:13

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh's First Fire Hydrants

03/01/11 258 W, 2 I - + 12 - 5

The 1888 annual report of the city of Raleigh contained a Report of Water Works Committee listing locations of the 120 fire hydrants installed as part of the new water system. The first hydrants in the Capitol City were "Mathew double-opening" models. [See pictures of Mathews hydrants](#). The mains were manufactured by R. D. Wood of Philadelphia and ranged between 14 and 4 inches. They totaled 3,498,285 pounds worth of iron, delivered between December 4, 1886, and May 21, 1887. **Click once or twice** to view the entire list of hydrant locations:

No. 13.	Corner Lenoir and Wilmington S
" 14.	" Lenoir and Bloodworth S
" 15.	" Cabarrus and West Stree
" 16.	" Cabarrus and Harrington
" 17.	" Cabarrus and Dawson St
" 18.	" Cabarrus and McDowell
" 19.	" Cabarrus and Salisbury S
" 20.	" Cabarrus and Fayettevill
" 21.	" Cabarrus and Blount Stre
" 22.	" Cabarrus and Person Str
" 23.	" Cabarrus and Bloodwort
" 24.	" Cabarrus and East Stree

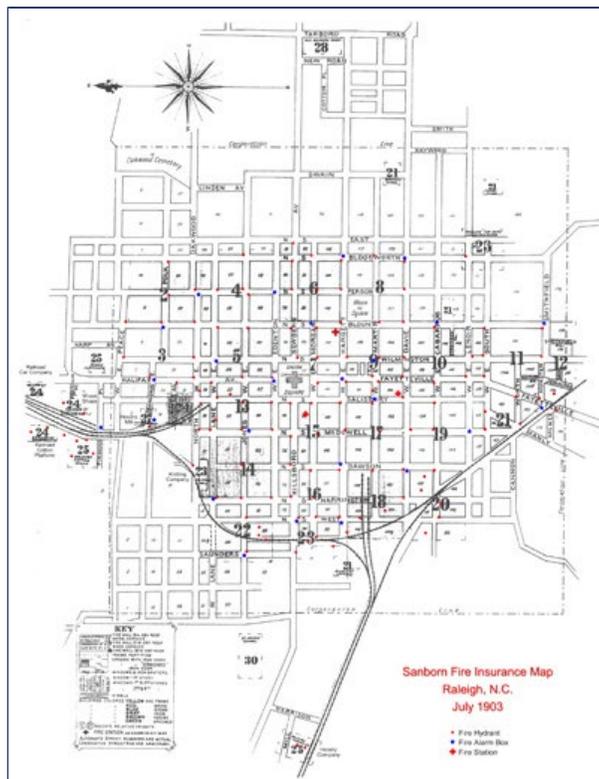
Acceptance Tests

As noted in a [prior posting](#), the acceptance tests were conducted in September 1887. Water tower pressure was tested with three hydrants supplying three streams about 60 feet high and with a pressure of 40 pounds. The test was conducted again with eight hydrants and eight streams. (These were hoses connected directly to the hydrants. The city's hand and steam engines were no longer needed for fighting most fires.) Next was pumping station pressure (also called "direct pressure") using eight hydrants supplying eight streams through 50 feet of 2 1/2-inch rubber hose, with a one-inch ring nozzle. These pressures were recorded:

- 64 pounds, 100 feet vertical/130 feet horizontal streams, 144 GPM at nozzle
- 75 pounds, 111 feet vertical/141 feet horizontal streams, 156 GPM at nozzle
- 80 pounds, 116 feet vertical/148 feet horizontal streams, 161 GPM at nozzle

1903 Hydrant Map

Fifteen years later, from [another prior posting](#), the city's hydrant system looked as follows. This Sanborn Fire Insurance index map also includes the locations of the fire alarm boxes. **Click once or twice** to greatly 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.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Wet Down of Wake Forest's New Ladder

03/02/11 60 W, 1 I - + 4 - 5

[Lee Wilson has posted photos](#) of yesterday's wet-down ceremony at Wake Forest Fire Station 1, celebrating their new ladder truck, a 2011 Pierce Arrow XT rear-mounted platform. The truck was delivered on February 2 and will be placed in service on March 7. [Rear prior posting](#) about the apparatus and reader discussion therein.



Lee Wilson photo

Congrats on the new rig WF, good luck with it and may God bless it in service. Love the wet-down! Who is the Yankee that made that happen?

Silver - 03/02/11 - 12:52

That's been happening in the county for a while now Jeff. Figured we'd bring a little tradition back to the service.

Jake T. - 03/02/11 - 14:32

Yeah, I remember seeing a few dedications around the county in recent years. Glad to see it, and was really surprised to see an actual "wet-down".

Those that have never been to a Northern wet-down would love it; neighboring departments come, games and rides for the kids, beer truck/tent for the adults, food....just a big ol' party and celebration dedicating the new ride. Then the big water fight....good times.

Silver - 03/02/11 - 15:35

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Stray Bullet Narrowly Misses Sleeping Raleigh Firefighter

03/03/11 146 W, 2 I - + 6 - 6

Evening update. [WRAL now reports](#) that said stray bullet struck the sleeping quarters at Station 2, pierced the base of a window, and missed sleeping firefighter Will Smith by six inches! The exact path of the bullet is described as "through the fire station window, over the bed where Smith was sleeping, through the wall next to his bed, then through an open door and down the hallway before ricocheting off a concrete wall." Yikes!



WRAL photo

The perils of working the south side? [As this WRAL story reports](#), a fight at a business in the 2600 block of South Saunders Street about 1 a.m. this morning resulted in a bullet striking nearby Fire Station 2. Or from the looks of this picture, it might have struck the old shop building, which now houses Haz-Mat 1.



WRAL photo

I am VERY glad Will was not injured. I'm no ballistics expert, but it seems this shot came from a much closer range than across the street. Again, I am VERY, VERY relieved my friends at FS#2 were not hurt.

A.C. Rich - 03/03/11 - 23:50

Thoughts and prayers to the boys at Engine 2....you hear the war stories of Police chases behind #7 yada, yada, yada. Will, not sure if you visit here, but keep doing what you're doing Bro because you have a few Angels up there looking out for you. Glad Will, and all of the Brothers, went home safe....

Silver - 03/04/11 - 00:36

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Suspicious Brush Fires Being Investigated in Cary

03/03/11 65 W - + 7 - 5

[As another WRAL story reports](#), investigators are investigating 15 suspicious small fires within the Cary Parkway loop within the last week. All but one involved burning brush and pine straw in isolated, open areas. Got tips? Call the Cary Police Department at 919-469-4324 or Crime Stoppers at 919-226-2746. There's a \$2,500 reward for information leading to an arrest.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Turn Up The Lights at Ceremonial Events

03/03/11 121 W - + 8 - 2

Random reflection. Turn up the lights at ceremonial events. Graduations. Promotional ceremonies. Etcetera. While lower lighting looks great for ambiance, it can be hell for those using point-and-shoot cameras. Folks with big honkin' SLR cameras and external flashes will be fine. Or as fine as capabilities and skills with low-lighting permit. But for the majority of guests, e.g. most family members, their smaller and less-capable cameras will have a tough time taking good pictures. Do them a favor and consider raising the house lights. Take your own cameras and test the results. Strike a balance. Those attending will be grateful that they have good pictures to match good memories. Submitted for your consideration.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Domination's The Name of The Game

03/03/11 45 W - + 8 - 5

For your Thursday enjoyment, a randomly found firefighting video on YouTube. Bladensburg Fire Department in... Maryland? Combination of video and still footage. Some aboard the apparatus. Hard rock soundtrack, of course. Credited as Droppin' Cotton Productions. That's funny.

Great video. And yes, Maryland. That area gets a sh** ton of fire. The song in the first part of the video is "Black Canvas Art" by Explosions in the sky. For any other music junkies out there.

Jake T. - 03/03/11 - 12:09

Not much of a video guy. Never got into them, but to me this video is exactly what it is like to be a fire-man/ fire-woman. The monotony of being around the fire house and doing project work, or cleaning and maintaining stuff, or just busy work. Then the tones drop and you do what you are trained to do, which is to break nasty and dominate!!!!

Spanky - 03/03/11 - 16:12

Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department located in Prince Georges County, Maryland. Always accepting applications for associate/ and live-ins,folks from wake county, and harnett are currently members here. And Mike thanks for posting this up didn't expect to see one of my productions on your blog.

PGTruckie ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 03/04/11 - 01:50

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

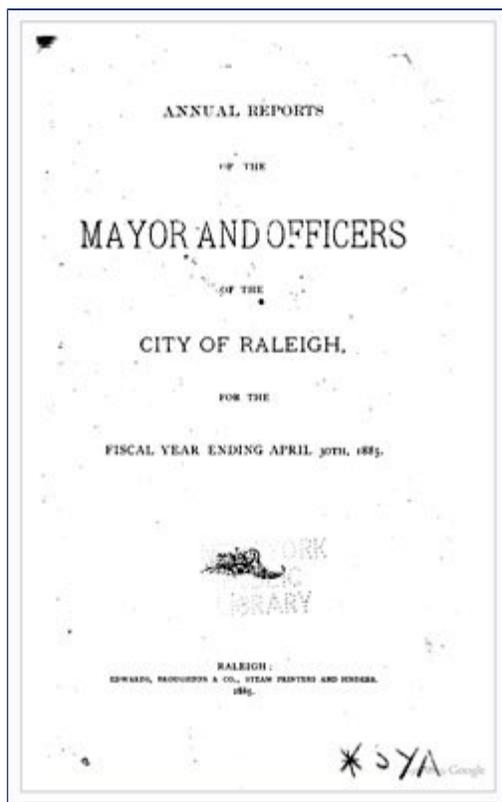
No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Annual Report, 1885

03/03/11 69 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

For your weekend enjoyment, here's a digitized copy of [Raleigh's annual report from 1885](#) courtesy of Google Books. The fire department section starts on page 45, and is an annual report of the Chief Engineer of Fire Department. The report includes an inventory of each fire company's equipment as well as a list of the capacities and locations of the underground cisterns. Click the cover to access:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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

Carolina Country Club Fire, 1925

03/03/11 197 W - + 5 - 9

From *The American City, Volume 25*, as found by Google books:

A Water-Supply for Fire Protection.

Another fire demonstration that owners of any buildings located near lakes or rivers and where municipal fire protection may be available, should provide a solid location for fire engines, took place near Raleigh, N.C, April 12, 1921. The Carolina Country Club, located near that city, was completely destroyed by fire, the blaze probably starting from a defective kitchen flue. Golfers on the course of the club reached the fire when the roof was already falling in. A response of the Raleigh Fire Department might have been of great assistance, for the department had 1,200 feet of hose laid within six minutes after receiving the alarm, but it was impossible to place the pumping engine near the lake to draw water because of the muddy condition of the ground. As there was no other water-supply available, the firemen could only assist members of the club in carrying out some of the furniture. Inspection blanks for examination of structures of this kind should contain a question calling attention to the facilities for using whatever water-supply there may be available near-by.

-Fire Protection.

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.

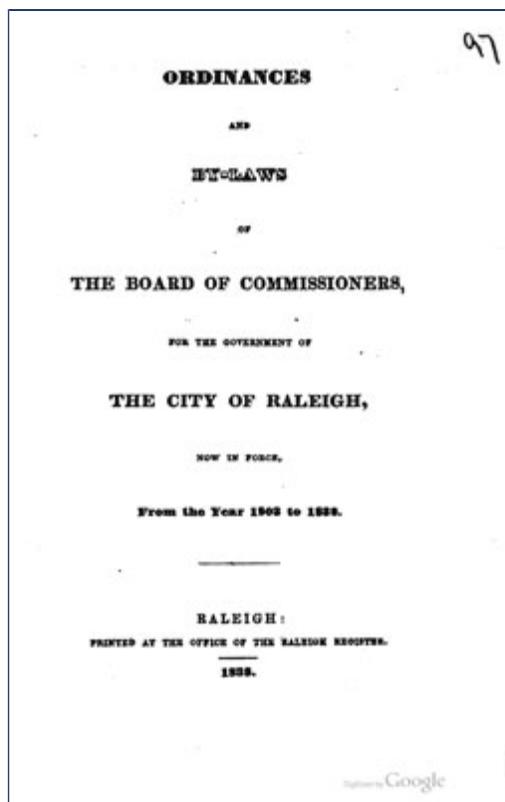
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Raleigh City Ordinances, 1838

03/04/11 81 W, 2 I - + 9 - 1

For your further historical enjoyment, here's another Google Books find, *Ordinances and By-Laws of The Board of Commissioners, for the Government of the City of Raleigh, Now in Force, From the Year 1803 to 1838*. Local version, downloaded from Google Books. Nothing about the fire department, as that hadn't been formally organized yet. But there's colorful reading on General Regulations, The Sabbath, Market, Nuisances, Dogs, The Grave Yard, and The City Watch. [Read the document](#) , or click to read:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Wake Forest Weekly Wake Forest Fire Department Photo

03/04/11 70 W, 1 I - + 8 - 8

The front page of this week's *The Wake Forest Weekly* bears a banner photograph of Wake Forest Fire Department Ladder 1 and those folks attending this week's wet-down ceremony. The newspaper was previously named *The Wake Weekly*. Wonder when they changed their name? [View the entire front page](#) (this week only), or click to see slightly a larger version of this banner:



Mike, they changed the name because they also serve Franklin County. They have two paper titles that have the same stories. They might change the order of the stories to better serve the area.

WF - 03/04/11 - 15:53

In 2010, The Wake Weekly ceased in and of itself as the paper began being published with three flags, The Franklin Weekly, The Rolesville-Wake Crossroads Weekly and The Wake Forest Weekly, under the auspices of The Wake Weekly Family of Community Newspapers. Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Wake_We..

Mrs. Blogger - 03/05/11 - 12:41

Did not know about the Rolesville edition. Learned something new.

WF - 03/07/11 - 11:21

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Caption This Photo / Gas Station Fire

03/04/11 34 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Picture taken by a Broughton High School student and posted on WRAL. From today's gas station and vehicle fire at St. Mary's and Peace streets.



WRAL photo

Man, I didn't see a "no parking" sign ANYWHERE near there!

rfburns - 03/04/11 - 20:01

These fuel prices are burning a hole in my wallet!

Watson - 03/04/11 - 21:55

Well, before the fire sale, you have to have a fire...

CJS ([Email](#)) - 03/05/11 - 00:48

D'oh!!

Bob - 03/05/11 - 01:07

Pics from Lee Wilson and incident details forthcoming on this one...

Legeros - 03/05/11 - 08:26

... "REMEMBER THE VALDEZ"!!!!!!.... "CHARRRRRGE"!!!!!!

Capt. Joe Hazelwood - 03/05/11 - 10:13

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Morrisville's New Fire Station 1

03/05/11 83 W, 2 I - + 9 - 6

Under construction in the [200 block of Town Hall Drive](#). Three bays with 13,000 square-feet, including space for housing EMS unit and crew. Project cost \$3 million. Groundbreaking took place on September 2, 2010. Architect is Stewart Cooper Newell. Replaces Fire Station 1 located a couple blocks north. That building was built in 1955 and renovated and expanded several times, including pointing the bays north instead of east. Completion of the new station is expected in October. [Read more about the building](#). [Click to enlarge](#):



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Stray Bullet Really Narrowly Missed Sleeping Firefighter

03/05/11 79 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Check out this [News & Observer photograph](#) of the bullet hole in a cubicle at Station 2, which whizzed over the head of sleeping firefighter Will Smith. This picture puts the close call in true perspective.



Amy Dunn / News & Observer photo

Also quite a bit of coverage on this story. Among the outlets that have covered same:

- FirefighterCloseCalls.com
- Firehouse.com
- FireNews.net
- [News & Observer](#)
- Statter911
- WRAL
- WTVB
- etc.

WOW! I think it's safe to say there was an angel in the station that night. Glad everyone was OK.

Beach ([Email](#)) - 03/05/11 - 09:40

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Raleigh Mayor's Report, 1910

03/05/11 157 W - + 5 - 4

Our police department is in excellent condition. The efficiency of our Chief of Police is recognized throughout the city, and his associates are rendering him excellent cooperation. I am glad to report that during the year the social evil has been reduced to a minimum in Raleigh; and the so-called "Red Light" district, which was a disgrace and a menace to our civilization, no longer exists, the laws having been rigorously enforced. The sale of intoxicating liquors has been greatly reduced, and slowly but surely the lawbreakers are being made to realize that Raleigh will not tolerate their operations. Regardless of differing views on the drink question, it becomes all law-abiding citizens to support the law and the officers who are called upon to enforce it.

Our fire department, always the pride of the city, was never more efficient.

Annual Report Mayors and Offices City of Raleigh, Fiscal Year Ending February 28th, 1910

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.

Yesterday's Gas Station Fire / Peace Street

03/05/11 343 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

Two alarms worth of apparatus responded to yesterday's gas station fire, after an automobile collided with a gas pump and occupied SUV parked at the pump, at the corner of St. Mary's and Peace streets. The vehicles caught fire, their passengers safely escaped, and both were fully-involved upon the arrival of the first units. The call was dispatched twice, first as a structure fire at Glenwood Avenue and Peace Street. The second structure fire was dispatched at the correct address.

Engine 5 reported smoke showing en route and was first on scene. Three hand lines used from Engine 5, with Engine 13 providing water supply. Foam was applied to extinguish the fire. Haz-mat units responded to contain the runoff of gasoline from the scene. Police closed Peace Street. Command was located across Peace Street, in a parking lot. Officials at nearby Broughton High School, on the opposite corner of the intersection, evacuated the school for a period time, presumably fearing an explosion due to the fire. (How many such ka-booms have readers seen their day?)

Dispatched at 2:22 p.m., the fire was controlled at 2:51 p.m. Crews remained on scene a couple hours. Dispatched to the first call: E5, E6, E9, L2, R2, B3. Dispatched to the second call: E1, E13, E3, L7 (cancelled), B2. Working fire: E7 (cancelled), A1, C10, C20, C40. Special called: HM1, SR1, SR2. Medical: EMS 1, EMS 4, EMS 7, D2, D1, T1, Chief 200. Corrections welcome on the units!

Lee Wilson was quickly on scene. Here's one of his shots, as we await his posting of photos. Click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photo

Quite a bit of media coverage resulted, including news helicopters overhead early into the incident. See these stories and photos from the [News & Observer](#), [WTVD](#), and [WRAL](#), for starters. Cause reported as determined as an object hanging from the first vehicle's rear-view mirror became tangled in the steering wheel, and the driver was unable to steer and subsequently collided with the gas pump and the unlucky second vehicle.



WTVD photo

Units corrected, details updated a bit.

Photos from Lee posted, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/s..>

Legeros - 03/06/11 - 07:38

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.

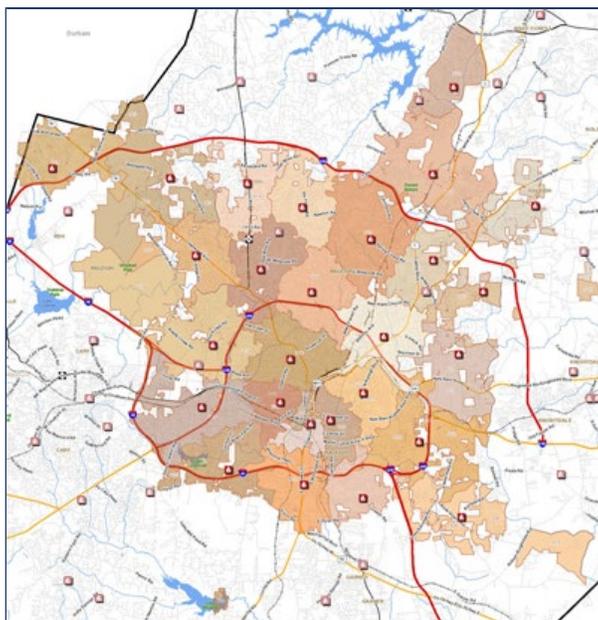
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

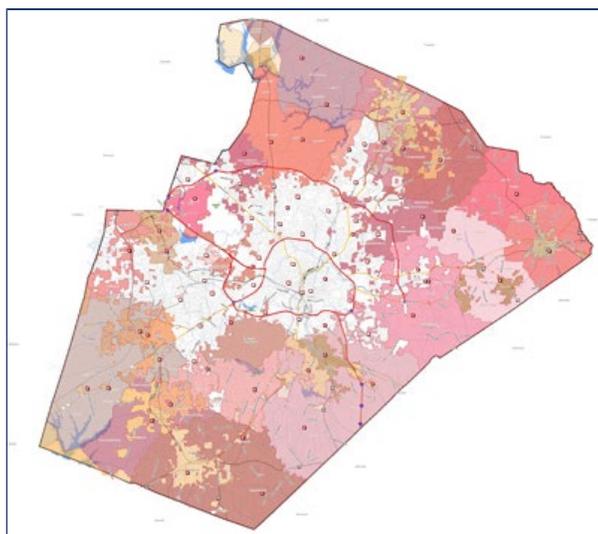
Fire Maps From IMaps

03/06/11 175 W, 2 I - + 9 - 3

As noted in the [discussion of Cary Fire Station 8](#), the Wake County [iMaps application](#) allows viewing of digital maps showing fire station and fire department response areas as added map layers. Below are two created this morning and with custom "greyed out" fire stations, to differentiate Raleigh/non-Raleigh and county/non-Raleigh/non-Cary. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Raleigh Fire Department Station Response Areas



Wake County Fire Response Areas + Fire Insurance Districts

Here's how we made them:

1. Opened the [iMaps application](#).
2. Clicked **Basic** in the Street/Aerial/Blend dialog box at the top right of the screen.
3. Clicked **Show Additional Layers on Map** in right-side pane.

4. Selected the corresponding **Public Safety** options.
5. Magnified the map to 1" = 6400'.
6. Exported a JPEG view of each map section by clicking the **Printer** icon at the top of the screen.
7. Used PhotoShop Elements to stitch the images together, using Photomerge mode.
8. Used PhotoShop to create "greyed out" fire station icon to differentiate Raleigh/non-Raleigh and county/non-Raleigh/non-Cary.

To the uninitiated (IE, me) this looks like there's bunch of big white 'uncovered' bits on the Raleigh map. For example (and most interesting to me because I used to live there) is the Litchford Road area of station 15's response area; comparing the 2 maps side by side it looks like I should expect Falls to come inside the 540 just to service a few sub-divisions? Likewise with stations 18 & 23. I'm assuming the reason is just simply that this is the way it panned out as the city expanded, but (if that's true) it seems pretty silly that someone can't also re-align the response areas at the same time.

Paul - 03/06/11 - 12:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mystery Intersection / Hidden Stop Sign

03/06/11 36 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

I wonder how many people have blown through this stop sign, because their viewing angle resulted in the blending of these two red objects?



South Wilmington Service Rd and Sherwee Dr.

Fuquay-Fire Dept - 03/06/11 - 11:48

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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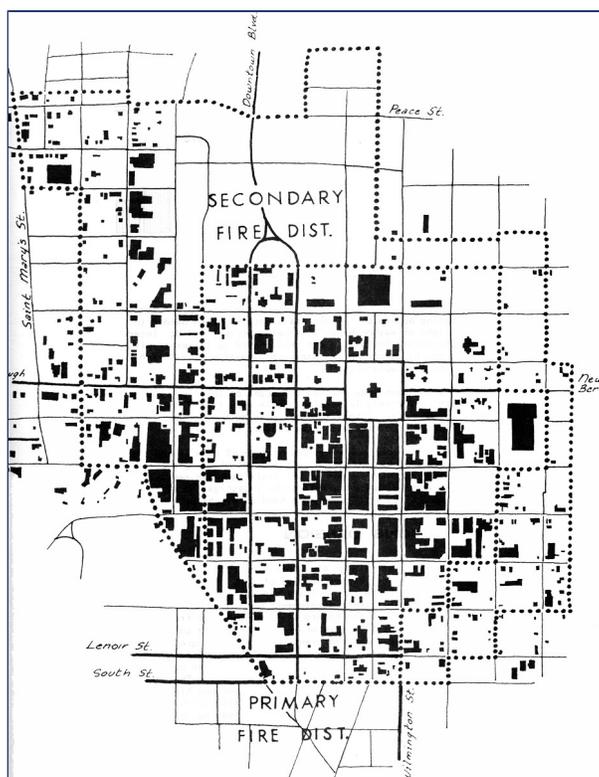
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

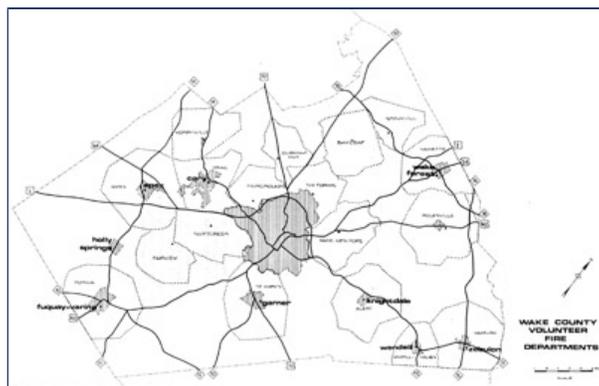
Fire Protection Maps, 1970

03/06/11 92 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

For your hysterical historical enjoyment, here are a pair of maps from a fire protection report created by the city planning department in 1970. The first shows Raleigh's primary and secondary fire districts. The second shows the county fire districts of the time. The latter is an interesting contrast to the present-day districts! [See the entire report](#), which has been re-scanned in color and using the source document instead of a prior photocopy. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Raleigh Primary and Secondary Fire Districts, 1970



Wake County Fire Districts, 1970

Sunday Drive Times Two

03/06/11 163 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

Tooled down to Fuquay first thing this morning, for the aftermath of an abandoned building fire. Returned to Raleigh via 401. Bonus sight was a blue-light special some miles out of town. Five gentlemen with their hands behind their backs. Wonder what that was about. Left Bojangle's on South Wilmington Street as a second structure fire was banged out. That one was a tobacco barn around the corner from the first fire. Quickly extinguished. [See the photos from the first fire.](#)



Then this evening, rode the road to Rolesville. Reported tornado touchdown on North Main Street, plus a structure fire soon thereafter. Too dark for too many pictures by the time Yours Truly arrived. Should have left earlier, but was glued to the scanner. At least the scene lights were strong! [See those photos](#), both from the fire and the unified command post at the fire station. Plus a couple shot of Rolesville's new ladder, but of course.



Thanks for making the trip to the southside this morning!

FVFD - 03/06/11 - 23:41

With gas being 3.45 gallon are you riding in a Ford Feista?

Scooter - 03/07/11 - 12:20

Amen on the Fuquay trip!!

MF - 03/07/11 - 21:16

Honda Accord, manual, so the mileage is pretty good.

Wish I could make more road trips, but other stuff always seems to come up.

Maybe I can schedule a series of ride-alongs or hang-arounds at some future time.

Legeros - 03/07/11 - 22:58

did the rolesville house even burn?

uhhhh? - 03/08/11 - 22:58

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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TURK / Tools with Wheels

03/07/11 116 W, 2 I - + 12 - 6

Just add wheels. That's what DCFD Lt. Greg Turnell did with a RIT basket. As this [Statter911 story and guest column reports](#), Lt. Turnell calls his invention TURK. This picture tells a thousand words. Then read the above story and the [TURK product site](#) to learn more.



Wheeled tools have been used for decades in Europe and Japan, from the famous wheeled escape ladders of the London Fire Brigade to the ubiquitous hose reels mounted on French apparatus. Wonder why such seeming labor-savers have never caught on in the American fire service? Maybe TURK will change that.



The Turk looks like a great idea – hope it works well for them. I remember an FDNY squad co. (252 I believe) doing something similar for their extrication tools, using a hand dolly and some good old Firefighter determination.

In regards to why it hasn't caught on in America Mike, I think the problem lies in space and time. This type of invention would predominately be suited for American Ladder and Rescue companies (or squad co.'s). However, we cram every bit of equipment we can on these rigs..jacks, tools, boats, etc.. that in order to have one of these wheeled wonders, it would have to be stored in a place out of the way of day to day operations. The roof seems like the only spot left at times...(ask FDNY Rescues about their boats, or RFD Ladders about their stokes baskets!)

So to use one would be great, but trying to fit it is difficult. On RFD L-1, we have a hand truck to haul our Big Electric Fan around, and many of our battalion companies use our stokes for their RIT equipment – though they have to move it by hand or drag it with 6' hooks.

Stay Safe Everyone!

A.S. Meier - 03/07/11 - 14:24

If you'll reference some of the die-cast replicas of the European and English apparatus that held these wheeled pieces, you'll note that they're either roof-mounted or towed behind. I think that's the problem. As A.S. said, we cram everything we can into our rigs and then some.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/07/11 - 16:06

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Old Ambulance Owned by State Fan

03/08/11 37 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

Or at least we infer from the logo on the door. This one's parked on Lake Wheeler Road between the Beltline and Tryon Road.



Gives new meaning to "Cardiac Pack"

Mr. Wuf - 03/09/11 - 00:13

Mr. Wuf...yeah good point but this will be what they will transport Sidney Lowe in after the season.

Pack is not back...Pack is in trouble...Lowe has set them back 5 years.

Wonder which department this unit came from?

Buckwheat - 03/09/11 - 12:58

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

Caption This Photo / Trash Fire

03/08/11 28 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Believe that's a sofa sitting on Stewart Drive off Lake Wheeler Road. Engine 20 in the background.



A whole new perspective on "being in the hot seat."

House - 03/08/11 - 20:07

Beavis and Butthead just realized they truly have nothing now.

RescueRanger - 03/08/11 - 21:10

If sofas look like that to you, Mike I am sorry! It WAS something!

Stretch - 03/08/11 - 23:04

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Call For Honor Guards and Pipe Bands For Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service in May

03/08/11 62 W, 2 I - + 5 - 7

From [this FireNews.net posting](#), the Sixth Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial services have been scheduled for May 6 and 7 in downtown Raleigh. [The foundation](#) asks that all honor guards and pipe bands interested in participating [complete this registration form](#) .



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'?

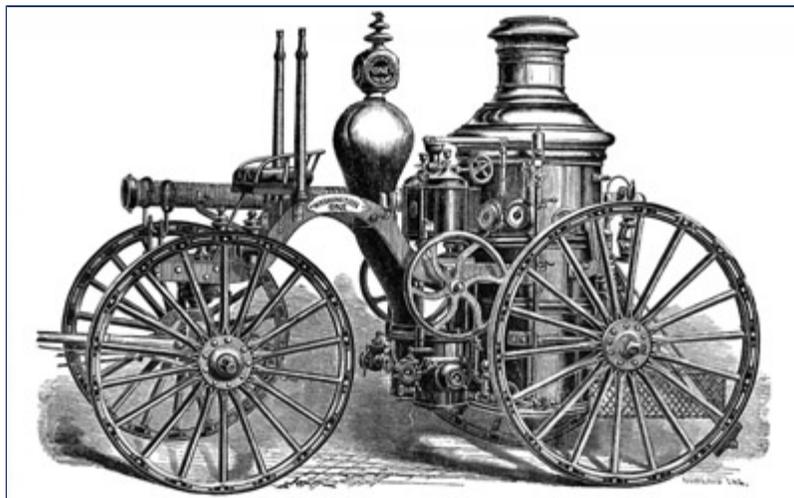
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Raleigh's First Steamer...

03/08/11 203 W, 2 I - + 10 - 8

...might have looked like this. Below is a drawing or perhaps woodcut featured on the membership certificate of Rescue Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1. The company was formed upon delivery of an 1870 second-size steam engine built by the R. J. Gould Company of Newark, N.J. Click to enlarge:



The above picture appears in *Fighting Fire with Fire* by John H. Peckham, published in 1972. Much better resolution than as scanned from the below document! The 1870 steamer was hand-drawn until 1879, though horses were provided for occasional parades. A hand-pulled hose reel accompanied the fire-breathing engine. Both were stored in the 300 block of Fayetteville Street, in a two-story engine house on the lot of the county courthouse. Click to enlarge:



The 1870 steamer rode the railroad to fight fires in Fayetteville (1885) and Durham (1897). (In the latter incident, the conflagration had been brought under control and the steam engine was not used.) The apparatus ran considerably fewer calls after a water system was installed in 1887. Hydrants and hydrant pressure proved sufficient for fighting most fires in the Capitol City. The 1870 steamer was a reserve unit by 1891,

and replaced in 1905 by a newer model. [Read the entire history of Raleigh's steamers.](#)

Just looking for info on the Newark Nj fire apparatus Minnehaha Exempt No 1 Steam engine.
Any info or pics pls respond. Thanks d

davis - 01/21/14 - 16:57

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.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Applebee's* « [Raleigh's First Steam...](#) » [Roof Work Up Close](#) - ...
Flapjack Fundraiser for Wake County Firefighters Association, Sunday, March 13

Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser for Wake County Firefighters Association, Sunday, March 13 03/09/11 93 W, 1 I - + 11 - 2

The Wake County Firefighters Association is holding its first Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser at the Knightdale Applebee's on [6609 Knightdale Boulevard](#) on Sunday, March 13, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Tickets will be \$7 per person and all proceeds will benefit the Wake County Firefighters Association. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Departments are encouraged to bring apparatus, for display in the parking lot of Applebee's. [Here's a printable flyer](#), as well. Be there and bring an appetite!



Mmmmm....how about apple flapjacks? Those would be deeee-lish.

Silver - 03/09/11 - 15:07

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.

Roof Work Up Close - Durham Helmet Cam

03/09/11 65 W - + 9 - 4

Ever wanted to see roof work up close? Check out this helmet cam clip from Durham as [found by the Fire Critic](#). Single-story duplex fire on Washington Street with Ladder 1-B. Units responding were E1, E2, E9, L1, L2, Sq1, B1, B2. No audio, alas. Music on soundtrack instead. Video courtesy of [YouTube user laddercaptain99](#).

Awesome video! That's a Ladder company that knows their job and does it well. Anybody know what that tool with the fork on the end that was strapped to the ladder is? Never seen that in 15 years in the fire service, but it looked like it was more handy than a regular pike pole for pulling the eave vents and getting the roof out of the hole that was cut.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/09/11 - 09:47

That is commonly referred to as a trash hook... they seem to be very popular for roof work in other areas of the country, with California coming to mind the most. We had one at my department, not even sure if it is still on a truck. They seem very useful on a roof. It is very interesting to see the different types of hooks used around our country, such as the Boston rake, San Fran hook, Eckert hook, etc.

Bob P. - 03/09/11 - 10:02

Does anyone else get as annoyed as I do with the music, particularly heavy metal, that is put on these videos? I think it takes away from the video and doesn't allow you to hear what is being said or what is going on around them. Leave the music off and let the video speak for itself.

Music Critic - 03/09/11 - 10:47

I think the music sounds good... not heavy at all.

kermi - 03/09/11 - 14:19

Awesome quick-work, doesn't get anymore bread & butter than that. Get up, get it done, get down. Music was nice, not your typical head banging stuff. A lot of times, if there wasn't music the audio would just be muffled voices and the noise of the camera shaking around a little.

It proves and reinforces the importance of having seasoned Truckies to do truck work, and seasoned Engine-men making the stretch...

Silver - 03/09/11 - 14:40

Im a fan of the music. Radioheads newest single by the way. I personally cant stand the noise that the helmet cam mic picks up (footsteps, helmet strikes and breathing) you can have it. Gimme something to listen to.

As far as the video. Loved it. Good stuff.

Jake T. - 03/09/11 - 16:59

Mute works, for those who prefer silence.

Legeros - 03/09/11 - 18:55

Nice to see that smooth bore being used...

Ingram - 03/09/11 - 19:48

Second that; diversifying in that aspect is a good thing. Great to have a tool like that in your arsenal at the ready...

Silver - 03/09/11 - 22:55

We Monday morning-quarterbacked this a little during training last night. Yes, there were some things that the crew did that could/would be deemed unsafe and could've been done differently, but it was all-around a good job by the crew. Kudos to DFD for allowing Capt. Mustache to post these videos to the weird wide web. I guess some departments don't let that happen, and I guess I can understand why from a liability standpoint.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/10/11 - 10:31

And I like the music. Maybe not that song in particular, but I like having something other than the muffled sounds or silence. And I've noticed that in a lot of videos, the editor stops the music if there's important and intelligible sounds or discussions caught on the audio track. Plus I like the Captain's use of Foo fighters music in other videos.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/10/11 - 10:33

Jake, what was the name of that Radiohead song?

Kermit - 03/10/11 - 20:47

Song name "Reckoner". Not their latest single. Off their 2nd to last album "In Rainbows" which was released online for free. In my opinion, one of the best bands to come out of the 90's. So much so that in England (where they're from) music critics classify other newer bands as "post Radiohead". TMI? Never.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ug9GTLBEA..>

Jake T. - 03/10/11 - 23:07

Thanks guys for all the comments! Here is the link for the same video WITHOUT music. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pE2KQAUf8..>

Carl Hamlin ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 03/19/11 - 10:44

Carl, awesome video Bro, definitely takes me back...

Silver - 03/20/11 - 01:08

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Interesting Historical « Roof Work Up Close - ... » Smoke Investigation Data - Part I

Interesting Historical Data - Part I

03/09/11 103 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Spent the late afternoon at the [North Carolina State Library](#), copying pages from Raleigh annual reports from the 1880s and 1890s. And one from the fiscal year ending February 28, 1900. These are immensely entertaining documents and vivid snapshots of life long ago. Let's look at some of the data they presented. Here are the arrests that the Chief of Police reported. Next question and be honest. How many times have *you* sold spoilt meat or slept in a back lot and not been caught? It's okay to admit it. Click to enlarge:

Drunk and disorderly	3	4	3	8	9	7	4	13	10	3
Drunk and down	10	14	9	11	14	11	12	25	15	28
Drunk in Capital						6				
Drunk in market	1		1	2	1	2	1	2		1
Drunk in station-house										
Drunk on streets	27	13	18	9	9	27	22	27	25	49
Drunk and indecent exposure	1					3		3		
Drunk and reckless driving										1
Driving on sidewalk						1				
Driving over fire hose			2			1				
Draying without license						1				
Disorderly conduct in hall							2			
Embezzlement							1			
Fast driving		3	4				2	2		2
Fast and reckless driving										1
Fast riding								2	1	
Failure to pay sanitary license						2		1		
Forcible trespass										
House breaking	2	1	5	1						
Insane										1
Larceny	20	9	4	6	8	6	1	10	11	9
Larceny and receiving	2	1		4	3	1				

See [Part II - Deaths](#).

See, that's where society started it's decline. When I grew up in the 1870's, we wouldn't be caught dead being drunk in the Capital, or drunk and down. I swear, these kids of the 80's and 90's. (That's 1880's and 1890's)

rfburns - 03/09/11 - 22:54

Interesting...I hear those crazy kids on "Jersey Shore" make reference to females they have become friends with from local watering holes as "drunk and down". Who woulda' thought that same terminology was around way back then???

Silver - 03/10/11 - 00:58

Furthermore, who would have thought that was a crime!???

Silver - 03/10/11 - 01:00

Oh noes! We need to get Silver help if he has been contaminated by the Jersey Shore virus!

Quick, someone show him episodes of "NOVA" from PBS to offset the damage done by JS!

We must try to save his brain! :-)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 03/10/11 - 12:18

Thanks Marsh, but I just watch to get a good laugh!!

Silver - 03/10/11 - 17:10

Yeah, I'm sure it has nothing to do with JWOWW!

RescueRanger - 03/10/11 - 17:23

It's not JWOWW it's Snooki! Ha Ha

911 - 03/10/11 - 18:33

Hahahaha; a Captain friend of mine calls her JWOWW-WOW. I say J-WOWW = F-I-N-E!

Silver - 03/10/11 - 20:51

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.

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Smoke Investigation

03/09/11 76 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

The night was dark, the sky was blue, the smell of smoke was wafting through. Actually, it smelled like burning rubber. Reported at the intersection of Fairview Road and Whitaker Mill on Monday night. You could see it and you could smell it. Crews canvassed the area, including a back street. Nothing found. That's the big rig, Ladder 4 passing the place called NOFO. Eclectic gift items.



Were you listening to Bo Diddly last night in the car?

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/10/11 - 10:34

NOFO has some good food too. If you haven't checked it out you should. The shrimp and grits are great.

FYI... - 03/10/11 - 12:16

NOFO has the best food, the gift items don't even matter!

Go EAT

FYI 2 - 03/14/11 - 09:02

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Cancelled - Fire Commission Meeting Notice, March 17

03/11/11 52 W - + 7 - 6

This meeting has been cancelled. The next schedule meeting is May 5, 2011.

The next meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission is Thursday, March 17. Agenda and handouts forthcoming as available.

- ~~Thursday, March 17, 2011~~
- ~~7:00 p.m.~~
- ~~Wake County EMS Training Facility~~
- ~~Commons Building, Lower Level, [4011 Cary Drive](#).~~

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Warning on Person Posing As Fire Marshal in Durham

03/10/11 149 W - + 7 - 5

Press release. The City of Raleigh Fire Department is warning the public of a man posing as a fire marshal in Durham.

The City of Durham Police Department and the Durham Fire Department are seeking the public's assistance in identifying and locating a individual that is posing as a Durham fire marshal. The person is described as a tall black male wearing khaki pants, white shirt, and vest and is clean shaven.

Anyone encountering an individual posing as a fire marshal without the proper identification or uniform is asked to call 911 immediately.

If a person identifying themselves as a fire marshal enters your business or comes to your residence, ask for identification. If they are unable to produce proper credentials, call 911 immediately. Please give the telecommunicator a description of the person and a vehicle description and direction traveled if possible.

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

Fire Chief Chas. D. Farmer, 1916

03/11/11 82 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

From *Who's Who in Raleigh - A Collection of Personal Cartoons and Biographical Sketches of the Staunch "Trees" That Make the "Oak City" by A. O. Goodwin.* Printed by Commercial Printing Company, Raleigh, 1916. Digital copy from the Library of Congress. [See this web page](#) for multiple viewing and download formats. [See Mike's history pages](#), for a list of all Raleigh fire chiefs, paid and volunteer. Click once or twice to greatly enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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What a Tsunami Looks Like

03/11/11 87 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Entirely incredible images and footage found around the 'net this morning, in the wake of a [tsunami](#) that's hit the coast of northeast Japan. It followed an 8.9 magnitude earthquake about 80 miles offshore. Reportedly the fifth largest recorded earthquake since 1900. This picture appears in [this New York Times story](#). How big is that wave we're seeing? Is it really almost as tall as the treetops? Might be a trick of perspective. Need to examine more closely.



Kyodo News, via Associated Press photo

I can't even begin to get my mind around all the devastation over there. WOW!

Buckwheat - 03/11/11 - 13:14

I've heard it reported at 25 feet..

ab - 03/11/11 - 15:47

I dont think it is tree top height, but it is alot of water. Prayers go out to all involved.

gen3fire - 03/11/11 - 15:55

Their USAR teams will be BUSY! A daunting mission to be sure...

BobC - 03/11/11 - 23:40

Today's amazing media, [http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/..](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/)

Before and after satellite photos.

Legeros - 03/13/11 - 15:12

Not sure if this is from the same camera but looks a lot like it, and I hope the link works right

<http://www.cnn.com/interactive/2011/03/w..>

[North Carolina Digital Collections](#) is a nifty collection of digitized and born-digital materials held by the state archives and the state library. Thanks to Mrs. Blogger for pointing out the text-recognition of capability. Click **Advanced Search** and search for the phrase "fire department." The resulting 165 items, as of this morning, including municipal and organization histories, public facility and municipal annexation plans, and even this inventory of [inactive hazardous materials sites from 2009 and 2008](#). Total of 115 are listed for Wake County.

WAKE

NONCD0001033	AMERICAN CONTRACT COATINGS	HWY 55
NONCD0001266	AMPLE STORAGE	3450 BUSH STRE
NONCD0001170	ARROW DRIVE-CRABTREE CREEK	ARROW DR & G
NCD981929615	AUBURN CHURCH ROAD DRUM	AUBURN CHUR
NCD051853547	AUSTIN FOODS	ONE QUALITY I
NCD986166155	BAKER (MAGGIE) PROPERTY	1209 TRINITY R
NONCD0001311	BAKER ROOFING	655 MAYWOOD
NONCD0001322	BARWELL ROAD WELLS	INTERSECTION
NONCD0001325	BAZEMORE WAKE LLC SITE	9440 DURANT R
NONCD0001399	BURKE'S HARDWARE	5227 HILLSBOR
NCD980557664	BURLINGTON INDUSTRIES, INC.	US 1 NORTH
NCD982098774	CAL-TONE PAINTS	5115 NEW BERN
NONCD0001433	CAPITAL BL. SH. CT-GLAM-O-RAMA	3100 CAPITAL B
NCN000407686	CARALEIGH PHOSPHATE AND	1601 LAKE WHE
NCD991278284	CAROLINA P&L CO. HARRIS	SR 1134
NONCD0001453	CAROLINA TRAILWAYS	
NONCD0001057	CARPENTER BATTERY DUMP	CARPENTER FIB
NONCD0001460	CARY KEYBOARD/MAYNARD PLAZA	1401 S. E. MAYN
NONCD0001461	CARY VILLAGE 66	1101 WALNUT S
NONCD0001468	CC MANGUM-HIGHWAY 54	6105 CHAPEL HI
NCD080894645	CHLORIDE AUTOMOTIVE BATTERIES	2539 TIMBER LA
NONCD0002821	COMPLETE AUTO CENTER	909 CAPITAL BL
NCD08116477	CONAGRA FOODS INC	4851 JONES S&I

Looking down the list, the "CARALEIGH PHOSPHATE AND" at [1601 Lake Wheeler Road](#) leaps out at Yours Truly. That's the site of the 1892 fire at the Caraleigh Phosphate and Fertilizer Warehouse, one of the city's [biggest fires in the 1890s](#). The present owner of the property, say tax records, is Southern Roofing & Metals Company. There are 3.97 deeded acres. In this history document of mine titled [Raleigh Fire Department 1880-1899](#) , the incident is described on page 19 as:

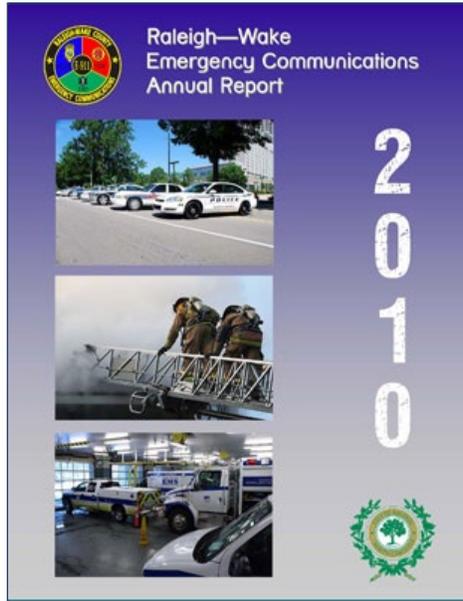
The Caraleigh Phosphate and Fertilizer Warehouse southwest of Raleigh was destroyed by fire on Aug 19, 1892. Discovered just after dark in the acid chambers, a "mammoth structure" measuring 250 feet long and 60 feet high, the blaze began in a burner room used for making sulfuric acid. Several fire department members responded and assisted, though they were unable to take their apparatus outside of the city limits. The company, located past the Insane Asylum on Asylum Road, had a \$5,000 water system with seven hydrants and a pump. After the pump became disabled, the firefighters relied on gravity-fed pressure from the 10,000- gallon tank on top of the manufacturing mill. By 9:30 p.m., the entire structure was in ruins. The entire building and its contents were destroyed, with an estimated \$25,000. ⁹⁸

Over 4,000 tons of sulfuric acid spilled onto the ground during the fire and likely soaked into the water table. Seven years later, problems with the city water supply were reported. During a special meeting of the Board of Alderman on Mar. 10, 1899, the Committee of Physicians reported that water supplied by the Caraleigh Phosphate Mills was contaminated. They cited the cause as either the 1892 fire or the tipping over of a large vat in 1898. The physicians reported that the contaminated water was in their opinion "injurious to health, and unfit for domestic use" and while "causing disordered digestion and bowel disturbances" was not necessarily "dangerous life." They recommended that the city's water supply pipe running through that area be relocated a safe distance from the contaminated area. ⁹⁹

Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center 2010 Annual Report

03/12/11 68 W, 2 I - + 9 - 4

The latest annual report from the Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center has been posted to their web page, on their [Statistics and Annual Reports page](#). How do you find said page? Start by clicking the Public Safety link from the city's home page. That'll get you started in the right direction. 'Tis a challenging portal. Anyway, [read the 2010 annual report](#) .



Challenging... There's an understatement!

rfburns - 03/12/11 - 20:40

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

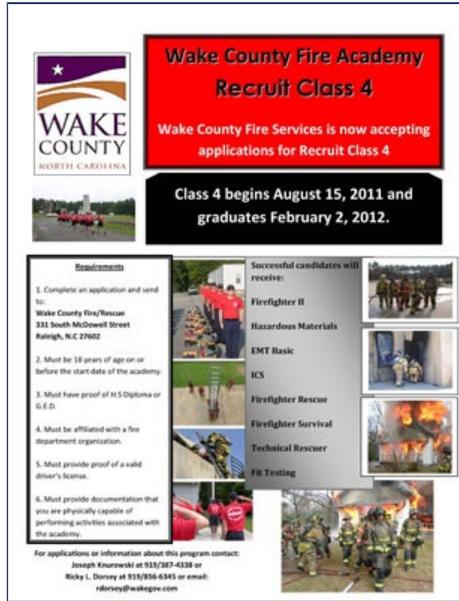
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Wake County Fire Academy #4 Accepting Applications

03/12/11 87 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

Wake County Fire/Rescue is now accepting applications for its fourth county-wide fire academy, which begins in August and graduates in February 2012. Applications must be received no later than ____?____. Candidates who complete the program are certified as Firefighter II, Haz-Mat Operations Plus, EMT Basic, ICS, Firefighter Rescue, Firefighter Survival, Rescue Technician, and Fit Testing. See this [PDF flyer](#) for application requirements, such as you must be affiliated with a fire department organization. The flyer also has contact information. Good luck!



Mike, the link is bad on the main page in the text portion of the post. Clicking the picture works fine though. Just some FYI.

“See this PDF flyer (<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/docs/WCFA4.pdf>) for application requirements”

The picture link is good (<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/docs/WCFA4.pdf>)

JM - 03/12/11 - 23:27

Thanks, fixed.

Legeros - 03/13/11 - 00:18

For any readers out there... this is a fantastic program with great integrity. If anyone can attend, I highly recommend it.

A.C. Rich - 03/13/11 - 10:06

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Aerial Photos of Bronx Bus Accident

03/12/11 72 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

The [ABC7 web site](#) has posted aerial photos of this morning's multi-fatality tour bus accident on the New England Thruway in New York City. The pictures reveal the scope of the response, with both FDNY and NYPD Emergency Services units. Multiple engine, ladder, squad, and rescue companies, plus other units. It would be interesting to see the run card.



My resources are still reporting but what I see at the moment is the Initial was 2 & 2 plus BN-20. Due to numerous calls dispatcher added R-3, SQ-61 & L-61 to the box. BN-20 confirmed an overturned bus with numerous injuries, additional Rescue (4) & Collapse Rig/L-27 requested. At the signal 7-5 all hands L32 Fast, B27 and RAC 3 were added. Then this is an approx. rundown from there:

06:06 hours

B20: Special request 2 additional trucks, mixer off.

L41, L37 s/c

06:10 hours

D7: Request 2 additional CFR-D engines

E89, E90 s/c

Disp confirmed to Rescue Battalion that second rescue (R4) was assigned to the box.

06:19 hours

Car 13 adam (AC Richard Tobin, Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention) responding to the overturned bus.

06:25 hours incident duration 47 minutes

D7: 20 people removed from the bus, attempting to remove the rest. Continuing to use all hands, incident is doubtful will hold.

06:31 hours

Car 1B is 10-84

FC: Division 7 requests an expedited reponse by Con-ed.

06:38 hours Duration 1 hour and 1 minute

FC: New England southbound at Hudson River Parkway. Division 7 reports extrication still in progress. 12 black tag, 5 red tag, 4 yellow tag and 9 green tag.

06:48 hours duration 1 hour and 11 minutes

FC: Major casualty MVA involving an overturned bus, New England southbound at Hudson River Parkway. Division 7 reports 32 victims removed from the bus. 13 black tag, 6 red, 2 yellow and 11 green. Probably will hold.

07:01 hours duration 1 hour and 24 minutes

FC: Major casualty MVA involving an overturned bus, New England southbound at Hudson River Parkway. Car 13 adam reports 32 victims removed from the bus. Secondary searches are complete and negative, incident is now under control.

07:07 hours

D7: Request squad and second piece to deal with fuel from the accident

Hazmat 1, Squad 41, Hazmat Battalion s/c

07:15 hours

D7: Releasing the two rescues, they will go 10-8 when available.

07:17 hours

Car 13 adam by the orders of Chief Kilduff, assign a Battalion Chief to the scene for tracking purposes.

B15 s/c

This account was pieced together from several sources so it may change when and if Chief84 publishes a rundown.

stretch - 03/12/11 - 13:07

Death toll is up to 14, and will probably go higher.

Silver - 03/13/11 - 23:09

how many rescues were there and was squad 61 there

ben ([Email](#)) - 03/22/12 - 09:12

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'?

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

Get Your Ambulances Right Here

03/12/11 31 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Seen this week at the state property surplus warehouse on Highway 54. Always something or somethings interesting in that lot!



Being sold thru NC State Surplus by way of eBay. Several are already sold so far.

Olson - 03/12/11 - 17:33

I'll take that cherry picker in the background...

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/12/11 - 18:32

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](#))

Vests

03/12/11 56 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Police, fire, and medical personnel in action at the intersection of Lynn and Lead Mine roads a bit ago. Took about two hundred photos. Many multiples of the same shot. Maybe three-dozen keepers. This picture is looking northwest if memory serves. Shadows are a bit harsh, but post-processing improves the image. 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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Orange County Ambulance Accident Today

03/13/11 104 W - + 10 - 4

WTVD reports that an Orange County EMS ambulance today overturned on Highway 86 about a half-mile north of New Hope Church Road. The accident happened just before noon. Three EMTs were injured, along with the patient being transported. The two EMTs riding in the front required extrication. All four were transported to UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill with non-life threatening injuries. The cause cited by the Highway Patrol was that the driver an off the right side of the road, over-corrected, left the road again, and overturned. The driver was cited for failing to maintain lane control. [Read the story.](#)

Medic in the box was former Wake Co. EMS Employee.

LGFD - 03/14/11 - 10:28

Let's count this as a blessing, and then let's take it as a valuable wake-up call. Could have been anyone, could have been much worse, let us all be on point and careful at all times.

haveaheart - 03/17/11 - 21:50

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Caption This Photo / Flapjack Fundraiser

03/13/11 108 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

That's Wake County Firefighter's Association President and Bus Boy Extraordinaire Lee Price in action at Applebee's in Knightdale, where a Flapjack Fundraiser raised about \$800 through the sale of 180 plates of cakes 'n' links. Thanks for everyone that participated, both behind the scenes and before the fork. Good eating and good fellowship. And nobody broke the camera, though they made the joke a few times. But like a Hawaiian shirt at a fire scene, it never gets old. The association is planning future fundraisers at Applebee's in other regions, one per quarter. [See photos from this morning.](#)



Lee Price's house of munch

ha - 03/14/11 - 10:43

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Backing Up

03/13/11 52 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Cary Engine 5 leaving the scene of a motor-vehicle accident this afternoon at Green Level and Green Level School roads, auto-aid with Apex Fire Department. That intersection's about two miles south of the Cary Station 8 location. Talk about a ways out there! And such a developed area! Click to enlarge:



hmmm.... I believe that location would be Green Level Church Road, and Green Hope School Road... We are looking forward to the opening of CFD#8 soon!

seademons - 03/14/11 - 14:09

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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

Knightsdale Firefighters Need Your Help To Help Their Own

03/14/11 571 W - + 8 - 3

Members of Knightsdale Public Safety are performing an "Extreme Makeover"-style renovation on the home of one of their members who is suffering severe hardships. Long-time volunteer firefighter Jeff Bouchelle and his family of four have been dealing with the daily struggles of a son suffering from pediatric glaucoma, which makes him legally blind. Forrest uses oxygen at night to ensure he doesn't develop pneumonia. Jeff's wife Kathy left her job to stay home with Forrest, thus cutting their income in half.

This situation has left Jeff and his family strapped for cash. And just as their little boy must be kept safe and in good health, their home must also be safe for them. Unfortunately, their house has numerous problems: a leaking roof, severely rotten siding, leaking windows in poor condition, and a furnace that hasn't worked in years. They heat their home with electric heaters. They're using one bathroom, due to a bathtub crack that's rendered another one inoperable. Their dishwasher hasn't worked in three years, their deck rotted and was removed, and there are many other issues.

As Firefighter Chris Miller notes "As a brother of our own, I feel like it is very much deserved, that we help him in a way that sees fit for their family to have a peace of mind and confidence in knowing that they don't have to worry about the burdens that have been weighing on them for so long now." Thus their plan for an "Extreme Makeover"-style renovation of the Bouchelle's home, just without the cameras and television hosts.

Knightsdale Public Safety members Goley Boggs, Tim Guffey, Mike Miller, Chris Miller and others have been working to make this happen, but they need some help. They're asking for people to help with the labor, donations for some of the building supplies, and just some brotherly love. Though Mike and Goley have received almost everything needed as a donation, there are still some things to be purchased. The fire department has established a trust fund at the First Citizens Bank in Knightsdale for donations. Please make checks payable to the Knightsdale Public Safety Explorers Jeff Bouchelle Relief Fund.

Presently, all of the shingles and most of the siding has been donated. Skip Blaylock has donated all the metal. A dumpster has been donated, and most all of the windows have been provided. We are also trying to building an addition to the end of their home, to give Forrest more room for his medical equipment, his bed, and all the things that a six year-old boy needs. We have submitted the plans and most of the materials have been donated for the donation. As everything can't be donated and some things have to be purchased, donations of money are also requested.

Work is planned to start on the roof on Monday, March 14. They hope to have the roof completely removed and re-shingled by Tuesday. If you are available either of these days, please notify Chris Miller or Goley Boggs, so they can plan accordingly. If you can help in the coming days, please contact either of them, and they'll work to make a schedule.

Your help is greatly appreciated, and means the world to Jeff and his family. Thank you for reading.

Christopher Miller
Firefighter First Class
Knightsdale Public Safety
919-217-2271
919-320-7271 cell

The address where the work is happening is 602 Indian Springs Drive, Knightsdale...

Legeros - 03/15/11 - 20:38

WRAL story about this project, <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/933..>

Legeros - 03/25/11 - 23:12

Thanks to everyone who has helped so far; donating time, money, and materials. We've had firefighters from around the county and a few police officers and Wake SO deputies. This has been a very worth while project for a very deserving family. Again, thanks to all.

Knightsdale Fire - 03/26/11 - 22:25

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Fire Department Antique Photo Shoot

03/14/11 220 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

Sunday morning saw some antique apparatus in action at Fire Station 28 at 3500 Forestville Road. That's where the city's four pieces of antique fire apparatus are stored. Plus a set of vintage rescue boats and a couple wheeled extinguishers, that is. From horse 'n' steam to gasoline to diesel. How many years of collective service are shown? And not counting the station personnel assisting! See photos from [Mike Legeros](#) and [Lee Wilson](#). Read about the apparatus [in this document](#) and [on this site](#). Or click to enlarge:



Shown left to right:

- 1905 American LaFrance Metropolitan steamer, third-size. Served the volunteer Raleigh Fire Department as well as the career department.
- 1926 American LaFrance Type 75 triple combination pumper, 750 GPM pump, 40 gallon chemical tank. Served as Engine 4.
- 1950 Mack 85LS pumper, 750 GPM pump, and maybe a 150 gallon tank. Served as Engine 6.
- 1982 Mack CF pumper, 1000 GPM pump, 500 gallon tank. Old Engine 1, Engine 20, Engine 25.

The rigs were staged and shot as a project for the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#). Special equipment included an air compressor, a pair of jumper cables, and a stepladder. Jokes included a number of references to Jed Clampett, particularly when the 1926 was in motion. [FireNews](#) Editor Jeff Harkey was also present, and filmed a bit of footage. Listen to those vintage motors talkin'.

Has the next addition to the antique fleet been identified as of yet?

BC - 03/15/11 - 07:32

I would love to see all these in the Christmass parade even if they have to be on a trailer. The steamer with a team of horses would make a great picture.

Rob Mitchell - 03/15/11 - 09:42

the Next apparatus added to the antique fleet should be the 1998 Snorkel.

charlie - 03/15/11 - 23:39

Or one of those Pierce Arrow pumpers...if any are still around.

GH - 03/16/11 - 05:57

great to finally see some preservation of our local history!

JB - 03/21/11 - 22:18

I agree with GH, and in another 10 years add an enclosed cab to show how far things have come!!

Silver - 03/21/11 - 22:24

Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Chief Engineer's « Raleigh Fire Departme... » This Morning's Two Al... Report of the Raleigh Fire Department, 1884

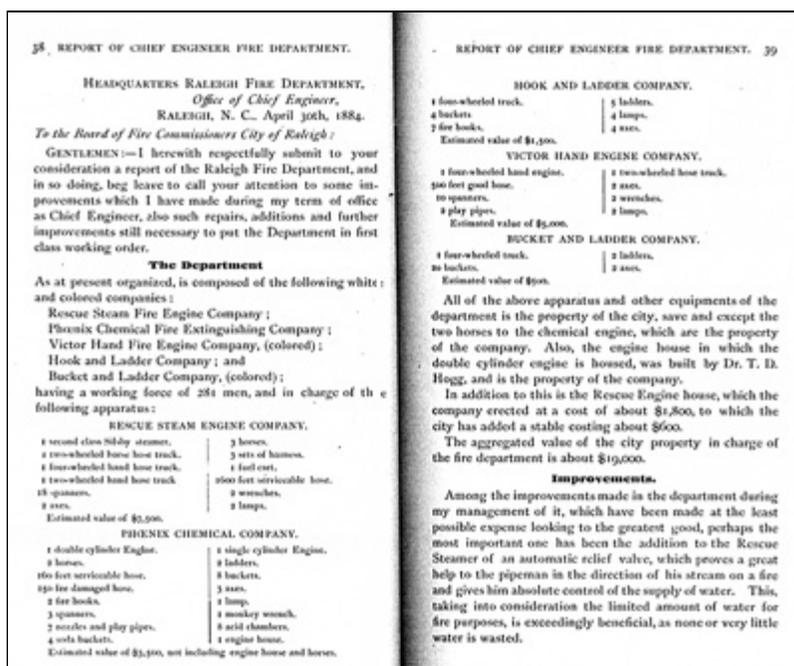
Chief Engineer's Report of the Raleigh Fire Department, 1884

03/14/11 132 W, 2 I - + 8 - 2

For your historical enjoyment, here's a scan of an 1884 annual report, excerpted from the *Annual Report of the Mayor and Officers of the City of Raleigh, N.C. - Fiscal Year Ending April 30th, 1884*. The document was printed by Edwards, Broughton & Co., using a steam-powered printing press. A bound version was photocopied at the North Carolina State Library and scanned at Blog Central.

There's an excerpt from the Mayor's personal report, a report from the committee of the Market House (where some apparatus was kept), and the report of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department. The latter includes lists of equipment, fire calls, water sources, and expenditures.

[Read the PDF document](#) (3.6M), which will soon be linked from [Mike's history pages](#).



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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This Morning's Two Alarms / Dansey Drive

03/15/11 244 W, 2 I - + 10 - 3

Two alarms at [4724 Dansey Drive](#). Reported as New Hope Road between Capital and Louisburg roads. Engine 19 arriving at a two-story, wood-frame, multi-family apartment building with 10,356 square-feet. Built 1985. Heavy fire visible from both floors at the rear of the building. Interior attack utilizing a number of two-inch lines. Ladder 2 also deployed in rear of building.

Two hydrants used, on Dansey Drive (E19) and New Hope Road (L2). Command (B1) located on northeast corner of Dansey Drive and New Hope Road. Staging in parking lot of New Hope Baptist Church at corner of Louisburg and New Hope roads. Rehab and medical monitoring on New Hope Road at Dansey Drive. New Hope Road closed by police. Dispatched 2:49 a.m. Controlled 3:22 a.m. Eight units rendered uninhabitable, 19 people displaced.

Units included E19, E15, E11, E27, E21, E22, E28, L2, L5, R1, R2, B1, B2, C10, C20, C40, A1, C1, C2, C5, New Hope E1, B1, C1, WC1, EMS 5, EMS 2, EMS 121, EMS 18, EMS 7, EMS 15, D1, D4, T1. Special call for CAT bus for evacuated residents. E26 for relief about 5:15 a.m.

[See sampling of photos](#) from Legeros. More later, along with pics from Lee Wilson. Media coverage: NBC17 (broken link on their site), [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#). Blog coverage right here. Commence discussion, dissection, etc.



March 21 update. Here's a good morning-after photo from the *News & Observer's* [subsequent article](#):



Shawn Rocco/News & Observer photo

How did L-2 perform after all the work it had done to it? Looks like it did fine.

ab - 03/16/11 - 21:30

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

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Least-Educated Comment of the Day

03/15/11 90 W - + 5 - 5

From [WRAL's coverage](#) of this morning's apartment fire on Dansey Drive. This one's tough to top! Total comments are 16. Guess the conversation never got any legs.

why bother having a paid fire dept when all these fires happen and so much is still lost? do these depts ever save anything? especially since there was a paid fire dept 1/2 mile from this fire and still 16 are homeless...all that money that can be saved by having volunteers do the same work as the paid guys ...
-curiosinralnc

see wut had happened wuz..

idiot - 03/15/11 - 23:32

If ignorance is bliss, that person is frigging ecstatic.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/16/11 - 09:36

Someone should tell him/her that stupid people like you are why we have paid fire departments! I love idiots!

TTaylor - 03/16/11 - 10:45

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Run For Your Lives!

03/15/11 32 W - + 7 - 5

Fuel + tanker + fire = Oh sh_t!

Credit [Firegeezzer Mike Ward](#) for finding this clip of a burning fuel tanker in Turkey. Believe I would be running also...

too bad it wasn't long enough to see if driving that tanker away did any good. Seems like it was FUBAR in either case, and I'm sure the people who ran away were glad to see the burning tanker coming in their direction... D'OH!!!

Bob - 03/16/11 - 21:59

So much for safety mechanisms...

A.C. Rich - 03/16/11 - 22:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

What the Harris Plant Sirens Sound Like

03/16/11 223 W, 2 I - + 7 - 8

The events in Japan inevitably turn thoughts to our own nuclear power plants and particularly the one right down the road in New Hill. The Shearon Harris Nuclear Generating Station, as [this Wikipedia page notes](#), has a single pressurized-water nuclear reactor that began producing power in May 1987.

Four reactors were planned for the site, but three were canceled due to budget issues and weak demand. Applications have been filed to building two more reactors on the site, and they would not be operational before 2018. The current reactor is licensed to operate for sixty years, it's original forty-year license extended in 2008.

In the event of an emergency that required notification of the general public, 81 outdoor warning sirens in a 10-mile radius of the plant could be sounded. That's the plant's Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ). The sirens are located in Chatham, Harnett, Lee, and Wake counties. Picture below [from this web page](#).

Who makes the sirens? Haven't found that information, though it's probably Federal Signal. They made the familiar [Thunderbolt](#) sirens that we've all seen. And probably heard, back when such sirens were tested. Or even used, as Mr. Blogger remembers from tornado warnings in Minnesota in his youth.

[Listen to the sirens.](#)

[Read the Harris Plant media guide](#) .



They're either Federal or Whelen. I know Holly Springs has a Whelen system at the water tank on Lee St., but it may only be a warning system in case the tank malfunctions and has the potential to cause a flood of the low-lying Remington neighborhood. There is also a new site (about a year or so old) on Kildaire Farm Rd. near Holly Springs Rd., which is also Whelen.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/16/11 - 09:34

I browsed the Progress Energy pages you linked a bit and it seems this is actually the sound of the new sirens?

<http://progress-energy.com/aboutenergy/p..>

Found here: <http://www.progress-energy.com/aboutener..>

Tim - 03/16/11 - 11:53

According to a MSNBC story Shearon Harris comes in at 101 out of 104 in terms of risk from earthquake:

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42103936/ns/.](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42103936/ns/)

Paul - 03/16/11 - 12:11

All the new electronic sirens are made by Whelen. The tunderbolts were made by Federal if I remember right.

Zack A - 03/16/11 - 14:15

Thunderbolts were made by Federal. The new ones are Whelens.

DJ - 03/16/11 - 21:45

The siren sound link is the old Federals. To hear the new Whelens, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELjlwgKhl..> There is one of these at the entrance to my subdivision. The last full power test was a 2-3 minute wail like the one in the video.

DJ - 03/16/11 - 21:53

So is the Whelen an electronic siren?

Legeros - 03/16/11 - 21:55

Oops. The top link is the Federals, the one in Tim's post is the Whelens. They are electronics. Whelen model is WPS-2908.

DJ - 03/16/11 - 22:03

Yes, the Whelens are electronic. They have a driver and PA in the box mounted under the speaker stack and there is usually a second box for a battery back-up. City of Raleigh's flood warning system (I think) still uses Fed Sig, which are also electronic. The systems also give the control center the ability to transmit voice over them to give commands or information.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/18/11 - 08:57

<http://money.cnn.com/news/specials/nucle..>

Sparky - 03/18/11 - 14:39

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

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 No

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Another Car Versus House

03/17/11 62 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

[As this WRAL story reports](#), the owner of a house on October Road yesterday heard an explosion and found a white Lexus sitting in his dining room. The driver attempted to leave the scene, but the homeowner assisted in keeping her at the scene. The structure was determined unsafe by the fire department.



Jaime McLain/WRAL photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Fire and Police Apparatus in Japan

03/17/11 137 W, 3 I - + 11 - 7

News coverage of Japan's nuclear reactor problems cite water cannons being used, including police units and military fire units. Google image searching finds precious few photos of apparatus either on scene or of the special type being used. This television image shows an 8x8 airport unit alongside a regular pumper. Note the size difference! Click to enlarge:



And this is a police water cannon unit, photographed at an earlier time. Fuso chassis with certainly a remote controlled deluge gun. Note the screens over the windows. This picture originates at japanese-trucks.com, original photographer unknown. Click to slightly enlarge:



And away from the nuclear plants, here's a contingent of heavy rescue trucks traveling through a destroyed area. Photo from earth-issues.com, original credit unknown. Click to enlarge:



Another neat picture showing apparatus staged at a scene: <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/images/2011..>

Linked from this slideshow, <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/..>

Legeros - 03/18/11 - 07:09

You know, given the ability of firefighters to solve the world's problems while sitting around the kitchen table, I'll betcha American firefighting experts could help Japanese firefighters with getting, flowing, and aiming water into the cooling pools that are the reported issue at present. It will be interesting to see the solutions that appear, as aid and expertise joins the, um, pool of talent on scene.

Legeros - 03/18/11 - 07:12

Google "Chernobyl Firefighters" and "Chernobyl Liquidators"....VERY interesting read.

And I agree with Michio Kaku, entomb the thing, get it over with, keep it from hurting people. Theres nothing left to save.

Jake T. - 03/19/11 - 00:55

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mobile Publicity Unit

03/18/11 94 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Found this while looking for fire apparatus pictures in the Far East. This is a Mitsubishi Fuso mobile publicity unit of the Hong Kong Fire Services in Kowloon. Betcha the thing is the equivalent of a fire safety house, but on a bigger and way cooler chassis. What do you think? Could you increase **internal** interest in public education participation, if personnel operated something more apparatus-like? Wonder how much one of these baby's cost? Photograph by Daryl Chapman - Bauhinia photography, via flickr. [See the photo](#) or click to view:



Pretty sweet. I bet with some help Pierce or any other company could design and build something cool and very functional. it would certainly help not to have to have a two-piece transport system.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/18/11 - 08:59

Just wondering....if this is a unit in Hong Kong, why's all the writing in English?

Jake T. - 03/18/11 - 19:46

Excellent question, Grasshopper. Hong Kong was a British colony until 1997, and with exception of when the Japanese occupied the country during World War II. English was the sole official language of the country from the arrival of the British in 1842 until 1974. These things I learned from Wikipedia articles. My brain did not contain this knowledge.

Legeros - 03/18/11 - 23:03

That was excellent. Thank you.

Jake T. - 03/19/11 - 00:35

When you see the Hong Kong fire service in action, it is very British – apparatus design, uniforms, turnouts, etc. I visited in 2001 and it was very interesting. In much of the rest of China (except the huge cities), fire protection was provided by the Army.

Reader Request For Elizabeth City Fire Department History

03/18/11 217 W - + 6 - 7

Reader Gary Fry in Bethesda, MD, is 64 years old and retired from the federal government. His grandparents were residents of Elizabeth City and he's been visiting Elizabeth City for, well, 64 years. His dad always took him to the local firehouse and it was a necessary ritual when he visited. One of the paid firefighters they saw them was a classmate of his mother, from Elizabeth City High School.

He remembers seeing the new fire station being built on Elizabeth Street in 1957 (\$70,000) and the construction of the two substations on Halstead Boulevard and and Harney Street. He also remembers the closing of the [Elizabeth Street station](#) (also [blogged about here](#)). He can recall the old [steam pumper Inez](#), the Virginia motorized pumper, the 1927 ALF, the 1940 Seagrave, and the Chevrolet pumper by Pasquotank County that served both the city and county.

Gary's witnessed many changes in Elizabeth City and has read about the volunteer companies Pasquotank and Camdem counites. He has very found memories of his visits, and he seeks any written history and photographs of the current fire companies. He's also seeking any current or past apparatus photos. Firefighter has been a lifelong interest and hobby, and he appreciates any response.

Gary Fry - firescaner "at" comcast.net

Worked at ECFD in the '80s. Left there to pursue other career and have since moved to rocky mount,nc. Have recently joined a VFD there and reconnected with a friend or two from EC. They have sent me pictures of all the old trucks I used to drive/operate back in the day. These included a 1955 Howe Defender, which was made into a 1980 mack with a grumman fire pump, a 1977 ford with wxtended cab, a 1965 ford cabover, a 1972 ford cabover, a 1963 chevy cabover, 1954 american la france aerial, a 1977 ford tanker, a 1983 grumman with cincy cab. Dont know how many of these you may remember

william godfrey ([Email](#)) - 04/28/11 - 16:39

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Weather Stations in Fire Stations

03/19/11 59 W, 1 I - + 6 - 8

A reader shares this photo of a weather station in the Wyse Fork Fire Department in Jones County outside Kinston. What sort of weather monitoring equipment do you have? Heck, send pictures of your "base station." And for extra credit, can you identify the other equipment shown here? Click to enlarge:



The two boxes under the Motorola radios appear to be power supplies.

Kermit - 03/20/11 - 16:25

With Kermit, the power supplies convert mobiles into bases. I do like that rotary phone on the wall. Some sort of weather radio thing in the middle with a 2.5x1.5 adapter....

DJ - 03/20/11 - 18:47

Hey DJ- What's up with Apex EMS? You guys going to be county employees now? What happened?

Spanky - 03/20/11 - 20:16

@ Spanky- send me your email address and I will fill you in.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 03/20/11 - 21:21

Motorola MaxTrac300 with base plate and Astron RS-20A power supply on left, Motorola CM-series mobile with base plate and unidentified (but likely old Astron) power supply on the right. Both with desk mics. Davis Vantage series weather monitor station (unsure of model).

Duda ([Email](#)) - 03/21/11 - 08:49

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Fire Chief Cancels College Basketball Game, 1947

03/21/11 127 W - + 7 - 5

Reporting from the road and specifically the Library of Congress, where a bit of database research is underway. The February 26, 1947, edition of the New York Times contained the short report of a basketball game at State College that was cancelled after Raleigh Fire Chief W. R. Butts ordered the Frank Thompson Gymnasium closed. He cited overcrowding, with students crowding aisles and blocking exits. All seats were filled by 6:30 p.m., an hour and a half before the scheduled start of the Southern Conference game between North Carolina and North Carolina State College universities. Students refused to clear the aisles, and the Chief thus ordered the gym closed. The article does not include any information on which team was favored to win.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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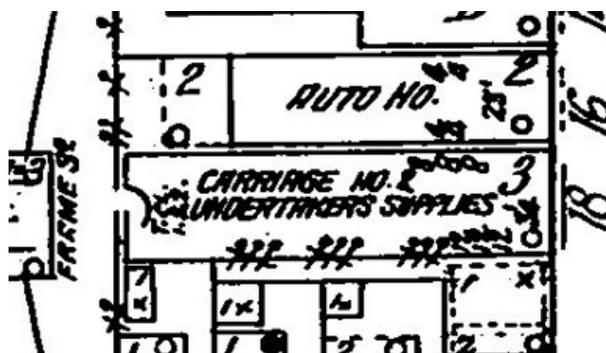
When Old Buildings Look Like Old Firehouses

03/21/11 226 W, 2 I - + 12 - 4

As a result of my research and photos of [Baltimore \(city\) former firehouses](#) a couple years ago, random questions occasionally appear in my inbox. The latest was from the owner of 18. S. Schroeder Street. They were curious about the history of the building, which their neighbors believed was a former engine house. The owner also couldn't find any information prior to 1936.



Not seeing any information in my own lists, I turned to the experts on the [Baltimore City Watch Desk forum](#). They didn't have such an engine house on their lists, either. And one offered that the building looked like a carriage house. Since Yours Truly today happened to be at the Library of Congress, with access to Digital Sanborn Maps, a little research confirmed those observations. Here's the building from the 1914-15 fire insurance map, listed as occupied as a carriage house and also undertaker supplies (!).



In the Capitol City (Raleigh), old buildings that look like old fire stations are few and far between. Head north and east-- or even south, to such places as Charleston-- and there are many such structures. And people probably think quite a few of them were former fire stations.

What do you know offhand about 417 S. Dawson St? I hope this link works:

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

rfburns - 03/21/11 - 16:40

This would be a sweet house for a Heavy Rescue company..http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&client=safari&rls=en&bav=on.2,or.r_gc_r_pw.&um=1&ie=UTF-

8&q=central+prison+raleigh+nc&fb=1&gl=us&hq=central+prison&hnear=Raleigh,+NC&ei=mguITc2JJczAtgf92d3hDQ&sa=X&oi=local_group&ct=image&resnum=4&ved=0CAQQtgMwAw
Silver - 03/21/11 - 22:41

Dang it!!!! It's the building at 1400 Western Blvd., in front of the prison. Link didn't work...

Silver - 03/21/11 - 22:45

About the building on Dawson Street, county tax records say it was built in 1920. <http://services.wakegov.com/realestate/>

Before that time, Sanborn Maps, <http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/ncmaps/sanborn..>, show dwellings at that location.

The tax records call the building a warehouse. Since it was built in 1920, that means it was built in the era when RFD was both career and motorized. Fire stations in the city in that era required living quarters, which this building doesn't have, or doesn't look to have.

Plus, there's no record that I have ever come across, noting that it was used by RFD. But others have asked that same question!

Legeros - 03/22/11 - 07:19

<http://kearc.com/sdawson.html>

Google Search - 03/22/11 - 11:14

Jeff It would be but might not fit! Leave Rescue on north side that's where all the fire is currently coming from!

Jason Lane - 03/22/11 - 18:54

True J', I just mean the concept here of a single company Rescue house would be cool, especially in a key spot such as 1400 Western (can get to a lot of spots quickly). You are correct though, the Fire Triangle these days is 11's, 15 and the ol' one-niner. Glad to see you guys are gettin' some...

Silver - 03/22/11 - 19:58

Agree Jeff there are some cool buildings, especially the old ones like old, old station four looks like a house, then I like the old water tower building!

Jason Lane - 03/22/11 - 23:39

Agree and agree!! Speaking of, I bet the City could get a good deal on Old #4 on Wake Forest!!! It's "For Lease"...

Silver - 03/22/11 - 23:55

Thanks for the notes on 417 S. Dawson Mike and "Google Search". I appreciate it. I guess when you see bay doors opening up to the street, you just assume fire station, which isn't always the case...

rfburns - 03/23/11 - 06:35

Here's a gallery of nearly 200 former firehouses and fire department buildings around our state, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set..>

And galleries of old engine houses from other cities, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/col..>

Legeros - 03/23/11 - 07:01

the city needs to worry more about getting more rescue companies and engines and ladders before worrying about how cool a one company rescue house would be. Until they can take water off the ladders because of their ISO rating and when a 3 alarm fire hits and half the city is gone. Keep that in mind.

point - 03/30/11 - 07:12

^Rescue companies do not have any beneficial affect on ISO ratings.

RescueRanger - 03/30/11 - 22:05

But RR, if said rescue company carries an ISO recognized compliment of ground ladders, does that invisibility still apply? (Raleigh companies do not. Cary Rescue 7 does, I think...)

Legeros - 03/31/11 - 07:52

Mike that is correct. A 'rescue' that is more equipped as a 'service truck' can receive all the points that a ladder truck does minus the points for the elevated master stream. Point in case, WWR295 is equipped and recieves all points that a ladder does, except the ladder pipe. And you are correct that CFD R7 is similarly equipped as the new CFD R4 will be. Dual purpose trucks, with additional equipment = ISO points and usability.

shevais - 03/31/11 - 08:19

ok well do you not get my point? Raleigh HAS to carry water on ladders because of their ISO rating. They also DO NOT have enough engine companies. Closing county stations that run with the city is an idiotic idea that they do because they think that they are above the volunteers and even the paid guys. It will take a horrible fire for the city to realize what they have done and screwed up. Silver making the joke about old 4 but in all seriousness, open it again. Put an engine company and something else there. It is desperately needed whether you see it or not. Look at yesterdays fire, over 25% of the cities engines were at that fire, 25% of the ladders, and 66% of the rescue companies. Just keep an open mind about this.

point - 03/31/11 - 09:32

@point

Pretty much everyone who comments on this blog is not in a position to open fire stations, old buildings etc. They are merely speaking of their opinions of what they would "like" to see. The old building with a Rescue would be cool for nostalgia type reasons for history buffs and firefighters who like the old time feel, but everyone knows that it wont happen. The Fire department admin. and city manager make the decisions on purchases and station placements and I dont think i have ever seen any of them comment on this blog. As far as old Station 4 is concerned, yes i feel it was a mistake to close it but unless the private owners come down on their asking price then i do not see the City getting it back especially the way the economy is. So if you are really worried about some firefighters who think it would be cool to be stationed in a older building and really think they would rather have that building than more Engines and Ladders then i feel like you dont get the "point" of what this blog is about or how Munciple Fire Departments are run.

gen3fire - 03/31/11 - 10:13

ISO points awarded for ladder or service trucks are dependant on the territory served. For instance, Raleigh's response area requires a certain number of ladders based on buildings over 3 stories tall. So RFD does not qualify for points for service trucks. On the other hand, some county departments may receive this type of credit if the territory doesn't contain

Postcard From DC

03/22/11 148 W, 1 I - + 7 - 7

Left to right, top to bottom. Two ambulances apparently permanently staged at the United States Capitol building. Placards on the dash read "House" in other and "Senate" in the other. Connected with shore lines for permanent starting power. Don't know if medical personnel are in the building at all times. Next a big, honkin' haz-mat unit operated by the USCP. Saw staged at two different locations over two different days. Engine running, but otherwise empty. Guess it's a stand-by unit. [See more such units.](#) Next is DCFD Rescue 1 responding to an elevator rescue at Ford's theater. Across the street from that famous building is, of course, Honest Abe's Souvenirs. Finally, a mobile cosmetic unit on the Mall, where Mr. and Mrs. Newt Gingrich were filming what looked like a television commercial. More photos of all forthcoming. Click to enlarge:



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Another Postcard From DC

03/23/11 132 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Left to right, top to bottom: Engine 16 minding its own business in Chinatown, along with a DC police motorcycle with sidecar, also in Chinatown. Rare sight there! Next is a park police truck and trailer, at the mounted police training center on Rock Creek Parkway. How many police departments have been seen so far? Let's see... DC police. US Capitol police. Secret Service police. FBI police. US Park Service police. Pentagon police. Finally, a Oshkosh Striker crash truck at Reagan National Airport. New delivery, not in service yet. The airport has a single fire station with three crash trucks (including one reserve), two engines (include one reserve), paramedic ambulance, mini-pumper, Battalion Chief's vehicle, two haz-mat trucks, and the airport's mobile command post. Click to enlarge:



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Raleigh Fire Department Receives Iron Lung, 1946

03/23/11 174 W - + 6 - 4

Here's another Library of Congress find, from the newspaper *New Journal and Guide* out of Norfolk, from an article dated November 30, 1946. They reported that the Raleigh Fire Department put a recently acquired [iron lung](#) to use, for a two-year old girl at St. Agnes Hospital. The child was from Mount Gilead and suffered from infantile paralysis. Neither St. Agnes nor Duke Hospital in Durham was equipped to treat her, so the child was placed in the fire department's iron lung in the clinic building at St. Agnes. She was subsequently admitted to the State Orthopedic Hospital in Gastonia, and transported by ambulance from Raleigh. She remained in the lung, while in transit. Presumably the iron lung was returned to Raleigh? Don't know enough medical history to understand the context of the device, and how they were used back then. Nor has Your Truly encountered any other record of this device in the service of fire department. Need to ask some of the oldest retirees about this. Very interesting!

they were more or less designed to breath for the person by pulling their chest up and down which forced air into the lungs. They were usually used for Polio patients. One of those random things I picked up in school

aw - 03/23/11 - 17:27

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Meet Charles Farmer, 1937

03/23/11 524 W - + 8 - 7

Here's another Library of Congress find, from *The Statesville Record* on July 30, 1937, a profile of Raleigh's second career Fire Chief and first person to lead the State Highway Patrol, Charles Farmer.

GET ACQUAINTED WITH STATE MEN

A Brief Biography Of The Head Of The State Patrol

By WALTER DUSTMAN - United Press Staff Correspondent.

Raleigh, N. C., July 29 (UPI) —Major Charles Farmer, burly head of the North Carolina highway patrol, theoretical chief of the Raleigh fire department as well, It was learned today.

Farmer, known familiarly to thousands as "captain", his title before the 1937 General Assembly conferred on him the rank of major, recounted today his 18 years experience as a Raleigh fireman, which included four years as head of the department.

"In 1918 I was given two weeks leave to try out the job of organizing the equipment division of the highway department," Farmer explained. "When I left I handed the city my resignation as chief of the city fire department, but they refused to accept it, and, although I remained to organize the equipment division, so far as I know my resignation has never been accepted."

The major, who began as a correspondence school gas fitter and became the organizer of the first state highway patrol in 1927, said the patrol is "comparable to any in the nation."

Between August 1 and 15 it will place in operation a \$600,000 statewide radio patrol system rated as the finest anywhere. There will be a central office in Raleigh, five strategic stations throughout the state and each patrol car and motorcycle will carry a receiving set.

When organized in 1927, the patrol had a complement of 27' privates, nine lieutenants and Major Farmer. Its equipment consisted of 10 cars and 27 motorcycles.

Today the department has expanded until its personnel has 121 privates, three lieutenants, 12 sergeants and 12 corporals. It has 103 motorcycles and 100 automobiles.

Farmer was born in Raleigh on Nov. 13, 1882. After finishing at the local grammar and high schools, he took two correspondence school courses, one in steam engineering and the other in heating and ventilation.

The major then worked five years with the Raleigh Gas Company as a gas fitter. He organized the Farmer, Coleman Plumbing Company of Raleigh, meanwhile gathering experience with the Raleigh Fire Department as a volunteer.

In 1900 Farmer joined the fire department, becoming its chief in 1914.

"I was the first fireman in Raleigh to drive a motor fire truck," he said. "I also used to drive horses to a lot of fires."

Another first of which the patrol major is obviously proud is that of first plumbing inspector for Raleigh many years ago.

Farmer married Miss Ada Virginia Wren of Goldsboro on August 29, 1904. They have two children, Louise Elizabeth, 23, and Martha Ann, 19, both of whom work in Raleigh.

Besides regularly attending Christ Episcopal church here, the major is a Sudan Shriner, Oddfellow, and past master and grand, exalted ruler of the Elks.

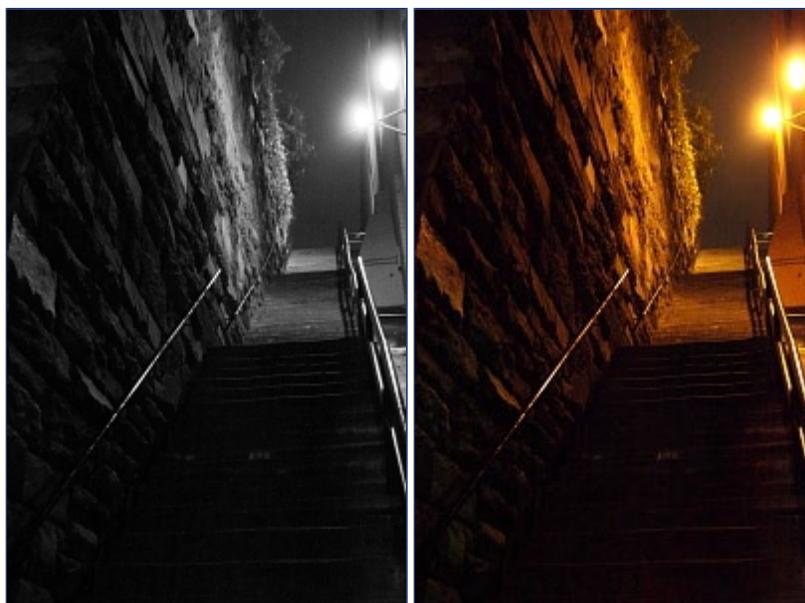
Admitting a palate partial to peanuts and citron custard, Farmer added he likes football and baseball and hugely enjoys umpiring for the revenue building's softball team when it goes into action.

Famous Set of Stairs

03/23/11 169 W, 3 I - + 15 - 5

Here's another postcard from DC. These 97 stone steps were made famous in director William Friedkin's 1973 adaption of William Peter Blatty's 1971 novel *The Exorcist*. The three-story staircase is located on the campus of Georgetown University and descends from Prospect Street to M Street. [Read about the stairs and their filming.](#) The steps look considerably less menacing in daylight, thus the top photo's rendering in grayscale. The bottom photos were taken at night. Same shot, one with color, and one without.

Finally, for fans of both the book and the movie, allow a recommendation of Blatty's 1983 novel *Legion*. Written as an official sequel to *The Exorcist*, it stars the character of Lt. Kinderman, the rumpiled detective played by Lee J. Cobb in the 1973 film. Blatty later directed a film version of *Legion* with George C. Scott as Kinderman. Alas, that film bore the regrettably titled *Exorcist III*. The film wasn't nearly as good as the book *Legion*, as my movie critic memory serves.



CERT Trains Raleigh Citizens to Respond to Disasters

03/25/11 204 W - + 8 - 7

Press release. If a major hurricane or tornado struck Raleigh, would you be able to provide medical assistance to family members or neighbors who are injured, or rescue those trapped under debris? What if terrorists attacked the Capital City -- how would you be able to help those in your neighborhood or workplace?

[The City of Raleigh's Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\) program](#) helps educate people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their communities. Participants are provided training in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Using the training they receive in classrooms and during exercises, CERT members in Raleigh and across the nation can assist neighbors or coworkers following a disaster when police officers, firefighters and other professional responders are not immediately available to help. They also are proactive in such areas as raising awareness about terrorism and identifying neighborhood hazards. Additionally, CERT members are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their neighborhood, and they help out with non-emergency events and projects to improve community safety.'

[Read entire press release.](#)

I was just about to email Mike and ask, does anyone have any feedback on the CERT program? Is it worth taking?

Paul - 03/25/11 - 07:54

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

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Yes

No

Comment:

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Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association to Present Fundraising Concert

03/25/11 253 W - + 4 - 8

Press release. After an eight-year hiatus, the [Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association \(RPFFA\)](#) will produce two concerts annually to raise funds to support several local charities and community programs.

The first concert will be held Friday, November 18 at Dorton Arena, featuring Country music legend John Anderson with special guest Briana Dean. The RPFFA is a 501(c)(5) non-profit organization and is licensed with the North Carolina Secretary of State's office to raise funds. A representative of RPFFA will be calling area residents with an offer to purchase tickets to the benefit concert.

Activities supported by the RPFFA include:

- Camp Celebrate, a weekend camp for children ages 7-15 who have survived burn injuries. Activities include swimming, canoeing, arts and crafts, along with an opportunity to meet other kids who too have been burned;
- High blood pressure checking stations
- Smoke detector program, to provide smoke detectors to families who cannot afford them;
- Youth athletics to help keep kids off of the streets and to build character;
- Battered women's shelters throughout Wake County;
- Financial support for the Salvation Army, Helping Hands, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association;
- Gift provisions for needy kids during the holidays;
- Awareness of firefighter injuries, occupational illness, and the many hazards to which firefighters are exposed;
- Efforts to improve benefits for firefighters injured during the performance of their duties;
- Programs to create awareness for the safety of the public and firefighters; and,
- Support for the Jaycee Burn Center at UNC Hospital.

[Read entire press release.](#)

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Raleigh's 1958 Tiller in Color

03/25/11 135 W, 1 I - + 7 - 8

For your Friday enjoyment, here's a rare color view of Raleigh's 1958 American LaFrance tiller. The photo is from a slide, found and scanned by our friends at the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communication Center. Yours Truly is working on getting copies of others in the series. Vintage color photos of the fire department have been surprisingly hard to find over the years. Thus these pics are pure gold.

We presented some of these maybe a year ago, [in this posted set](#). The pictures are probably posed and feature police, fire, EMS, and emergency communications. Credit is probably to the city public affairs office. Or maybe the county Civil Defense office. Or were they called Emergency Management by that time? Watch this space for more. Click to slightly enlarge:



What is interesting to me about this picture is the lot adjacent to St 1. Looks like an old house in the picture, but I can remember it being a parking lot back in 1996 and now a condo building. Wonder how many structures have occupied the lot over the years?

JJ - 03/25/11 - 18:35

Sounds like a future posting, JJ!

Legeros - 03/25/11 - 18:38

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No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Blog Maintenance Sunday Morning

03/26/11 72 W - + 10 - 7

Outage announcement. Sunday morning. Sometime between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. Basically, whenever Yours Truly wakes up and gets started. Shouldn't be that long. Suggested offline activities during that period: read the newspaper, eat breakfast, clean-up after breakfast, wash one or more personal vehicles, compose short pieces of poetry, read aloud your short pieces of poetry. Mike will go first. There once was a guy with loud shirts...

Who took pictures of Firemen in spurts,

Jake T. - 03/26/11 - 16:17

He toured the county in his Honda....

Silver - 03/26/11 - 19:27

While whistling "help, help me Ronda..."

Legeros - 03/26/11 - 20:37

Now everyone elses ears hurt.

Jake T. - 03/26/11 - 23:58

Name: (real name preferred)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Beam From World* « Raleigh's 1958 Tiller... » Goldston Fire Departm... *Trade Center Displayed in Chatham County Ceremonies Today*

Beam From World Trade Center Displayed in Chatham County Ceremonies Today

03/26/11 244 W, 2 I - + 10 - 9

[As this WRAL story reports](#), a piece of the World Trade Center wreckage will be displayed in ceremonies in Pittsboro, Goldston, and Siler City today. The ceremonies and the artifact are part of a plan to develop a Chatham County 9/11 memorial. The route and schedule, from the article, is below. [See this press release for more information](#).

- 9:00 a.m. - Entering Chatham County at Orange County line on U.S. Highway 15-501 North, heading to Pittsboro
- 9:30 a.m. - Hosting a Tribute Ceremony at Lowe's Home Improvement parking lot in Pittsboro and remaining at this site until 10:30 a.m.
- 10:30 a.m. - Leaving Pittsboro following Business 64 to N.C. Highway 902 towards Bear Creek, but turning onto 1010 (Pittsboro-Goldston Road) toward Goldston.
- 11:00 a.m. - Hosting Tribute Ceremony in Downtown Goldston on Bellevue Street and remaining at this site until noon.
- 12:00 p.m. - Heading north on U.S. Highway 421 to Siler City and exiting at U.S. 64 Business, heading east to the Walmart Shopping Center.
- 12:30 p.m. - Hosting a Tribute Ceremony at the Walmart Shopping Center in Siler City and remaining at this location until around 1:30 pm.
- 1:30 p.m. - Tribute Trail ends

Afternoon update. Here are a couple pictures from the tour's first stop, in the parking lot of Lowes in Pittsboro. [See more photos](#), taken post-ceremony through post-departure.





News & Observer gallery from today, <http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/03/26/1..>

And an 80 shot gallery at that! Wonder if that's something new, the N&O posting so many photos from a story, versus just a handful?

Legeros - 03/26/11 - 16:41

My photos from the event, <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-0..>

Legeros - 03/27/11 - 12:47

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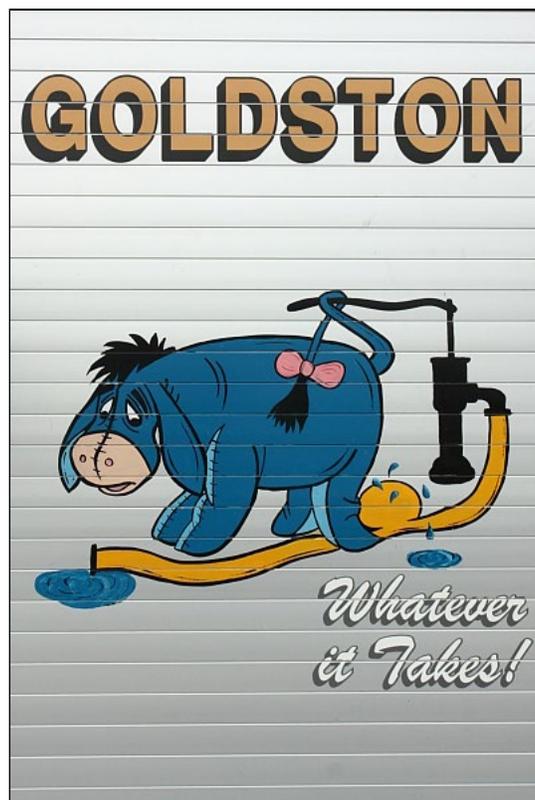
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Goldston Fire Department - Whatever it Takes

03/26/11 37 W, 1 I - + 8 - 8

Cute drawing that adorns the rear of Goldston Fire Department unit 1118, one of the many pieces of apparatus that participated in today's 9/11 memorial ceremony and procession in Chatham County.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Comment:

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South Orange Technical Rescue Team

03/26/11 40 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

These [South Orange Rescue Squad](#) vehicles were parked at a Haw River river landing on Highway 64 outside Pittsboro this morning. The squad's technical rescue team was conducting swift water rescue training. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
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 No

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This Afternoon's Two Alarms / Reunion Point

03/30/11 261 W, 1 I - + 13 - 9

Two alarms at [5500 Reunion Point](#). Cedar Springs Apartments. Engine 19 arriving at a three-story, wood-frame, garden-style apartment building with 13,200 square feet. Built 1996. Heavy fire and smoke showing from the roof in the southwest corner of the structure. Interior operations with two-inch lines. Crews pulled ceilings in the third-floor apartments and found heavy fire in attic.

Emergency evacuation about ten minutes into operation, due to collapsing conditions. All personnel accounted for. Defensive operations commenced, with Ladder 2 on the west side of building on Reunion Point and Ladder 5 on south side / front of the building. Ground monitor also deployed. Majority of fire knocked down within 10 minutes. Aerial operations soon suspended and interior operations resumed.

Battalion 1, then Car 10 as command. Battalion 20 as staging officer. Hydrants used in front of building for Engine 19, and across Spring Forest Road at Reunion Point for Ladder 2. Where was staging as well as rehab? Ladder 5 later used as platform with hand line to extinguish hot spots. Twenty-five people displaced. Twelve apartments affected. Six units uninhabitable. No injuries. Cause not yet determined.

Dispatched at 1:24 p.m. Controlled at 2:31 p.m. Command terminated and scene released about 6:37 p.m. First alarm: E19, E11, E15, L5, R1, B1, EMS 2 Second alarm: E22, E4, E9, E27, E16, L2, R2, B2, B4, A1, C20, C21, C40, C2, EMS122, EMS124, EMS63, EMS8, D3, D4, M92, T1. Investigation assisted by WC1. Relief companies included E5, E18, E26. News coverage: [NBC17](#). [News & Observer](#). [WRAL](#). [WTVD](#).

[See aftermath photos by Mike Legeros](#)



Charles Murray/WRAL photo

Amar Ragoonanan/NBC17 video

Pretty big fire! Sounded hairy on the radio there for a bit, glad everyone made it out okay.

Good work guys, sounded like a super quick knockdown for a well advanced fire!

B-Mac - 03/31/11 - 00:04

You forgot to add ems 124, truck 1 and I believe it was medic 92.

MVC - 03/31/11 - 07:46

Thank you. Truck 1 was hidden in there as "T1". I have updated the other two units.

Legeros - 03/31/11 - 07:48

Here are photos from three hours after the incident <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-0..>

Was still cloudy, but without rain. Thus the muted colors, though the photographer could stand to work on his white balance post-processing and maybe metering at the time of shooting on any given day. Well, what artist is every truly satisfied with their work...

Legeros - 03/31/11 - 07:50

Also Staging for all fire apperatus was in the shopping center where goodberrys is located at that also goes for EMS units. EMS rehab was on the street directly across from goodberrys. EMS 124, Medic 92, Truck 1 and EMS 8 did rehab.

MVC - 03/31/11 - 08:59

Hey Mike,

I think I found the winner of the "most ignorant comment" for this one.....

jepthas says: "North Carolina really needs to study our worthless fire codes. A woman was killed in the apartment under where my daughter used to live due to fire, and the current residents were both injured. Then we had the entire block burn down in Raleigh a few years ago. It is time we stop having people praise Jesus the did not die due to our non-existent fire codes."

So now, apparently, this fire and the Town Knoll fire were due to FIRE CODE. Gimme a break, next they'll say that the Armandale fire was caused by Bigfoot.

Jake T. - 03/31/11 - 09:04

The problem isnt the fire codes but the building codes. It was light weight trusses 18" on center which partially collapsed less than 10 mins after the first in company. According to the first in Engine there was only light smoke in 1 of the Div. 3 apartments and when they pulled the ceiling they had Heavy fire in the attic. Had a good head start on those guys before it was called in.

gen3fire - 03/31/11 - 10:58

I think you Raleigh fellows did and great job, considering the head start that the fire appear to have had. I just wonder what Chief Silver found wrong.

Badger - 03/31/11 - 14:16

They did a great job, especially considering how advanced it was when they arrived.

There's a big difference between you and I; I actually have a "set" and not scared to share an opinion and use my name as the author. I can also back anything up on here that I post based on 16 years experience, training taught by some of the most world renowned fire service

instructors on this Earth, and LODD death reports to support my side. What's your excuse? Stupid, Ignorant, or both?

In reference to the videos you asked about the other day that Wayne and I made together; your Mom was the third player. Man up or leave your comments to yourself.... -Chief Silver

Silver - 03/31/11 - 14:33

One of the other reasons for the big head start, was that it appeared that both the first due eng company and truck company were out on calls or just clearing calls when the fire came in. Although a little hairy at first it sounded like the guys had a lot thrown at them real quick.

Mike - 03/31/11 - 14:48

Jeff the thought of you, Wayne and Badger's mom in a video together just made me throw up in my mouth. Thanks ha ha

Mike - 03/31/11 - 14:50

Mike, I think a reference to army boots is also required, to maximize the effect of insulting one's mother. We'll see if our readers rise to the challenge. That is, if the joker that runs this blog doesn't lock the thread again!

Legeros - 03/31/11 - 17:25

Great job by the looks of it guys/gals. Like the above picture; nice ladder placement for aerial ops. Oh Silver I was looking for the like button beside your comment but then I realized this wasn't facebook.

PGtruckie ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 04/01/11 - 00:56

Just wondering, but I noticed the standard 4.5" connection on the hydrant. When do the new OASIS valves go in service or are they already and if so any reason why it wasn't used on this fire. Just asking questions, not arm chair quarterbacking!!

House - 04/01/11 - 14:09

Oasis valves not in service yet. Supposedly, RFD goes live with the valves on 1 May.

Jake T. - 04/01/11 - 15:38

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

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

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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.

Plane Versus House in High Point

03/31/11 124 W, 1 I - + 17 - 5

Two people were killed yesterday when their twin-engine Hawker Beechcraft BE58 clipped a house and struck a second, while attempting a landing in bad weather at nearby Piedmont Triad International Airport. The occupants escaped the home safely. High Point, Greensboro, and Guilford County fire departments were on scene. Perhaps readers can add incident details.

Next question, wonder how many plane versus house incidents have occurred around Raleigh-Durham International Airport over the years and decades. Guess my (outdated) [timeline of RDU CFR history](#) would tell that quickly enough. The below image exemplifies the reported weather conditions at the time of the crash. Click to enlarge:



WGHP photo

Links to stories:

- [FireNews](#)
- [Greensboro News-Record](#)
- [WGHP](#)
- [Winston-Salem Journal](#)
- [WMFY](#)
- [WXII](#)

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 No

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Caption This Photo / Piggid Out

03/31/11 45 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

From yesterday morning on Interstate 540 40, and as photographed by veteran Durham fire photographer Julian Harrison and [posted by WTVD](#). Did you hear about the pig that opened a pawn shop? He named it Ham Hock.



Julian Harrison/WTVD photo

I dont get it, 3 cops standing on the side of the road, I see that all the time, they were probably just responding to a vehicle accident due to the rain. The other two probably shoulda been wearing their traffic vests though. Just saying.

Jake T. - 03/31/11 - 08:59

No disrespect fellas, all in love.

Jake T. - 03/31/11 - 08:59

Training the new guy

Beach ([Email](#)) - 03/31/11 - 09:24

What, no cop/pig jokes? I'm a cop, and even I couldn't resist a few of those!

rfburns - 03/31/11 - 10:27

Man!, I thought they were just rough with their K-9 partners.

gen3fire - 03/31/11 - 10:50

Just kidding!

gen3fire - 03/31/11 - 10:50

Just about sausage size

Rob Mitchell - 03/31/11 - 11:12

One pig bullying another; you'd think their Brotherhood would be tighter than that.

Silver - 03/31/11 - 11:21

I heard they were ladies men!

Anon - 03/31/11 - 12:18

With an oink oink here....and an oink oink there.....

Silverfox - 03/31/11 - 13:15

To save taxpayer's money, the SHP is now riding three-man cars.

Luke - 03/31/11 - 13:50

I know you guys are tired of Gov. Perdue interfering with your operations, but you dont have to treat her like that!!

anon2 - 03/31/11 - 18:31

Jake T, if you watched the video of WTVD, the police car with the pigs in the back of it was Tony's car.

marcus - 04/01/11 - 04:31

recruitment..?

TTaylor - 04/01/11 - 08:29

Bad Cop No doughnut!

TTaylor - 04/01/11 - 08:30

Who is Really on the leash?

J.Boggs - 04/01/11 - 11:45

"You cant make me go back to work! Im Retired!!"

J.Boggs - 04/01/11 - 11:46

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Mystery Vehicle

03/31/11 13 W, 1 I - + 12 - 11

Whose wheels are these?



Batt. 1. Just a guess, figured you took it at Cedar Ridge yesterday.

gen3fire - 03/31/11 - 18:33

nevermind. Wrong grill. Car 20?

gen3fire - 03/31/11 - 18:35

Its the back up to Car 20, whatever number that is. I believe the Iceman was driving it yesterday.

Hand - 03/31/11 - 20:00

Car 21?

Silver - 03/31/11 - 20:16

Car 30

Watters - 03/31/11 - 21:06

RDU CFR-10

thegov - 03/31/11 - 21:41

it is the white expedition run by the raleigh durham airport fire/ rescue department. also known as RDU CFR-10

charlie - 04/01/11 - 05:57

RDU CFR 10

CFR - 04/01/11 - 12:58

RFD car 21 back up to car 20, or anyone elses 90's model ford excretion with a light bar!be safe boys!

Jason Lane - 04/01/11 - 13:06

Raleigh Car 21: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-0..>

RDU Car 10: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-0..>

Thanks everyone for playing!

Legeros - 04/02/11 - 14:31

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

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Comment:

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North Valley Apartments, 1970

04/01/11 245 W, 2 I - + 5 - 4

One of my favorite fire photos of yore is this *News & Observer* image from September 7, 1970. That's the North Valley Apartments which were on Lassiter Mill Road and just east of Six Forks Road, right? Around the corner from Station 9, right right? Three apartments were heavily damaged, said the paper the next day. The blaze was reported by a resident taking a shower. They looked up and saw their ceiling on fire! How many "holy cow" things can you spot in the below picture? [Click to enlarge:](#)



News & Observer photo

Here's a wider view of that day's incident and it helps place the location of the photographer, who must have been on the walkway of the second building. One firefighter was injured with cuts to his hand and shoulder, note my notes. He was treated and released at Rex. The fire was reported at 12:46 p.m by telephone. Units on scene were Engine 9, Engine 4, Truck 6 (service), Truck 7 (service), Rescue 1, and Engine 10 (second engine at Station 1) filling in at Station 4. Engine 9 later returned to help with the investigation. [Click to enlarge:](#)



News & Observer photo

See more historical *News & Observer* images of the Raleigh Fire Department in action in the [photo section](#) of the Raleigh Fire Department

Historical Society. Read more RFD history in general on [my history pages](#). Yeah, two places for the same sort of information. We'll get everything merged some day.

Name: (real name preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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This Morning's Two Alarms / Edwards Mill Road

04/01/11 266 W, 1 I - + 3 - 1

Let's figure out who was where and what was happening at this morning's major working fire on Edwards Mill Road. Dispatched 8:59 a.m. Address [4505 Edwards Mill Road](#). Tax records say two-story, brick condominium building with 1,305 square-foot per unit. Eight units total. Built 1972. Media report says Engine 14 arrived with light smoke showing, then upgraded to working fire after crews made entry into a unit.

After fire extended to attic, incident was upgraded to major working fire. Second alarm automatically dispatched. Interior attack until collapse conditions encountered. Defensive attic included Ladder 2 positioned in front parking lot, and Ladder 4 readied with reserve platform on Edwards Mill Road, supplied by Engine 6.

Command located in front parking lot, Battalion 3 then Car 10. Medical monitoring and rehab also in front parking lot. Staging on Edwards Mill Road. Special request for two additional engines. Three hydrants caught, two on Edwards Mill and one in the complex. Controlled at 10:26 a.m. One resident evacuated by firefighters and checked out by EMS. Total 15 people displaced. Eight units rendered uninhabitable. Cause determined as improperly discarded smoking material.

First alarm: E14, E16, E17, L2, R3, B3. Working fire: E9, A1, C10, C20, C40. Second alarm: E4, E11, E8, L1, R2, B4. Other fire: E6, E26, B2, C2, C3, C4, WC1. Medical included EMS 11, EMS 6, EMS 31, EMS 121, EMS 123, EMS 122, EMS 15, EMS 7, D4, D1, D5, M95, T1, Evac 1. Legeros arrived pretty quickly and took some 40 minutes worth of photos. Lee arrived just after that.

[See photos from Mike Legeros](#) | [See photos from Lee Wilson](#)



Assorted edits above. Will stop now.

Legeros - 04/01/11 - 18:51

I believe engine 9 was on the working fire upgrade and engine 4 was the third engine on the MWF upgrade.

Engine 27 to St 14

Engine 20 to St 8

Ladder 6 to St 17 initially

Engine 26 to St 16 then Engine 13 to St 16 when 26 went to MWF

I believe that is correct so far

listening - 04/02/11 - 00:51

Just out of curiosity, it took an hour and a half to control an attic fire that had initial crews arriving on scene with no fire (light smoke) in the attic upon arrival? I'm not trying to cause a ruckus or anything, I'm just wondering if I am missing something? Was it due to possible collapse conditions? Water Supply? How did the fire progress so quickly? The way I am seeing this (as you have explained Mike) is that crews made entry into the unit to find a room and contents fire that was extending into the attic. Looks like a lot of folks on scene and that just seems like a lengthy operation for something Raleigh sees a lot of.

MF - 04/02/11 - 00:54

Lee recorded medical as EMS11 EMS6 EMS31 EMS123 EMS122 EMS15 EMS7 D1 D4 D5 T1 Evac1 C200 M95.

His pics <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/s..>

Legeros - 04/02/11 - 06:44

just noticed that the above writing has listed ladder 4 while below it says ladder 1, I personally saw ladder 1 going that way on reserve 210, just making an observation.

watters - 04/02/11 - 08:55

really, was the first line a booster?

??? - 04/02/11 - 09:01

I know it's easy to play monday morning quarterback, but I was wondering the same thing as MF...on scene with light smoke to the picture above seems like something is missing. Can someone give a play by play?

BW - 04/02/11 - 09:20

The Booster line was pulled. I am not sure if it was first.

Droid - 04/02/11 - 09:25

the Snorkel is running as Ladder 4 which is stationed at Station 1.

Charlie - 04/02/11 - 09:28

Ladder 2 was sent as first due ladder. where was Ladder 3 at.

charlie - 04/02/11 - 09:35

Well I saw ladder 1 (210) and engine 4 going southbound, so maybe I'm just completely wrong

Watters - 04/02/11 - 09:40

Thanks for keeping an eye on which ladder was which, Charlie and Watters. Ladder 210 is a reserve unit. It served as Truck 1 back in the day. It was serving as Ladder 1 at the fire. Ladder 4 is stationed at Station 1. But I get the two confused on this blog quite often!

As for blow-by-blow, here's a short version of what I have heard, from those who were there: fire in a back bedroom, smoldering for some time. Window broken by heat, unseen. Light smoke observed, companies including chief officer expecting something like a pot on the stove. Door is forced, air and wind enter apartment, and rear room ignites. Maybe flashes over? Crew at door knocked back by force of smoke. Interior attack commences, they make entry and get all the way to the back when the roof begins collapsing. Crews exit and the ladder pipe goes to work. That's a short, secondhand version. Let's let those who were there amend, edit, and expand as desired.

Legeros - 04/02/11 - 10:07

my fault according to legeros posting, it was ladder 2 and ladder 1 dispatched to the fire. therefore I stand corrected . the reserve snorkel was operating as ladder 1. although I didn't think it fit in station 4.

charlie - 04/02/11 - 10:08

Ladder 3 was out of service at KTC for Water Supply Training. They ended up there later that afternoon.

David - 04/02/11 - 10:11

Now I am confused! On wed ladder 1 based out of Station 4 was riding on reserve ladder 210 snorkle! In the pictures from the fire I don't see any one from Ladder 4 crew Station 1, but I do see the staff that is assigned to Ladder 1 out of station 4. So someone please help! Unless I need to take a drug test that is ladder 1 crew from station 4. Now in regards to the fire, hose choice and how it progressed. After talking to the crews that were first in, Engine 14 and Ladder 2, the fire went from light smoke and no fire in the apartment to heavy smoke and then heavy fire! With that said all of us in the fire service know she is unpredictable and can change quick! So before you go beating them up remember everyone went home safe all the citizens are safe and we fight another day! Cause this could have been worse! Good job by all hands! Hate to pull a quote here from silver but don't judge us when you hide behind a mask! Sissy!

Jaon Lane - 04/02/11 - 10:15

Amen Jason!

A.C. Rich - 04/02/11 - 10:19

Ladder 1 is on a reserve at Station 4. 1300sq ft. apartment and was packed with junk, smoldering all it needed was some air and like Jason said the first in units saw the conditions change quickly. E-16 layed in to supply E-14, E-4 Layed in from secondary hydrant 700ft to Ladder 2 and Engine 8 was at the hydrant boosting (without oasis valve)to the ladder. E-6 layed into Ladder 1 from a third hydrant. Again lightweight trusses and collapse early into operations. Great salvage work from L-2, R-2, E-4, and i cant remember the other crews. Thats some of the things I saw.

gen3fire - 04/02/11 - 11:16

oh by the way, it didnt take an hour and a half to knock down the fire, there were extensive overhaul operations with alot of hot spots in both division 2 apartments hampered by the roof collapse which took up alot of that time

gen3fire - 04/02/11 - 11:23

Lets not forget that yesterday the wind was blowing like 35 mph. So when the window failed those crews could have very well experienced a wind driven fire much like you see occur in highrises, especially if the failed windown was on windward side.

Hey Jaon you forget something?

Mike - 04/02/11 - 14:22

Thanks Mike! Thanks A.C.Instead of asking questions about why they did this or why they didn't do that let's focus on what Raleigh has done twice this week at these apartment fires! Officers read their building construction and when conditions called for it they back out to protect their crews! Too many firefighters have died in light weight truss construction. So good job making sure everyone went home safe! That is something to talk about! Gussett plates everywhere! Be safe and buckle up! Happy 4 day break B shift!

JASON LANE - 04/02/11 - 15:02

Had my first Code 3 here back in 1990 right after a large meal of fish at Station 16. As the old saying goes " don't eat more than your mask will hold"

Rob Mitchell - 04/02/11 - 19:36

Bet it didnt taste very good the second time did it Capt.?

gen3fire - 04/02/11 - 19:41

I have to second what Jason said, and to what A.C. seconded. This has been a busy week (to put it mildly) for Raleigh's Bravest. To question tactics, motives, strategy and VERY early observations is way out of bounds. EVERYONE went home safe. Thankfully, the culture is changing, and that's all that matters. Remember, life safety is first for a reason. (Ours AND theirs.) I am proud of my Raleigh Brothers and Sisters, and they have all earned a well deserved break!

J.A.F.O. - 04/02/11 - 19:43

JAFO, I would have to disagree with you. I don't think questioning tactics,strategies and asking about early observations is out of bounds at all. Can it be done tactfully? Sure, but by asking what those crews saw or heard might trigger something in one's mind if they find themselves in a similar situation.

Mike - 04/02/11 - 20:10

Since it was brought up...as far as ladders fitting... L-210 (snorkel), and L-111 (platform) will fit and operate out of 121 Northway Ct. / Station 4 / Quarters of Engine 4 & Ladder 1 – which ever location you want to call it. We haven't tried the LaFrance in here yet, hope we don't have to. Turning left and right out of the station can be tricky, but once we are out, we are good to go.

A.S. Meier - 04/02/11 - 20:18

I thought the fire service was all about questioning tactics, motives, and strategy. Isn't that how we get better? Isn't that how we learn and teach those coming behind us? I don't see how simple questions could have led to such debate. All I wanted to know was what caused such a long amount of time in between dispatch and "fire under control". Some places like to deem fire under control once the bulk of the fire is knocked down so overhaul can begin. In this situation, (from what you guys have said) fire was marked "under control" after overhaul had commenced and all fire was extinguished. I don't believe anyone here was questioning whether or not the command staff on scene made any bad decisions based on the construction type, wind, and how quickly the fire spread. Frankly, it's better to be safe than sorry. On the other hand, I don't know how Raleigh operates but bringing a booster line into a fire with possible heavy fire load inside and not knowing exactly what they had is kind of complacent. Who knows though, the pulled booster line could have been for washing off tools or hitting hotspots. I wasn't there so I don't know. That's why I asked. I wasn't judging anyone, I just wanted a play by play to see if there were problems encountered that made fire attack/control difficult.

MF - 04/02/11 - 21:46

@JasonLane; I agree 100%, good reading of structure stability (and smoke) is paramount, especially when dealing with truss construction. I agree also, that knowing when to withdraw when your efforts aren't making any headway is important too. You've done your primary (hopefully), and the life hazard has decreased for civilians. Yes, it is still there for us, AND IT IS IMPORTANT WE ALL GO HOME. Once again, you evaluate risk v. reward, since you've ensured searches are complete and all savable lives are out.

This is where I differ a little with "J.A.F.O.'s" stance; our incident priorities are life safety, property conservation, incident stabilization. If it was just a matter of the fire going out and us all going home, we'd set up defensive right after the primary is done and eventually, the fire will go out.

Now of course, there's going to be some knucklehead that takes this to the other extreme on this blog to say; "Silver is saying we should die to save property". That's not what I'm saying. No property is worth that. What I'm saying is we still have incident priorities after "life safety". Should the risk (our life safety) be as high to save property? Duhhhh, absolutely not. If it's got the upper hand, get the hell out. Put some big water on it for a sec, then go back in if possible. Now, do I think you should back out, flow big water from multiple sources for 30 minutes (I have been on fires where this happened, one had three ladders flowing for a few hours), then go back in???? Hell no!! For what? You already wrote the place off, flowed for 30 minutes, just to go back to overhaul???? That's beyond stupid. If anything, foam the hell out of it and label the building "unsafe for entry" for anyone and bulldoze it. Think about the water weight you just put on the truss system, the same truss you were concerned about failing earlier due to heat!!!

So J.A.F.O., don't take this the wrong way, but life safety is a large part of the fight, but not the only part. Re-evaluate after civilian life safety is complete, then lower your "reasonable risk" to save property. Get hooks in there early to drop ceilings and open up, put multiple lines inside (if you're going in) to back-up your Brothers and to put enough GPM's on the beast to knock her out.

@MF and Mike, you're on point with your posts. We SHOULD evaluate and see if there was anything we could have done different; you should do it after every job. Today on Blue Ridge, while our crew did take our assigned tools and two ground ladders, we agreed it would have been a step-up to use one ground ladder as a carry-all and load our saws on it since we were so far off the street. Now we know to think of it, and we'll make every effort next time we have a trek to put it into action. There's nothing wrong with questioning tactics, motives and/or strategy. It is good to get a play-by-play by someone that was there to find out why something was done!

B-Platoon, you guys worked your butts off this week. Everyone went home safe to their loved ones. From the smallest room and contents fire to the biggest apartment fire, hopefully everyone learned and can move forward with that knowledge for the next tour. That's what it's all about. Whether you learned something by watching someone else, or by evaluating your own actions, take it and move forward with it for the next job, because we all know there will be more.

Be aggressive, but be safe....

Silver - 04/02/11 - 23:34

so, this begs the question. with L3 being out and the next due ladder coming from #11, could the new training on the hydrant valves have better been conducted within the areas served by these first in units, leaving them somewhat available to respond to calls and serve the

citizens in a more expedient manner, thus provided a higher level of service delivery?

begging the question - 04/03/11 - 06:01

@ begging the question.

Since I ride the ladder that was at KTC, I'll say yes. I'm pretty "disappointed" that we missed that one. We should go back to territory-based training, especially since fuel cost is such an issue now. After all, travel from station 17 to station 23 (like it used to be, and to use Bn 4 as an example) is FAR less than going all the way to KTC. And I 'KNOW' everyone will be SOOOO happy to spend all day at KTC for training with the proposed scheduling... And BTW, wasn't staying in-service part of the reasoning for using centralized stations in the districts? Just my \$.02, but I'm pretty low down on the ladder (pun intended :) C'est la vie. I guess.

Bob - 04/03/11 - 23:41

Oh yea, great job all, and esp. L-2 who was short-staffed. From what I heard from 1st-in co's, they had their work cut out for them. That Div.2 A/D apt. resident had to be some kind of hoarder. What a MESS! It was a huge fire load.

Bob - 04/03/11 - 23:48

Bob, from the stand point of training, the territory-based training doesn't work all that well. Despite being convenient and keeping everyone in service, it creates more other issues. You have to consider instructor contracting and the stoppage of class when any one unit goes out on a call. Through in the risk of being audited by Wake Tech or whomever, then you can start to see why the territory-based training isn't used like it was...at least for EMS and other certification training.

JK - 04/04/11 - 06:20

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Quarterbacking and Other Reasons For Reading This Blog

04/02/11 382 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Another fire. Another round of questions. What's happening when this happens? What's compelling readers to ask questions, make observations, and offer suggestions? We call it "quarterbacking" but not everyone's here for that reason. Base motivations for these comments include these:

- Simple curiosity about what happened. Period.
- Wanting to learn from the incident and expanding your skills or knowledge.
- Showing support for those involved in the incident, or the members of that department.
- Discretely or overtly calling attention to something that isn't being talked about.
- Evangelizing about something that is or isn't related to the incident.
- Calling attention to yourself, or feeling better about yourself.
- Playing pile on. Making someone else feel bad.
- etc.

Maybe everyone posting comments should preface their statements with either "trying to be helpful" or "trying to be harmful." Would that work? Maybe not. Psychology isn't driving these discussions, nor are feelings a typical point of concern. At least, that's admitted in public. Best question to ask after any blog discussion might be this: what did you learn about **yourself**?

Finally, a word about perspective. Truth is when everyone agrees. How do you get everyone to agree on what happened at an incident. You can ask someone who was there, but that's really not enough. You can ask everyone who was there, and that gets a lot closer. Then you gather information from people watching from the side, from photos and videotape, from radio reports and telephone calls.

On this blog, we post windows into history. They contain an awful lot of information, sometimes. But it's always incomplete. There's always more to the story. Just think about the words "reported light smoke showing." What did you imagine just then? What did your mind conjure, as a picture of that short sentence. Chances are it's different for different readers.

Now magnify that different in perspective and presumption with every phrase and paragraph written in this blog. Photos add quite a bit, but those, too, are just single moments in time. Add all the words and all the pictures and there's still so much more to any story. Food for thought. Something to think about. Stepping off soapbox.



Many thrive on controversy while others appreciate a learning opportunity and/or information sharing. Individual introspection is indeed an outcome. It's all in what one desires to satisfy a personal need!

A.C. Rich - 04/02/11 - 11:15

AAAAAAmen!

Silver - 04/02/11 - 19:03

We are in the business of making decisions if people live or die, citizens and ourselves. Why would any firefighter not want to learn how to be the absolute best they can be? Education comes from several avenues; ones own experience, articles, books, experience of others, critiques etc. and they all must be utilized. We cannot be the best firefighters based on one educational tool. Learning from others can be one of the most valuable of them all. Constructive criticism is not bad and should not be taken so by anyone. Critiques can and should have positive results. Whether the critiques are company level, multi company or written take them positively and apply it on the next call. It is a form of training. Every run no matter how big or small should be discussed and if mistakes are pointed out, be receptive to the knowledge that is being passed on. Repeated mistakes are unacceptable. No one is stepping on your toes (or should not be); that is one of the reasons we are issued steel toed boots, it helps ease the pain.

T. Saunders - 04/03/11 - 14:54

Those are good points, T. But, alas, people have different preferences in how they receive constructive criticism. I think we've seen that in blog discussions and the range of reactions that users have to other user comments.

Some people react the best with blunt and direct criticism, while others respond more favorably to softer and less-direct language. Easing into the conversation.

Some people prefer to hear "what went well" before a discussion of "what didn't go as well." Others are the reverse, and want the bad news first.

Some people are happy to receive criticism from anonymous users. Others want a name with the words.

Some people are willing to critique in public, others prefer in private.

And so it goes.

It shouldn't be a surprise that conflicts arise on the blog, as even basic interaction styles are different. Just as people are motivated differently in their reasons for participating, they have different communication preferences.

Yeah, it's complicated.

Legeros - 04/03/11 - 15:03

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh's New Decon Trailer

04/02/11 41 W, 2 I - + 7 - 2

Just delivered. Parked at training center. Built by Matthews Specialty Vehicles. Replaces tractor-drawn box truck that carried decon equipment and that's parked at Station 20.



Nice rig and long overdue...

Silver - 04/02/11 - 19:07

Based on the marking, I assume this comes as part of RRT-4. Did all the RRT's get one?

CP - 04/02/11 - 20:15

Can you get some pics of the inside?

BM - 04/02/11 - 20:16

The RRTs had the option to purchase a "robot" (for HM entry use) or use the money for another approved project. Since RPD has a robot that we can access, the decon trailer was selected. The trailer is actually owned by RFD and was purchased with DHS grant monies through NCEM. It is "stickered" with the RRT motif for response purposes, but again, it is city owned. It will be located at #22 (Ladder 5) and available to respond soon.

A.C. Rich - 04/03/11 - 00:01

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.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *This Afternoon's* « Raleigh's New Decon T... » Heat Signature From O... *Two Alarms / Blue Ridge Road*

This Afternoon's Two Alarms / Blue Ridge Road

04/02/11 171 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

The west side's the hot side this week with their second second alarm in two days. Still compiling details on this one. Single-story brick building behind nursing home at [3830 Blue Ridge Road](#). Reported as laundry building. Engine 14 arriving with a working fire. Battalion 4 upgrading a minute or two later. Fire in attic space and soon through roof. Exposures protected, with no spread to the nearby buildings. Ladder positioned on opposite side of complex, though aerial stream not needed. Patients evacuated from one section of facility. Two hydrants caught. Blue Ridge Road closed due to supply line. Dispatched 3:34 p.m. Controlled 4:07 p.m. First alarm: E14, E16, E9,L3, B3, R3. Working fire: E6, A1, C10, C20, C40. Second alarm: E17, E18, E11, L1, R1, B4. Other fire: C2, C5, additional relief companies? Medical included EMS 1, EMS 11, EMS 2, EMS 3, EMS 4, EMS 121, EMS 124, D4, D3, T1, Evac 1.

[See photos by Mike Legeros](#) | [See photos by Lee Wilson](#)



I believe R-3 swapped with R-1 after they cleared KTC...

Silver - 04/02/11 - 23:39

What was in the attic? Were there knee walls and a floor up there that made it tougher to get to the seed of the fire? Or was it knocked down pretty quick once entry was gained in the side doors? I cant tell by the pics.

gen3fire - 04/04/11 - 18:31

KC, nothing but knee walls!! Had a floored attic that was used as storage (air filters, rolls of carpet, bedding). We made entry through the Delta side to open up versus following the line in, but had to clear crap away from the door in order to fully open it. Talking to a member of 16, they were making a push but it hadn't vented yet and was giving them hell. After it busted through, things got a lot easier.

Silver - 04/04/11 - 23:36

Cause identified as dryer lint, <http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/04/05/1..>

Legeros - 04/05/11 - 07:06

"Dirty Dryers Cause Fires"!!! Twas' the motto of a side business one "certain fireman" I know used to run. Advertising expense vs the cost of work received (and the sign Police) seemed to be his demise; amazing how it pops up as a cause from time to time. Such a nice, nice

guy....damn shame he couldn't keep the customers coming in.

Silver - 04/05/11 - 23:31

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.

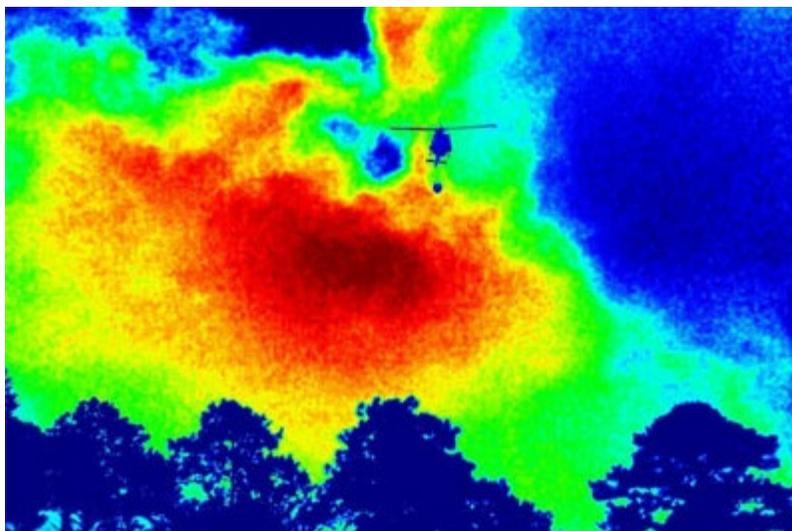
Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Heat Signature From Onslow County Woods Fire

04/03/11 84 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

From the [Carolinas Fire Page Yahoo group](#), found on the [North Carolina Division of Forest Resources Facebook page](#), here's a nifty image. The caption reads:'

"This photo was taken by one of the Camp Lejeune firefighters on Thursday. He flipped his camera to infrared and snapped this photo as the helo was flying over the fire - notice the heat signature reaching up and around the helo."



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

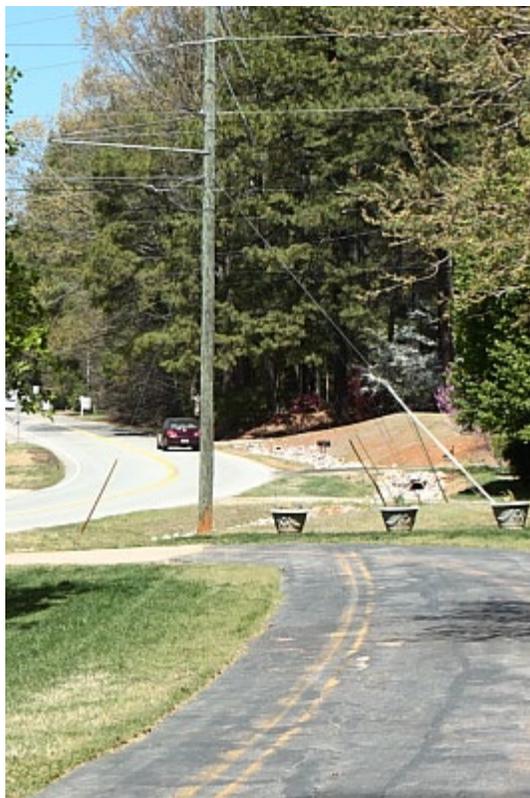
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Mystery Road

04/03/11 24 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Where is this former section of roadway, shown in the foreground? Hint, it's in Raleigh.



Sandy Fork and Six Forks in North Raleigh?

Watters - 04/03/11 - 15:36

off Town and Country near the intersection of Town and Country and Lead Mine

KICK - 04/03/11 - 15:43

KICK is correct. That picture is looking north on Town and Country formerly Leesville rd.

RescueRanger - 04/04/11 - 21:03

No flies on this crowd!

Legeros - 04/04/11 - 21:56

Hint?

... - 04/04/11 - 21:59

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Vintage Charlotte Fire Apparatus Photos

04/03/11 50 W, 7 I - + 5 - 4

Found for sale on eBay are 24 photographs of Charlotte fire engines, from a 1924 Seagrave pumper to a 1955 Seagrave pumper. Includes quads, aerials, a lighting truck, and three trucks from Morris Field. Here are photos of the photos, from the eBay seller. Click to enlarge:



What's shown:

- 1923 Seagrave, 750 GPM pumper, reserve
- 1926 American LaFrance, 750 GPM pumper, reserve
- 1926 American LaFrance combination service ladder truck

- 1928 American LaFrance, 750 GPM pumper
- 1929 American LaFrance, 750 GPM pumper x 2
- 1929 American LaFrance quad
- 1935 Mack, 750 GPM sedan pumper x 2
- 1938 White lighting truck
- 1940 US Army, 750 GPM pumper, Morris Field
- 1942 Dodge/Barton, 500 GPM pumper, Morris Field
- 1943 American LaFrance, 750 GPM pumper
- 1949 Mack, 750 GPM pumper
- 1949 American LaFrance quad
- 1949 American LaFrance aerial
- 1950 Seagrave, 1000 GPM pumper
- 1950 American LaFrance aerial
- 1951 Seagrave, 1000 GPM pumper
- 1952 Seagrave, 1000 GPM pumper
- 1953 American LaFrance, 1000 GPM pumper
- 1953 Ford/Oren, 500 GPM pumper, Morris Field
- 1954 Seagrave aerial
- 1955 (says 1965) Seagrave, 1000 GPM pumper

Legeros - 04/03/11 - 16:40

Hey Mike, Thought you might like to know Morehead City is selling their fireboat at Govdeals.com. Here is the site;

<http://www.govdeals.com/index.cfm?fa=Mai..>

Donaldson - 04/03/11 - 18:52

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Morehead City Former Fire Boat For Sale

04/03/11 97 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Who wants to buy a former fireboat? This 1984 Mitchell Marine Builder 25-foot diesel boat is being auctioned by the town of Morehead City. It was acquired as Army Corps of Engineers surplus in 2006, as [this FireNews article](#) noted, and equipped with a 500 GPM portable pump. Same has been out of service for a stretch, and was last seen by Yours Truly parked behind Station 2. [See the auction details](#), which include plenty of photos. Includes a trailer! Thanks to reader Donaldson for the heads-up.



It's been awhile since I have been down and visted Morehead City. Has the department aquired a new fire boat yet? or do they let Sector North Carolina (Fort Macon USCG) take the (fire) calls?

Cmac. - 04/03/11 - 21:38

Have been looking for a fire boat for our marina. Can you forward more details/information, pictures and pricing?

Thank you in advance for your co-operation!

Regards,
George

George Walker ([Email](#)) - 03/25/12 - 17:12

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Durham Highway Mascot Angus Gets (More) Famous

04/03/11 132 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

The fourteen year-old Dalmatian-- and one of our area's rare fire dogs-- is featured in [this North Raleigh News article](#) and in particular about his recent health problems The venerable fire station fixture has arthritis in his hips, and is recovering from a recent tumor in his left leg. Angus has a long history with the Durham Highway Fire Department, from his first fire call as a puppy to the Angus Barn in 1997. And you thought he was named after the veteran AC/DC guitarist... Among his duties is serving as the station's public safety mascot when firefighters visit local schools. Says Capt. Mike Dillard, he can even demonstrate how to stop, drop, and roll. [Read about Angus.](#)



Carlene Stein/News & Observer photo

Hang in there Angus!

harkey ([Email](#)) - 04/04/11 - 22:13

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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

New Option For 911 Callers in Charlotte: OMEGA

04/03/11 142 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Friday, April 1, saw the launch of a new program for 911 callers in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County that's designed to help reduce responses for minor medical injuries. The program's called OMEGA and is a partnership with the county, the county EMS agency (Medic), and two hospital systems. Callers with minor medical problems will be connected to a nurse-staffed help line, and be advised on treatment options. They won't be denied an ambulance response, but given additional options perhaps more appropriate for their problems. How many such calls might qualify for the program? Out of last year's 98,000 calls, note officials, 1,100 would have fit the program. And that's the simple summary. Here are some links to learn more, and clarify whatever points Yours Truly has oversimplified.

- [OMEGA web page](#)
- [News 14 story](#)
- [WCNC story](#)



The sad part is that a majority of the people that call that do not need to go to the emergency room are still going to want to go to the emergency room because the health department is not open at night and on weekends. They cannot go to urgent cares because they do not have any money. They do not have a primary care physician so they cannot go there. They are too busy spending their money on plasma TVs, Escalades, big wheels, tattoos, and other luxuries so they do not have money to buy Tylenol, Motrin, or the like. Until paramedics are trained to a standard to tell people they do not need an ambulance, and then held accountable for those decisions, nothing will change. We have spent forty plus years telling people to call 9-1-1 for whatever emergency, or rather, inconvenience they have and we will take care of it. We have created this problem. So therefore EMS calls will continue to rise, fire calls for EMS response will continue to rise, and ED crowding will continue to increase.

And this program does not even begin to address to hundreds of unnecessary nursing home transports scene by EMS in the course of a shift, mostly because the staff are not allowed to do things they are trained to do or because it is just too easy for a doctor to say "send them to the ER".

Burned Out Medic - 04/04/11 - 10:39

This is just one of many approaches being implemented in this state to bridge the gap between available EMS units and requests for service. An additional step Mecklenburg County has taken is reinstating the basic truck. BLS trucks are now used by Medic to handle non-emergency transports and to handle BLS appropriate calls when ALS units are tied up or too far away.

Luckily for Wake County, I don't believe the situation has become critical but this "gap" is looming. The APP program was a proactive attempt to reduce the demand on the 911 system. The OMEGA program and the APP program are trying to accomplish the same thing.

Another idea I have heard tossed around is placing higher level practitioners, even NPs and PAs, on ambulances to respond to some of the OMEGA calls and SNF calls that "burned out" refers to. The idea is to treat the patient at their home and avoid overcrowding the ED (another problem entirely). Any other ideas out there?

Andrew Wallace - 04/04/11 - 14:50

MEDIC has been "testing" this protocol out for some time by cancelling the fire truck and continuing the ambulance in non-emergency until the nurse line confirms the patient doesn't need them. The problem I've noticed is that if (at any point) the patient says the "key words" (short of

breath, chest pain, etc.) then the call bounces back up to an emergency response and fire is re-dispatched. Now, apparently MEDIC cancels their ambulance as well as fire cancelling off the call completely. With the number of times that fire is cancelled enroute and then re-dispatched to the same call a few minutes later, I'd be curious to find out how much this delays patient care for someone who has some type of priority symptom (or something that changes the call from Omega to Charlie/Delta).

The other issue that we've run into is that if fire isn't advised that this will be an Omega call until after we get on scene, the firefighter's hands are tied because they're standing with a "patient" that is talking on the phone to a nurse. What do you do? You can't abandon the patient, but you also have to realize that the questioning on the phone can take several minutes. I know MEDIC used to tell us to not approach the patient and interfere if they are talking on the nurse line, but sometimes we get on scene too quickly for them to notify us that it's going to the nurse line.

Don't get me wrong, this line is great for the patients that call 911 because they "can't sleep, have a swollen toe, have a rash, etc." but by no means do I think this system is flawless.

I, personally, like the idea of figuring out where the frequent flyers live and take a proactive approach to stop by their location and check in on them. Then again, this idea isn't flawless either.

Luke - 04/05/11 - 09:33

MEDIC has been studying this program since 2003. I was involved with the study during the first phase. Calls classified as OMEGA were processed by 911 in the traditional manner, but these incidents were flagged and follow-up on. Key data from the paramedic incident report and the ED medical records were collected and analyzed to insure that when the program went online, patient care would not be compromised. As for the delay in FD arrival in the case of mis-classification, I would assume that true medical emergencies rarely, if at all, get classified as OMEGA. I assure you that data supporting or refuting this does exist; hopefully someone has looked at it.

Andrew - 04/05/11 - 12:04

NPs and PAs and RNs belong in the clinical setting & not the living room or the intersection. Call 911, we'll sort it out, and no one will fall through the cracks

David - 04/05/11 - 12:47

David, unfortunately such an absolute and simplistic approach may not be good enough in the future. What good is calling 911 if there are no units available? Like I said, novel approaches will be needed in the future to meet rising demand and falling budgets. There are rural communities in Canada that I know of that have successfully implemented NP/PA special units that handle calls to avoid hospital transports. Obviously they won't be practicing medicine in an intersection but they may yet have a place in living rooms; why can't that be a clinical setting? Clearly Wake County is neither rural nor Canada, but EMS systems will need multi-pronged novel solutions to this problem.

Andrew - 04/05/11 - 21:15

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'?

Hot Shot #1 / Engine Arrives

04/05/11 45 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Creedmoor Road north of Glenwood Avenue with Engine 17. Canon EOS 40D in Program Shift mode. ISO speed at 3200. F4 lens. Existing light, no flash. Color temperature white balance setting in post-processing. [See more photos.](#)



Does RFD have a policy in place for what line to pull for working vehicle fires? as mentioned I am just curious because based on the pictures a booster line was pulled which will get the job done but just curious if it is a judgement call or policy. Thanks guys

curious - 04/05/11 - 15:09

Every detail cannot be in a policy, this is a prime example. This type decision is left to the discretion of the Company Officer.

Bobby - 04/05/11 - 20:59

Currently there isn't a policy or guideline in place. However, I believe with the soon-to-be-released engine co. ops. guidelines it states the line size is chosen by the Senior firefighter. If there isn't one present or the Lt. doesn't agree the Lt. will make the decision.

RescueRanger - 04/05/11 - 21:33

RR, don't guess what a future policy MIGHT say...its a waste of time and pure hearsay.

Don't start - 04/05/11 - 21:59

i thought the policy of the fire dept i work for...raleigh.....was to pull at the mun of a 1.5 hose

samtheman - 04/05/11 - 22:32

NFPA mandates at least 1.5 inch for vehicle and structural calls. booster will put out enough water to extinguish but not protect. Common sense guys come on, be prepared to protect yourself

aw - 04/05/11 - 22:43

@Don't start – it might be hearsay. But it might not.

RescueRanger - 04/05/11 - 22:52

i work with all these know it alls,,,lolllol

samtheman - 04/05/11 - 23:11

aw; NFPA doesn't "mandate" crap....RR; Now THAT is a classic line!

Silver - 04/05/11 - 23:11

i am wound up since off till tomorrow. we live in glass houses as a spokesperson said the other night as a volunteer

sametheman - 04/05/11 - 23:14

Yeah well they tell you what to do and when these guys get killed because of something as stupid as being too lazy to pull the 1.5 inch because they don't want to clean up. So silver back off. Dont defend them just because its raleigh. admit they didnt do the right thing and move on.

pg - 04/06/11 - 08:27

Isn't kind of funny how when you watch a movie the car blows up, I guess some people think that is real. Plus, ever watch a race of any kind? What do they use, fire extinguishers mostly and then a truck comes with a small hose and 100 gallons of water if they are lucky. The large Dry Chem extinguisher we keep on the Engine is probably the best choice especially for fire in the engine compartment. Vehicle accidents involving extrications a 1 1/2 hose goes down to protect the occupant and fire personnel. But hey who needs common sense, why dont we just start putting apollo monitors out at every kitchen fire. Every situation is different, officer discretion.

my2cents - 04/06/11 - 11:10

You ever think about why an inch and three quarter line goes down for extrications when nothing is burning? What makes you think that an extinguisher is always going to be sufficient? In the fire service it is smarter to have too much and be prepared than have to run back to the truck while you are burning up. Use your common sense so you don't get killed and if not for you then for your men. but hey clearly you know better.

pg - 04/06/11 - 14:25

#1- we carry 1 1/2. And its there for extrication puroposes to quickly protect everyone around the car due to flammable vapors that may light off during extrication because the occupant of the car cannot get away from it. Guess what!!! if no one needs to be extricated then a tow truck will pick up the car and a firetruck will NOT follow it to its resting place and their will be no line on the ground. My common sense has kept me around for 17yrs in the fire service 14 of that on a municiple department. Mechanics work on cars all the time with fuel all around WITHOUT... wait for it>> no firetruck or line to protect them. Oh my heavens!!! And in my little no common sense experience, I have put out several fires with a fire extinguisher when i felt it was needed. Thats what a Dry Chem extinguisher is for. But hey go ahead and flood it with your 1 3/4 and if you do have a good gasolene leak you can chase the the burning fuel downhill for about 200 ft when you run out of line and by the time you have class B ready and flowing that gas thats burning and floating on top of all that water you put on the ground starts something else on fire when all you had to do was use a large dry chem extinguisher to put out a sedan engine compartment fire out. Go ahead and what if it some more.

my2cents - 04/06/11 - 17:49

@pg; "Stupid"? A little strong I think...the Boss made a size-up on a fire in an engine compartment. No exposures; figured they could knock it out with the "red line". Nozzleman hit it quick and contained it to under the hood....make entry and mop-up, go in service. Out of everyone on this blog, I think it is safe to say that I don't show any "department discrimination".

Now, am I a fan of booster lines? Not really. The vollie department I was with only had booster hose on the brush trucks for the most part. It encouraged you to pull a bigger line on car fires, but we also had the luxury of a pre-connect, 100' in the bumper of "car fire line".

@my2cents; well put x 2...I work for NASCAR and have put out a lot of fire with a dry chemical, which is all we use. Plus, like you said, if there is indeed a fuel leak you aren't chasing it down the street/pits.

Silver - 04/06/11 - 18:42

Hi. I am Mr. 1.5 inch. Yup, I know I can offer the protection you so deeply desire. My water stream is made of impenetrable liquid titanium and I have blocked flying debris from vehicle explosions on many occasions over the past 70+ years. What the heck is protection then. Hey, my little brother known as 1 inch booster can flow up to 60 gpm and will usually work fine on small fires like the one in this picture. DUH! I am lost on how you guys define protection. I remember learning something like this: gpm extinguishes fires and more gpm extinguishes larger fires. Yup, I think that's it. I am real interested to learn the actual NFPA standard that mandates the use of the 1.5 inch on car fires as well. Oh one more thing if we are concerned about protection due to potential we should always first pull the 3inch on every residential working fire. Officers choice says I and and Silver is really right! So happy large stream protection and misquoted NFPA reference to you all!

Mister 1.5inch - 04/06/11 - 19:23

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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Hot Shot #2 / Entering the Attic

04/05/11 48 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Another shot from Saturday on Blue Ridge Road. [Read about that incident](#) and see more photos. Same camera and lens as prior posting. ISO 200 this time. Sun was coming and going. Some guy on the ladder.



Cinni finally got some fire.

RescueRanger - 04/05/11 - 09:41

"some guy" doesn't even have his waist belt tightened down. Must have been in a hurry to see a little fire. C'mon people, get your stuff on correctly it would have taken an additional 5 seconds. At least act like you have seen some fire before.

nice - 04/05/11 - 11:40

REALLY nice??? You cant tell how big his belly is in this pic, maybe it is tight.

The Canman - 04/05/11 - 12:32

My god, you act like he doesn't have his regulator hooked up.

MF - 04/05/11 - 17:43

Some times we serve a banquet here. Other times, it's table scraps...

Legeros - 04/05/11 - 18:08

@MikeyL; as if I'm not a big enough punching bag, let's just make it a focal point!?!? Hahahahaha....when can we plan on having the one on one interview? That'll be the icing....

@RR; finally....amazing how much you miss being a vollie when you rely on 10 days a month to catch work.

@nice; it's buckled and adjusted to my comfort, leave it at that.

@thecanman; your Mom doesn't seem to mind, obvious YOU'VE never seen me naked...hahaha (sorry for the Mom crack, I know it's all in good ribbin', but I'm making a conscious attempt to bring back "Mom jokes" as i feel they were a classic and have now been extinct for some time).

Silver - 04/05/11 - 23:19

...Ladder placement shoulda been at the sill. Book says otherwise I know, but headfirst bailout says otherwise.

Jake T. - 04/06/11 - 17:06

you can forget the head first bail out that loose waist strap would get caught on the ladder.

nice - 04/06/11 - 18:03

I disagree.

Jake T. - 04/06/11 - 18:10

@JakeT.; no, the ladder was placed for ingress into a doorway. That's not a window, it was actually a full size metal door . For transferring into and out of the doorway, it's nice to have some ladder to hold onto (sorta like when you're accessing a roof).

@nice; I disagree. If that's the case, you better scrap the radio straps, flashlights and anything else hanging off gear. If you ever bailed out before, you know that virtually anything gets hung.

Silver - 04/06/11 - 18:21

@ nice; when you bail out, you want out fast until you get to the safety of the ladder. Once you are on the ladder, who cares if stuff gets hung up? You are then stopped and ready for a controlled flip followed by descending in a controlled fashion. As you bail out, your weight should be on your arms until your ankles lock the window sill. Then and only then, your whole body comes in contact with the ladder. If you don't have something to slow you down, you bounce, as several videos have shown.

As far as buckling up, at least Silver did. I have seen a lot who do not. If he needs to tighten it, it is a simple pull. All about the comfort level of the man and his proficiency with his gear! I don't tighten mine either, but I am a lot larger around the waist than Silver. Be safe and Buckle Up!!! (SCBA belts and Seat Belts!)

Andy Bounces - 04/06/11 - 22:02

Only problem I see with this picture...WHERE IS YOUR DAMN HOOK Silver?????? I thought I taught you better!!!! Hahahahaha!Oh BTW, love the new lid!!!!

Wayne - 04/06/11 - 22:32

@Wayne Don't you worry, it's on there. It's hooked on the ladder on my right side (look just below my right foot, the blue is the chisel end of the hook);<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-04-02-rfd-blue-ridge-rd/slides/2011-04-02-rfd-blue-ridge-rd-49-mjl.html>

Silver - 04/06/11 - 22:56

@Wayne (again); in reference to the new lid.....YUCK! I will say this, not so bad if it was "sans stupid faceshield".

Silver - 04/06/11 - 23:02

Whats wrong with the lid?? Does the faceshield hurt the coolness factor of the person wearing it? You're right, who cares about safety as long as you look cool.

Jones - 04/07/11 - 06:18

Helmets and safety. If the American fire service **really** wanted the safest possible helmets, they'd have adopted the "jet fighter" style of Europe, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/media/images/45806..> And maybe add the wrap-around neck protection used in Japan, [http://i.ebayimg.com/21/!CDFP%29SgBWk~\\$%..](http://i.ebayimg.com/21/!CDFP%29SgBWk~$%..)

But tradition rules, man! If this sounds familiar, 'twas a blog thread back when: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

Legeros - 04/07/11 - 07:13

The recent Fire Chief magazine had a good comparison between the American and European style helmets. But, I'll be sticking with my Cairns..

LeBeau - 04/07/11 - 07:21

Here's the article, thanks for citing. <http://firechief.com/training/apparel/us..>

Legeros - 04/07/11 - 07:26

Good quote in there: "While clearing the "cool" hurdle is a large barrier for manufacturers looking to sell European-style helmets in the U.S., they also must meet NFPA 1971. The European standard covering helmets is EN443, which McKenna said is like comparing apples to oranges

when lining that standard up against NFPA 1971.

The reason, he said, comes down to how fire is attacked here compared with across the Atlantic. European firefighters don't perform as many interior attacks as their U.S. counterparts. Where the NFPA standard puts a premium on surviving flashover conditions, the European standard puts more focus on getting the job done from the outside, which translates to a lighter-weight helmet."

(And then refuted by a European flashover instructor in the comments.)

Legeros - 04/07/11 - 07:26

@Silver...That's the Silver that I know, I guessed I had missed it in this picture. I am getting older these days. Hit me up some time bro, it's been a while.

@Jones...it has nothing to do with "looking cool" or necessarily safety as there are all sorts of alternatives to the big 4" faceshield. For me it's MORE about comfort. Now I will admit that tradition also comes into play, but that's just a matter of style: stupid turtle shell vs tradition. For me, NOTHING beats the comfort of a broken in Cairns N5A!

Wayne - 04/07/11 - 10:14

@Jones; Before you attack, I suggest you do a little research first. Allow me to educate you, as some on this blog are caught up in the "NFPA compliant" and uniformity world and are now lacking, what appears to be, common sense. Let's talk about eye protection; sorry Andy, he forced my hand....

OSHA makes law; when it comes to eye protection for us, they refer to the "ANSI Z87.1 eye protection standard" because it is more in depth than what OSHA has. So, in a sense, OSHA has adopted this ANSI standard as its' own. ANSI splits eye protection into two groups; "primary" and "secondary". Now, when it comes to "primary" eye protection, the standard states; 1) a face-piece with regulator in place, or 2) GOGGLES which are Z87.1+ certified are the only forms of eye protection to be considered "primary". Just recently (November) the Cairns "Defender" eye system (the kind that stores inside the helmet between the shell) received ANSI's blessing to be considered "primary" eye protection as well. So there you have it, three forms of "primary" eye protection. The "yucky" face-shield that I referred to is considered secondary eye protection and is providing a false sense of "eye protection security". The face-shield receives its' "NFPA compliant" sticker because of the heat it can withstand, and has NOTHING to do with its' level of eye protection it provides to the member wearing it. Ideal primary eye protection would be quick release goggles, which are ANSI Z87.1 AND NFPA compliant, stored off the helmet in the pants pocket.

Me personally, I'm not in this job for a "cool factor". I'm cool no matter what. When I wore my leather, I removed the "Bourkes" because they weren't good for anything except a look, just like the face-shield. I kept a pair of goggles in my pants pocket for extrications and overhaul, which truly surrounds and protects the eyes. Wayne and I go way back, and he knows I've been wearing a leather since way back (which is why he gave me the little jab). I feel the leather has the weight distributed across the whole helmet and the 1010 doesn't. It seems the 1010 wants to ride down to the bridge of my nose, which is why I feel like it's weight isn't distributed that well, BUT IT AIN'T ALL THAT BAD. I just wish we had the option of using the "quick install" goggles; install the little tabs on either side and keep the goggles in your pocket, out of the soot, heat and crap that a faceshield gets covered with. Then you're expected to pull it down and look though it!  For all you NFPA folks, they are now leaning towards making goggles MANDATORY on all helmets, versus option, for this reason. They have already stepped up to the plate in the last revision regarding PPE, to say that the goggles don't have to be stored on the helmet because they get dirty being in the elements, unless they're in a protective sleeve. WOW!! Imagine that, a little common sense coming out from the NFPA folks. Good job!!

It all comes back to the PPE issue. Unfortunately, some people weren't doing the right thing when we had the option of using some of our own stuff (at RFD). This ruined it for everyone. And, actually some people WERE doing the right thing. I don't fault the Chief, he had to do what he had to do. We are our own worst enemies. My hope is that the PPE issue can be addressed at a later time and possibly have a manageable program, which would allow us to purchase certain things on our own with guidelines in place. Maybe even list the "options" if you chose to purchase something to limit the variety. Also, educate folks as to why some things are allowed, while others aren't. It seems once you educate members as to the "why's" and "how's", they are put at ease and have a full understanding of the reasoning.

Silver - 04/07/11 - 11:07

Let me weigh in on the European style helmet if I may. I had the chance to wear one (a Pacific New Zealand) at work for six months while evaluating them for possible purchase in 1998. I was sent to extra live burns and training sessions to use the helmet and put it through the paces. It was similar to the Pacific New Zealand F7AT. Link is <http://www.pacifichelmets.com/index.php?..>

The helmet fit great and was very comfortable to wear. The side protection was awesome. Overall the helmet was great, but there was one major issue. We determined it to be a safety issue and decided not to purchase the helmets for this one reason. You can not hear with a SCBA while breathing air. To those reading this and saying BS, try this right quick. Cup your hands over your ears, and you get that sea shell effect. While cupping your hands over your ears, breathe hard and deep, like you are jacking hose to the attic of a large apartment fire. Now, imagine your SCBA sounds amplified in that tunnel effect. (It will be about 6 times more than you are hearing now).

I promise you will not hear your company officer calling out from 5 feet away telling you that you are about to have a ceiling fall on you. It was very hard to hear even when he was talking into my helmet, literally. So yes they look great, provide great protection to the head and neck, are very well balanced, and have great eye protection built in that keeps them up out of the way, but you can't hear a dang thing in them. I will keep my Cairns 1044 thank you very much.

Donaldson - 04/07/11 - 12:17

Matt, that skunion of yours fit in it??? Hahaha, just busting bro. Hope all is well....

Silver - 04/07/11 - 12:23

I knew I would get the love sooner or later. Jeff we need to catch up sometime brother, it has been a long time.

Donaldson - 04/07/11 - 17:25

I'm with Silver. You can't beat the leather. I burned for 5 hours wearing my leather yesterday and I just got back from a fire at my part-time job wearing a bullard. There is no comparison. Mine is a n6a which is what we have to wear at my full-time department. For all you Raleigh guys the fire I went to was a captain at Raleigh. I don't know how to spell his name. He was an exceptionally nice man. Keep him and his family in your prayers. Again I don't know how to spell his name.

911 - 04/07/11 - 18:46

@911 Can you attempt his name so we can show him some love?

As for lids, mine is an N6A as well, pre-MSA merger. Best helmet I ever wore...

Silver - 04/07/11 - 19:06

Captain Gweedy maybe. He had just left home and passed his wife. She pulled in the drive way and saw the smake coming from div b attic. The neighbor was cutting grass and had called 911. We arrived just behind the first due and pulled another line and went to work pulling cieling and knee walls to extinguish the fire. New York hooks may I add is what we used. We saved his house however the fire was vented through the roof on arrival. We were able to save a fish pictures and computers that was in the room that had the fire. Again he was very thankful and one of the nicest and most appreciative men I have ever met.

911 - 04/07/11 - 19:17

@911 This is very sad to hear. Thank you for informing us. The appropriate people from our agency have been contacted to ensure all assistance is given to our Brother in need.

Group, say a prayer for our Brother Ray (Guidi, Engine 20 "C") and his family as they deal with this terrible event in their lives.

Silver - 04/07/11 - 23:05

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Mystery Cave

04/05/11 47 W, 3 I - + 6 - 2

This is a tough crowd to stump. We've tried roads, streets, signs, and buildings, plus innumerable fire and emergency vehicles. Let's see if this piece of geography can puzzle folks for more than thirty minutes. Where's this place? 'Taint far, neither. Click to enlarge:



Schenk Forest or Hemlock bluffs

Marcus - 04/05/11 - 20:55

Wild guess, Wild Cat Hollow in the Rolesville/Wake Forest area?

stretch - 04/05/11 - 20:56

Is that the mine on Lead Mine rd.?

RescueRanger - 04/05/11 - 21:29

Not enough clearance to be a mine shaft. That opening's about three or four feet high. Inside the thing, there's room for standing, but that's 10 or 15 feet inside, if memory serves.

Legeros - 04/05/11 - 21:38

I wasn't sure if it was the graphite mine. I remember reading an article that the land owner was doing some landscaping work and uncovered the entrance to one of the mines. The article stated the mine entrances had been blasted shut but the hole allowed enough visibility to see the original inside.

RescueRanger - 04/05/11 - 22:55

There was a News & Observer article, say, 10 years ago about that homeowner, who had gone into the mine and pumped water out. If you explorer the hills on the west side of Lead Mine, north of Lynn Road (named after the Lynn family, of whom we know a few members!), you'll find graphite boulders. That's the mineral used to make pencil "lead." Best explored in the winter, when the leaves and trees are minimal. Somewhere above that hill is a mine entrance, on someone's property. No idea if it's been re-sealed.

Legeros - 04/06/11 - 06:42

Western NC mine exploring, found by Google, <http://www.wncrocks.com/resources/mineex...> There's a technical rescue call waiting to happen!

Legeros - 04/06/11 - 06:45

We never did answer this one. It's off Airline Road, on private property a couple lots north (I believe) of the road, along a creek bed. Came to mind after someone sent me this link, http://tritrogs.blogspot.com/2010_07_01_... Same place?

Legeros - 05/19/12 - 09:53

Compared photos. Yup, same place.

Legeros - 05/19/12 - 09:54

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Western Boulevard Fire Engine, 1957

04/05/11 112 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

From our friends at Station 8 comes this July 1957 photo of the Western Boulevard Fire Department's Chevrolet American/Barton pumper. And that's a full month prior to [my historical accounts](#) that placed delivery in August of that year! The snapshot comes from an area resident, to gave same to the firefighters at the station. There's another old photo of WBFD along with a scan of their 1957 annual report [on this page](#). They operated from 1957 until 1960, when most of their territory was annexed by the city of Raleigh. The members reorganized as the Fairground Fire Department, later Fairgrounds, plural. Yup, county station closures over 50 years ago! Click to enlarge:



Hey Mike, this is an unrelated question...have you ever considered developing an app for your weblog for us die-hard readers? Would be great to see postings while mobile! Just a thought! As always, great blog and I appreciate the work you put into this!

FD - 04/05/11 - 21:09

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

How to Conduct Research at the Library of Congress

04/05/11 689 W, 13 I - + 5 - 3

First, get to the place. Four or five hours north of Raleigh. Nation's capitol. Right downtown. Take the Metro once you're there:



The Library of Congress is actually three buildings: Jefferson, Adams, and Madison:



First stop is the Madison Building, where we have to register as a reader. This is the backside of the building, just across the street from the subway stop:



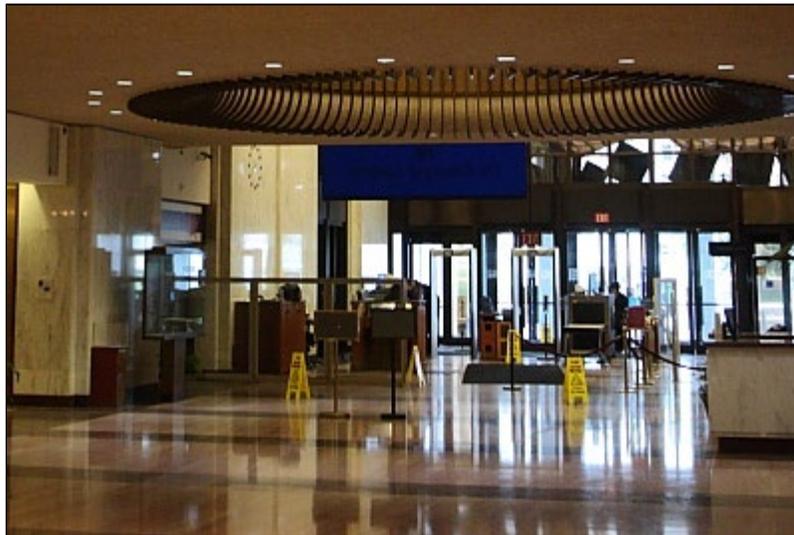
This is one of the entrances, and where employees enter the building. Citizens can enter as well!



Go to the main entrance of the Madison Building, however, and the lobby looks like this:



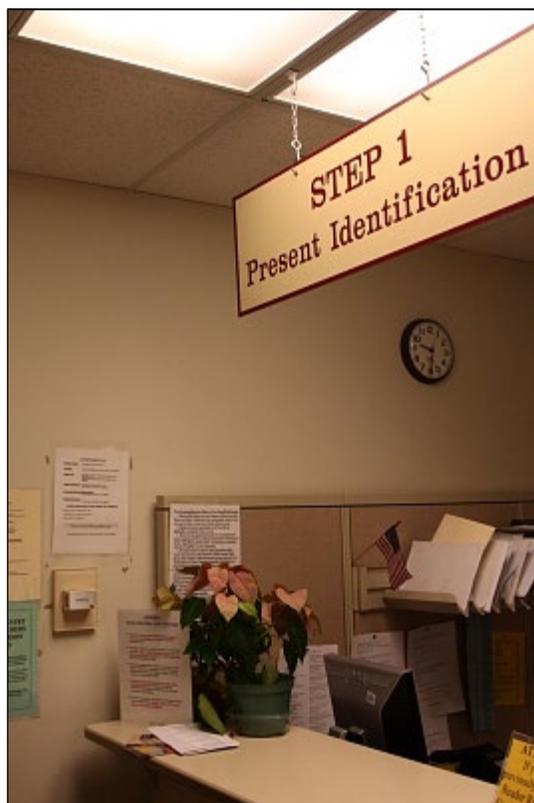
And that's airport-style security screening for everyone entering the building:



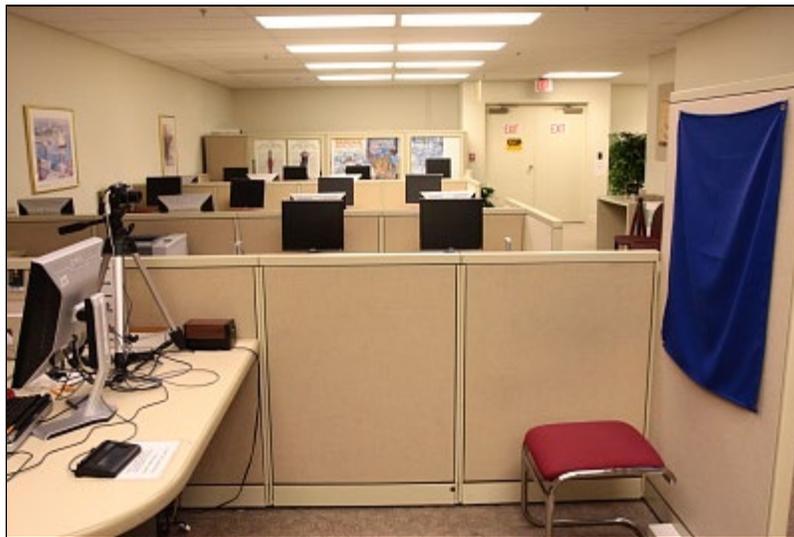
Now you're inside of the Madison Building, and you'll head to room LM-140. That's both a cloakroom (for checking coats, bags, etc.) and reader registration.



See, to use the research and reading rooms at the Library of Congress, you have to be a registered reader. This requires completing an application, either in advance online or at this office. And you present identification.



After completing the application and showing your identification, you get your picture taken:



The result is a plastic reader identification card that's good for two years. [Read about that process here.](#)



Next stop, the Jefferson Building. That's the location of the main reading room, as well as the research room. Now, all three of the Library of Congress buildings are connected by tunnels. Follow the signs and you'll soon be underground.



Unfortunately, a certain someone forgot to take pictures of those very cool tunnels. Here's a picture found on the web. And don't be alarmed as you walk about these buildings and tunnels and with barely a glance from the many staff members there. Everybody blends together quite fine!



Library of Congress photo

Once inside the Jefferson Building, you have to check your bags at the cloakroom. They only allow a few things in the reading room, such as laptops, paper, pens. [Read all about the room.](#) Since photography isn't allowed in the place-- or maybe it's just flash photography-- here's another image from the web:



Library of Congress photo

How do you get your greedy hands on a book? Well, with your reader identification card in hand, you can wander into any of the reading room's alcove and pick up books off the shelf. More likely, you'll request a title through the library's catalog. Next door to the reading room is a research room. Go there, get a computer, and open the online catalog. The staff will help you create an account, and you can easily electronically request one or more books. Just like that.

Next is the wait. Request can take upwards of 40 or 50 or 60 minutes to fulfill. At the time of your request, you can enable e-mail notification, which helps. But beyond that, it's a wait. You can spend time in the research room, using a computer and browsing the many databases on hand. Don't expect to cruise the web and play on Facebook, however. The computers there are for research purposes only. And you can print

stuff. For free!

Other time-killers include the library's snack bar on the ground floor of the Madison Building, and the cafeteria on the sixth floor of the Madison Building. Great selection of pretty good food. Nice view, too.

Once your book arrives in the reading room, go to the circulation desk. Then take the thing to a table and commence a-reading'. If you've already staked out a table for yourself, you can even request delivery at the time of your catalog request.

What did Mr. Blogger read that day? Just a couple things. An 1887 Silsby steam engine handbook, as well as company catalog. And a rare book on American water towers by Bill Haas, published a couple decades ago. Frankly, the databases in the research room were more interesting. They had access to all manner of information, from newspaper archives to Sanborn fire insurance maps (digital) from all states. Good stuff. Can't wait to go back.

And that, my friends, is how you conduct research at the Library of Congress.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Agencies No Longer With Us

04/06/11 413 W - + 5 - 2

Recently wearing my now-vintage Garner EMS & Rescue Squad tee-shirt got me thinking. How many fire, rescue, EMS, and ambulance agencies have come and gone in Wake County? Here's take one of such a list, with lots of help from the state's corporate records web sites. Quite a few rural fire departments in towns that since merged them with their municipal departments. A number of since-merged EMS agencies as well. Only one ambulance company listed, when there were probably others.

- **Apex Rescue Squad** (later Apex EMS), 1971-2010 (merged with municipal FD, soon to be separated and merged with Wake County EMS)
- **Apex Rural FD**, 1952-2002? (merged with municipal FD)
- **Beacon Ambulance Service**, 1972-73 - 1976? (disbanded after emergence of Wake County EMS, and after they try convalescent transport for a short while)
- **Cary Rural FD**, 1954-1961 (renamed Yrac FD, or at least renamed their fire district. They were still called Cary Rural for some time, as well as Yrac)
- **Fairgrounds FD**, 1961-1998 (merged with Yrac FD, formed Western Wake FD)
- **Fuquay-Varina Rescue Squad**, 1991-1997? (disbanded)
- **Fuquay-Varina Rural FD**, 1954-? (merged with municipal FD)
- **Garner Rescue Squad** (later Garner EMS & Rescue), 1975-2010 (EMS division merged with Wake County EMS, rescue services personnel to Garner FD)
- **Holly Springs Rural FD**, 1971-1997 (merged with municipal FD, formed Holly Springs Public Safety)
- **Knightdale Rescue Squad** (later Knightdale EMS), 1977-2005 (merged with Wendell EMS and Zebulon EMS to form Eastern Wake EMS)
- **Knightdale FD**, 1954-2003 (renamed Eastern Wake FD)
- **Morrisville Rural FD**, 1955-? (merged with municipal FD)
- **Northern Wake Rescue & EMS**, 1981-1995 (renamed Wake Forest EMS)
- **Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad**, 1953-? (assets and operations assumed by Raleigh FD. Does that make it a merger?)
- **Rolesville EMS**, 1995-2008 (merged with Eastern Wake EMS)
- **Six Forks FD**, 1956-2002 (merged with Bay Leaf FD)
- **Wake Forest EMS**, 1995-1998 (disbanded)
- **Wake Forest FD #2**, 1942-1982? (merged with Wake Forest FD?)
- **Wake Forest Rescue Squad**, 1965-1981 (renamed Northern Wake EMS)
- **Wake Forest Rural FD**, 1956-1982 (merged with municipal FD)
- **Wendell FD**, 1908-1912 - ? (the non-rural FD, later merged with Wendell Rural FD)
- **Wendell Rescue Squad** (later Wendell EMS), 1962-2005 (merged with Knightdale EMS and Zebulon EMS to form Eastern Wake EMS)
- **Western Boulevard FD**, 1957-1960 (disbanded, members reorganized as Fairgrounds FD)
- **Yrac FD**, 1961-1998 (merged with Fairgrounds, formed Western Wake FD)
- **Zebulon Rescue Squad** (later Zebulon EMS), 1974-2005 (merged with Knightdale EMS and Zebulon EMS to form Eastern Wake EMS)
- **Zebulon Rural FD**, 1953-2000 (merged with municipal FD)

Cary Area Rescue Squad, Rescue moved to Cary Fire Department in 1996 or 1997 and Cary Area Rescue Squad became Cary Area EMS.

Donaldson - 04/06/11 - 22:07

Same with Six Forks Rescue Squad. Rescue moved to fire, they became Six Forks EMS. Not sure of the timeline.

DJ - 04/07/11 - 15:58

Article about the future of local squads, <http://www.southwestwakenews.com/2011/04..#>

Google - 04/07/11 - 17:32

Does anyone know what the outcome of the missing drugs investigation at Apex EMS? Was this an issue for a merger dicussion?

Curious - 04/07/11 - 18:39

All employees cleared by investigation. Unknown if it was an issue for merger discussions.

460 - 04/07/11 - 18:51

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Police Offices and Social Networking

04/07/11 202 W - + 4 - 4

We've read the stories about firefighters and medics getting in trouble with social networking. Usually, such incidents have involved the posting of inappropriate photos, such as victims at accidents. But imagine the consequences of more subtle actions, such the wording of your job description. For police officers, as [this New York Times article](#) reports, describing your job as "human waste disposal" could be entirely embarrassing, as an Albuquerque officer encountered. After he was involved a fatal on-duty shooting in February, a local television discovered his Facebook description. The result? Desk duty for him, new policy for everyone.

Interesting perspective on the effects of personal conduct far and away from the squad car. At least for firefighters and medics, they are rarely being pursued by defense attorneys craving evidence to impeach their testimony. But it's a good lesson for everyone in public safety. Remember the old rule about e-mail? Before hitting send, imagine everyone in the world might read the thing. Apply the same standard to social networking. Will it still square if the highest officials or highest-rated news people are watching? Or have occasion to watch? Apologies in advance for immediately induced states of paranoia...

Cops should absolutely be paranoid about what they post online. As you know, I'm paranoid just about posting on here! You never know when a silly remark you make someplace like this may be taken out of context years later when you're forced to shoot someone in a scenario that the media portrays it as possibly unjustified, and gets the public all riled up. You'll smack yourself in the head and say, "but I was just sitting in my living room in my underwear two years ago when I typed that! I didn't mean anything by it!"

But alas, the "human waste disposal" is already out there for someone to find...

rfburns - 04/08/11 - 21:13

A friend of mine got in trouble up in NYC as a police officer. The first thing the news media found was his Myspace site that was not secured. They found comments from movies that were not very professional. The next thing you see in the New York Times was, "Gangster Cop ___ doing lines off of a strippers ass." You always have to watch what you say. Your comments always reflect back to the agency you work for, especially when you work in the public service field. This is the reason anonymous posts are so popular.

Kermit - 04/09/11 - 08:23

Anonymous posts are indeed popular, and certainly do shield the individual poster. But do they sufficiently shield one's agency? Not necessarily. Any public discussion is a public discussion. In another thread on this blog the other day, someone asked about an investigation at agency. Let's presume their motivation is base curiosity. I mean, this blog is a collection of like-minded readers and posters. Like firing questions and shooting the sh_t at the station table. "Hey, I heard this happened over there, what's the deal?" Let's add lurkers, and perhaps people in the media. Joe or Jane Reporter reads that question, anonymous, and says, wow, something's happening over at this agency. They sniff a story, and the great machinery of the media is turned in the direction of that agency. Next thing you know, the chief or an official is asking "how the heck did they find out about this?" You take it from there.

Is that a example of anonymous comments nonetheless harming the agency, while in the short-term protecting the individual?

Meta-observation. My description above paints the above scenario as a negative one, or one with negative effects. There are lots of contrary opinions on this. Such as the opinion that public attention (via new coverage) on internal affairs is a good thing. Sunshine, disinfectant, etc. You as taxpayer probably want such things uncovered, to ensure that the publicity helps reinforce the accountability and attitudes to prevent future things from happening. (For those There's the issue of whistleblowing, and using public forums to call attention to things that workers feel are suppressed. (Or just not being paid attention to. Get on your pulpit and blog anonymously!))

Makes you wonder.... just how seriously do people take these discussions and anonymous comments posted therein?

Legeros - 04/09/11 - 09:09

I painted a worse-case or severe-case example above, but there are many small-scale interactions that can be pondered. (This blog is a great study in behavior and conversation.) Is it helpful or harmful to have public discussions (or even just posed questions) about, say, hearing that someone's about to be named for a promotion? That approval is about to happen for a project or purchase? That someone's experienced a personal loss or stressor? And so on. Apologies for the navel-gazing, for those who can't stand it. As an introspective blog operator, that's one of the things you think about. How are all conversations making people feel (in addition to what it's making them think).

Legeros - 04/09/11 - 09:16

I agree with you Mike, Anonymous posts do nothing to shield the blog users agency. I worded the end of my post wrong.

Kermit - 04/09/11 - 11:21

Revisiting this thread, in response to reading about trooper text messages. They were released to local news last night. Reader/citizen reaction is commencing this morning. It's an interesting twist to the above issues. What happens with public records are requested and released, that reveal communication originally intended to be private? And maybe more importantly, what happens/should happen when personalities and traits therein are revealed through such communication? (I am guessing that general public probably prefers that responders/people in authority act or are portray more saintly than otherwise.)

Legeros - 07/06/11 - 09:13

I don't believe these are public records. These are text messages between two coworkers on their personal cell phones. I think the only reason they released the texts is because it supports the troopers' stories, and shows they didn't conspire to stop the husband.

Regarding the viewer comments on WRAL, I may be an optimist, but I truly believe the vocal minority on there does not represent the general public. I've seen less cop-haters at a gangsta rap concert...

rfburns - 07/06/11 - 10:14

I want to know why WRAL hasn't released the video from the Wrightsville police station yet? Oh I know why because of how far to the left they are. A greenville news station released it a few days ago. It shows how polite the trooper was and then goes on to show the husband lying on camera. Great stuff

Mike - 07/06/11 - 12:52

Thanks Burns. That makes sense, personal not public messages. Good thing responders are exempt from our state's new TWD laws!

Legeros - 07/06/11 - 19:18

Ha... I don't know of any officers that have ever had a NEED to text while driving. I don't know if maybe the public safety personnel exception to that rule is to make sure it isn't applied to officers using computers in the cars... Or maybe, some departments that don't have in-car computers use texting over cells in the same way I would use the in-car computer.

rfburns - 07/06/11 - 19:56

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'?

Radar Gun

04/07/11 69 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Speaking of the boys in blue, here's a radar gun in action on a busy city street. For extra credit, where's this? Something else that occurs to Mr. Blogger. Do motorcycle cops wear safety vests? Certainly not while working in "stealth mode." Imagine if their cycles had designs like [these British versions](#). It'd be back to hiding behind billboards with those! Click to enlarge:



nice bike.

charlie - 04/07/11 - 13:08

Not to be picky but just to clarify something:

This is LIDAR (LIght Detection And Ranging) which uses a laser to measure time/distance. It is much more accurate (in terms of beam spread at distance, not in speed) for clocking cars at greater distances. Think of it as a laser (because it more or less is) in that even great distances away the "dot" doesn't get much bigger. This means the officer knows for sure based on the holographic site on top of the unit which specific car he is clocking.

RADAR (Radio Detection And Ranging) uses radio waves to measure time/distance. This radio wave is more like a flashlight in that the further away you get, the wider the beam. A RADAR wave spreads a lot over a short distance so you have to rely on your training to be able to interpret what sounds and readings you're getting back from the unit and what you're seeing with your eyes (like picking out the speeder in a pack of cars).

Anyway, thanks for showing some love for the boys in blue.

RPD - 04/07/11 - 15:40

Learning something today! Thanks for your note...

Legeros - 04/07/11 - 15:43

Looks like the one working Hillsborough and Glenwood yesterday...

DJ - 04/07/11 - 15:56

LIDAR is stationary use, while RADAR can be used moving or stationary. Some LIDAR can also be used to Survey at a Traffic accidents.

Kustom Signals - 04/07/11 - 19:44

RPD, did you guys switch to full-face helmets or is there an option on style of helmet?

HD Rider - 04/07/11 - 21:54

Full face helmets now. They are also getting real uniform motorcycle pants and jackets so that in the unfortunate event of a crash, they will actually be protected now instead of wearing the typical police uniform that has zero protection qualities.

RPD - 04/08/11 - 02:48

And to answer a previous question, no, they don't wear reflective vests while on the motorcycle.

Ditto on the thanks for documenting some police action. We (police) don't do that anywhere near as much as we should.

rfburns - 04/08/11 - 21:09

the link to the British versions of bikes...are those Wake EMS motorcycles?

Batten Burg - 04/09/11 - 09:30

I can only dream.....

CH100 - 04/09/11 - 21:13

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Bladen County Firefighter Dies on Duty

04/08/11 64 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

[FireNews has reported](#) that Tar Heel Volunteer Fire Department firefighter David Hunsiger Jr. died Thursday, April 7, in a motor-vehicle accident while responding in his personal vehicle to a woods fire. Hunsiger is the son of the chief of the department. He is survived by a wife and children. Further details forthcoming.



From the Bladen Journal:

TAR HEEL — A Tar Heel volunteer firefighter was killed Thursday when he was involved in a traffic accident while en route to a fire call.

David J. Hunsinger Jr., 23, who is the son of Tar Heel Volunteer Fire Department Chief David Hunsinger Sr., was pronounced dead at the scene, which was at the intersection of River Road and Burney Road between White Oak and Tar Heel, on Thursday evening.

In an e-mail to media outlets, Bladen County Fire Marshal Bradley Kinlaw said: "Firefighters from around the county and state were on hand at Bladen County Hospital to pay their respects as their brother firefighter was brought into the facility."

Hunsinger Jr. was pronounced dead by Bladen County Coroner Hubert Kinlaw at 6 p.m., just 17 minutes after the call came in on the wreck.

According to a Highway Patrol report by Trooper P.A. Collins, Hunsinger's Mazda3 was T-boned by a minivan being driven by Lisa A. McMillan, 48, of Elizabethtown after Hunsinger lost control of his car, went off the road, overcorrected and came back onto River Road sideways.

According to published reports, McMillan suffered minor injuries and was treated and released.

Hunsinger was transported to the hospital on a Tar Heel fire truck.

Legeros - 04/08/11 - 11:22

This is a sad story for sure. I will be keeping the TFD family in my prayers. It's a shame another front wheel drive car contributes to another death.

Buckwheat - 04/08/11 - 11:30

my thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Mr. Hunsinger.

charlie - 04/08/11 - 17:02

Nice retrospective from the Fayetteville Observer via firehouse.com, <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headli..>

Four Homes Burn in Charlotte

04/08/11 160 W, 1 I - + 11 - 1

WSCO is one of many news outlets reporting on [this morning's multi-home fire](#) in Cornelius, which is outside Charlotte, which is more recognizable and thus the location listed in this blog posting. (Though maybe everyone also knows where Cornelius is!) Two homes destroyed, two others damaged. Three families displaced, as one was vacant.

[WNCN has a few photos](#), in addition to the raw footage from WSCO. Witnesses said the wind spread the flames, though proximity was certainly a mitigating factor. [Notes the WBTV report](#), the buildings were built "California-style," which means very close together. Guess that applies to quite a few residential neighborhoods in these parts. Just a little wind and/or high heat, and the second (and third and fourth) structure catches.

Sunday update. Reader Jeff Silver sends this picture, seen off O'Kelly Chapel Road, at Carolina Preserve and Amberly. Both structures with vinyl siding.



A result of greedy government and planning departments. Pack as many as you can in a small area to get every tax cent possible. Then the FD's have to deal with this crap.

ff - 04/08/11 - 08:47

Crazy this story is up; I was just driving down O'Kelly Chapel Rd. in Cary/Durham and there's a 55 & over housing development going up. The houses are all ranch/patio homes, but they are sooooo close together and appear to be vinyl siding. I still can't believe they are allowed to put them that close. I'll send Mikey L. a pic if I go by there later today. I was thinking to myself, if the CFD catches a fire over here, they better get in there quickly or they'll burn two for one!

Silver - 04/08/11 - 10:32

By standards around here those homes aren't so close together, look like they are 15+ feet apart.. It's as Silver said, with vinyl they shouldn't be so close. These homes would have been fine with almost anything other than vinyl.

D.Cates - 04/08/11 - 13:01

There are developments like that everywhere now. Cornelius isn't the only ones who burn more than one at a time. We have had some exposure issues here in Wake county just like that. I guess that's why you are seeing departments like Morrisville and Apex with the preconnected blitz nozzels.

911 - 04/08/11 - 21:02

Yup, kudos to them for changing up their tactics to adapt to some of their territory. RFD 15 Engine is also experimenting with one, from what I've been told.

Silver - 04/08/11 - 22:38

They look like they would be nice for water curtains. They must work well for them.

911 - 04/09/11 - 12:15

Well, water curtains are not really effective exposure protection, but, having the option to be able to put 500 gpm's into operation fast would be nice. Won't be practical all the time, but has its' place if you ask me.

<http://www.wallysfire.com/TFT-Blitzfire...>

Silver - 04/09/11 - 13:50

Updated with pic from Silver.

Legeros - 04/10/11 - 21:33

Now that is close.... If you're gonna be that close you might as well have a town house with less exterior maintenance and upkeep!

D.Cates - 04/10/11 - 23:09

Aint that the truth!!

911 - 04/12/11 - 08:48

There is a neighborhood of 2 unit town homes just like the picture above in Archer Lodge, just outside of Clayton. This has been a topic of discussion in our training meetings. If you stand between each unit and hold your arms out beside you, fingertips touch both town homes. If one were to burn, you can plan on seeing a big orange glow toward the upper west side of JoCo.

TTaylor - 04/12/11 - 10:02

Silver – Water curtains are not really effective exposure protection,,,,,lmao. I have to work with you now and then. Now you should know why I do not listen to you.

sametheman - 04/12/11 - 21:56

On that note, how about doing me a favor and let me know who you are so I know not to waste my breath on someone that doesn't want to learn. I could care less what you say, direct water application is the best form of protecting an exposure. Open your mind up a little, you'd be amazed what it might soak up.

Silver - 04/12/11 - 22:20

Here's some reading for you "same". Do some research and learn about your job; <http://www.firehouse.com/forums/showthre..>

Silver - 04/13/11 - 12:55

What is on that link may be true, however you have to be careful not to rely on forums as true research.

CJ - 04/13/11 - 19:24

Sametheman, I doubt you work for Raleigh... if you do I (we) are embarrassed.

Embarrassed - 04/13/11 - 20:15

Do your research CJ. While I do agree that not everything found on the world wide web is true, I still haven't found anywhere saying that a "water curtain" should be considered effective exposure protection, or "hey, we used a water curtain and man it worked awesome".

It is an outdated tactic that was more than likely taught from an old IFSTA manual. Times have changed, people have done the research, the best way to cool an exposure (thus protecting it) is by direct water application.

Silver - 04/13/11 - 20:28

@Embarrassed; we'll never, ever know!!!

Silver - 04/13/11 - 20:29

CJ, does this convince you now or what?

<http://books.google.com/books?id=VPxWmvK..>

<http://www.fireengineering.com/index/art..>

Silver - 04/13/11 - 20:44

It's fact, water does not absorb radiant heat as once thought, maybe only about 15%. The rest of the heat travels right through; you cool the surfaces of the exposed, simple as that.

Silver - 04/13/11 - 20:46

As much as i hate to say it, Silver is exactly right (lol). Water curtains only work on embers and convected heat. They will do absolutely nothing for radiant heat, Fire behavior 101. I remember a couple of volkie houses 15yrs ago had water curtain appliances used to put between houses. Needless to say i have never seen any since.

gen3fire - 04/14/11 - 17:48

Darn KC, always gotta start off with that? I figured we were past that point by now!! Thanks for the support, just another anonymous blogger relying on antiquated tactics and a coney attempt at getting a job in.

The silence is golden.

Silver - 04/14/11 - 18:33

Silver, I believe you have great ideas and do well at your job but you shouldn't get your blood pressure up when these people jump on you. They are doing this because they want to see your reaction. You are the blogger of all bloggers and aren't afraid of speaking your mind. These folks have been jabbing you to death a hole lot lately but just ignore them. Mikey's blog wasn't designed for such. And we can't discuss when it escalades into Mike having to lock the article. You share your knowledge with people who want to learn and not the idiots that want to bash you.

JG - 04/14/11 - 21:55

Hey just out of curiosity, how many calls did Wake Forest Fire run last year?

911 - 04/14/11 - 21:57

@JG; nah, it doesn't bother me Brother. People will jab and jab, and that's fine. I enjoy the fact that Mike has put together a great site for us to discuss things, especially when it comes to strategy and tactics. We've needed something like this in this area for the longest time, and now we finally have it.

It would be great though, for us to come on here and be able to just have decent debates without people getting their panties in a bunch or take offense. It's about making us all operate better and be certain we go home at the end of our tour. There are a certain few that come here for the right reasons, and after the debating and discussing is over, if i saw them tomorrow I'd laugh and joke with them about whatever. Nothing we reasonably debate here is taken personally. I know what you're saying, but please believe me when I tell you, I've been doing this long enough to not lose sleep over the spineless. Mikey could just erase their douche post, but I understand why he leaves them up.

Stay safe.....

Silver - 04/14/11 - 23:49

@ 911-

Not sure why it matters here in this discussion, but Wake Forest Fire ran just over 2600 calls last year.

Wayne - 04/15/11 - 06:53

What challenges will these neighborhoods present in 10-15 years? Now, most are new and in very good condition. Give it time and the neighborhood begins to "age". To be politically correct, the occupants then are likely to be less concerned with living with fire safety. We begin

to find more fires in the structures and the likelihood of neighborhood conflagrations definitely increases. I think about those residences that were "premier" years ago, but now, not so much.

Chris - 04/15/11 - 16:56

It doesn't have anything to do with this article but I figured someone would let me know. I checked their web site but it hasn't been updated in a while.

911 - 04/15/11 - 20:54

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Saving Lives, Starting Lives

04/10/11 34 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Reporting from a weekend in the Quad Cities, Iowa/Illinois. Saw these stickers on a Davenport engine company. Code saves and babies delivered.



I don't know, this seems sort of 'tacky'. However, I am all about company or unit pride emblems on their apparatus. I used to see this in Maryland with emblems on the engines, ladders, rescues, and ambos, along with helmets. It is something you just don't see around here. It creates a sort of competition amongst the troops.

DJ - 04/11/11 - 12:31

I can see this working in a smaller department. But may become confusing in a department with multiple stations where personnel are routinely transferred. Although, I suppose a save by any crew is representative of that entire department, not just a select few. Just would make is difficult to have that sort of competition among the crews.

JK - 04/11/11 - 20:42

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No

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Expanded Fire Station

04/10/11 103 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Those were stickers on Engine 6 in Davenport, IA. Their station building is interesting as it started life in 1953 as a small, single-story station facing a side street. The facility was expanded in 1980, with the original apparatus bays converted into additional living quarters. Three new and presumably bigger bays were built and the station presently houses an engine and truck company. Plus haz-mat unit. Wonder how cost-effective that would be today? Raleigh is particularly plagued with single-story stations too small for present needs. If you can get the land, re-construction might be an alternative to new construction. Click to enlarge:



Great posts on Davenport. Look forward to seeing all your photos of the Davenport stations including Central. I was checking out your DCFD photos from your visit (last month I think) to Rescue 1's quarters. Does Davenport run Rescue & Haz-mat rigs?

Trevor - 04/10/11 - 22:41

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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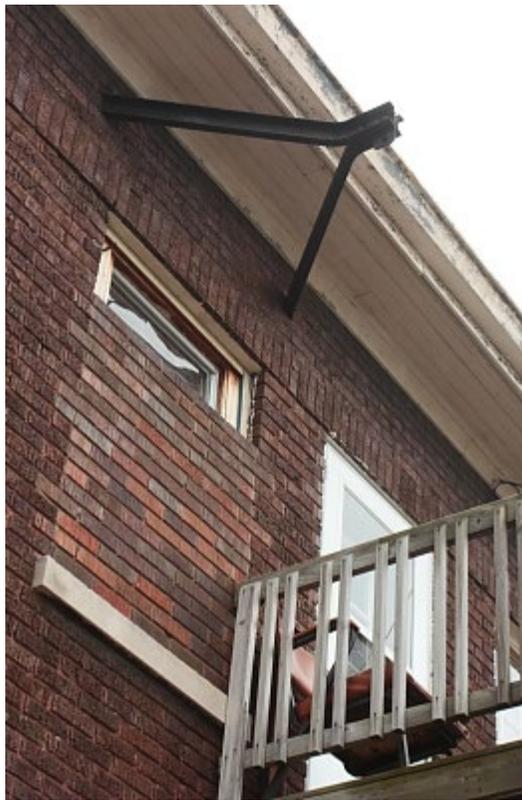
Hoists and History

04/10/11 108 W, 2 I - + 5 - 2

From this weekend's explorations, here's a hoisting mechanism beside the basement access of an early 20th Century fire station building in Moline, IL. From a bit of Google searching, it looks like such hoists were used for lifting cans of ash removed from the coal-fired furnace.



And here's the hoisting mechanism for a hay loft, in a former fire station in Davenport, IA. The opening's been sealed, which is fairly common with such buildings. More photos of these and other historic fire department structures in the Quad Cities are forthcoming.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Davenport's New Fire Boat

04/10/11 98 W, 1 I - + 5 - 7

And here's one for the boat lovers. Davenport's central fire station is a historic structure dating to the 1900s, ergo why Mr. Blogger was visiting. Sitting inside the station's shop space is their new fire boat, recently delivered but not yet in service. Specs: 26-foot, 14-inch draft, 400 HP Chevy V8 engine, propelled by jet, top speed 40 MPH, drop-down front end, 2500 GPM pump and deluge gun. Cost \$178,182, funded by Homeland Security grant. For use on the Mississippi River and other waterways as needed. [Read more about it](#) from the *Quad-City Times*. Click to enlarge:



Great posts on your trip to Iowa. Looks like the Davenport Fire Department has a wealth of info on their Web page(s) but the images are not loading for me either in Firefox or Safari? Anyone else having luck viewing images on the City of Davenport Fire/Rescue site:

[http://www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/egov/..](http://www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/egov/)

Trevor - 04/10/11 - 22:11

Interesting – looks like an issue with how the images are “pathed” in the source code. They have the server IP and use https in the code. If you browse directly to the image it seems to work (just an FYI):

[http://www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/egov/..](http://www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/egov/)

Trevor - 04/10/11 - 22:13

I have to go to a North Carolina blog to read about a fire boat seventy miles away. Only other boat that approaches this in Iowa, to the best of my knowledge, is at Lake Okoboji in northwest Iowa operated by several departments in that area. Also, related to old stations the City of Cedar Rapids is trying to get someone to move old station 2 as it is in the way of a sewer project. Neat station that was basically on a island surrounded by streets. <http://thegazette.com/2011/04/06/new-lif..> Mike keep up the good work. Truly appreciate when Silver comments.

Eugene Beard ([Email](#)) - 04/11/11 - 09:49

To reduce the loss owing to sudden fire incident there should be enough Fire Boat. there speed should be high that they can quickly reach to the affected place.

fire boat

joyce609 ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/24/11 - 13:50

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

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No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

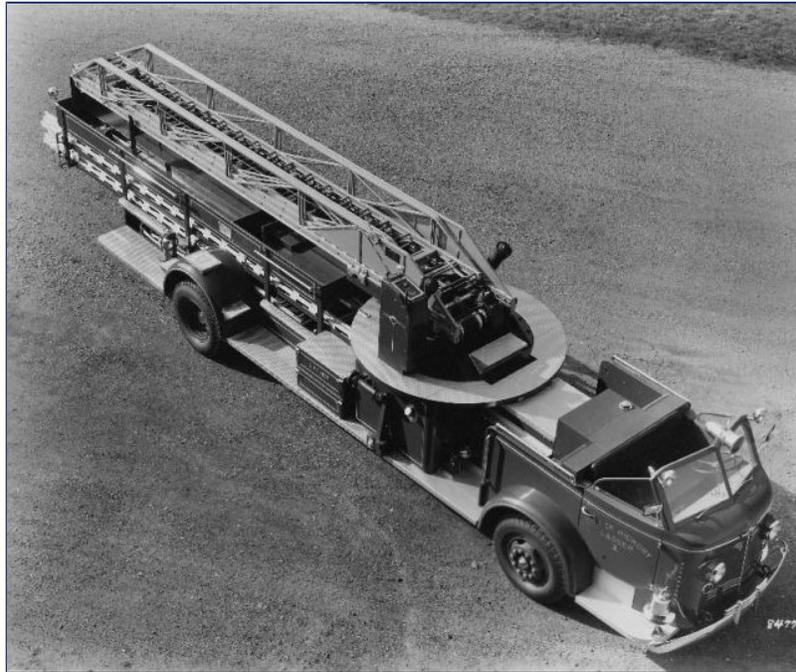
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Hickory's American LaFrance 700 Series Aerial Ladder

04/11/11 50 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Found for sale on eBay is this factory photo of an American LaFrance 700 Series aerial ladder that was delivered to Hickory. Model year not indicated. The town later purchased a 1974 American LaFrance aerial ladder, which [Lee Wilson has photographed](#). Click to slightly enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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

Oldest Operating Firehouse?

04/11/11 168 W - + 5 - 1

As posted by Yours Truly to the Firehouse.com forums, what's the oldest operating firehouse in the United States? Here's the start of the conversation:

What are some of the oldest operating firehouses in the United States? Here in North Carolina, the town of Henderson has a town hall and fire station building that serves as their Station 2. Built 1908.

Traveled to the Quad Cities (IA/IL) this weekend, and the Central Fire Station in Davenport, IA, opened in 1905. Construction started in 1901 or after. But that's still somewhat young.

Engine 23 in Detroit on East Grand Boulevard and Engine 35 on Kenilworth were both built in 1899, while Engine 18 / Ladder 10 on Mt. Elliott was built in 1893.

St. Louis has a couple stations dating to 1895. DC's Engine 22 on Georgia Avenue was built in 1897, no?

Charleston's stations on Cannon Street and Meeting Street were both built in 1887.

So what's older than 1887, still operating around our great country?

See some pics of above at [this web site](#).

Until January of 2009 it was Louisville, KY station 7 built in 1871. City shut it down for budgetary reason in 2009. No one seems to be stepping up and claiming the title at present.

stretch - 04/11/11 - 22:43

The Rex/Laurel Fire House in York, Pennsylvania was built in 1878 and currently is still in use. Here is some information on the fire house, <http://www.yorkblog.com/yorktownsquare/2..> Mike Legeros has posted some striking images of the Rex/Laurel Station.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/wit..>

Christopher Anthony ([Email](#)) - 04/02/12 - 03:12

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Let There Be Brick

04/11/11 102 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Presenting historic, former, and current firehouses of the Quad Cities, IA/IL. Left to right, top to bottom, are Davenport's Central Fire Station (1905), Old Station 3 (1921), Old Station 6 (1930), Old Station 7 (1905), and Station 3 (1964); Moline Old Station 3 (1908) and Old Station 4 (1910); Rock Island Old Station 3 (1930s?), Old Station 6 (1917), Old Station _ (1900), and Old Station _ (?). That last one's been turned into a public library. [See the entire series of photos, which includes a couple others](#). And we'll consider this trip closed. The thing isn't over until all photos are processed, of course, and all knowledge is transferred.



I was just out there last year, doing some work at the arsenal. The comm center's husband is a Davenport firefighter, and her inlaws live in a renovated historic Davenport firehouse. Sounded really cool. Neat area of the country.

Barrett - 04/11/11 - 21:47

Oops – the comm center supervisor's husband...

Barrett - 04/11/11 - 21:49

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Truck 12 Disbanded, 1988

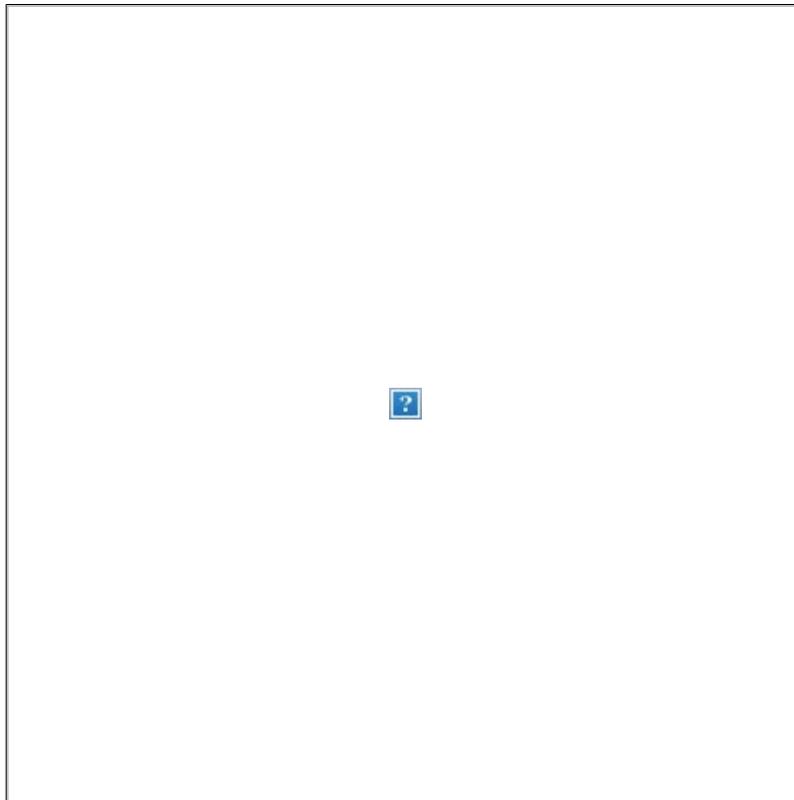
04/12/11 330 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

We blogged about [possible company closures in Greensboro](#) the other week. In the Capitol City, only one permanent company closure is recorded. Truck 12 was removed from service on October 30, 1988. The three-person service-ladder company operated a 1980 Ford C service truck. Of interesting note is that the city's service companies did not have Captains, as those positions were eliminated in 1976. That year and during those tough economic times, City Manager Lawrence Zachary cut the nine positions as part of 60 eliminated that budget year.

The closure of Truck 12 was recalled two years later, in a *News & Observer* article. Fire Chief Sherman Pickard recounted that a task force spent four months assessing how many ladder trucks Raleigh needed, and where they should be located. The task force recommend removing Truck 12 from service, and using its twelve members to staff Engine 20 in a new station on Trailwood Road. (Did they have twelve positions, or just nine? Need to check that.)

In a report to City Manager Dempsey Benton, the fire chief noted that the area served by Truck 12 had mainly single-story residences which did not require or justify aerial ladder services. And that fires in such structures were usually fought with hand lines (versus aerial streams). The closure thus saved the city \$550,000 to replace the ladder truck, as well as the annual expense of \$331,763 for the new positions.

The city had five ladder companies that year, three service trucks and two aerial ladders. The third aerial ladder company was placed in service the following year, in September 1981. (The last service company was removed from service in 1989 at Station 15, I believe.) As for Truck 12, log books recorded that the company was removed from service until further notice on May 11, 1988. The logs recorded the permanent removal from service on October 30, 1988. (As for the words "service truck," we've even [analyzed their origin in a prior thread](#).) Engine 20 was placed in service early the following year, on January 20, 1989.



Jeff Harkey photo

Which clearly explains why we are so far behind now....thanks Sherm! Unbelievable to see that the justification for a Ladder Company was solely based on the aerial master stream, versus the priorities on the fireground of an Engine Company versus a Truck/Ladder Company.

Isn't it funny how now we are looking at placing a Ladder Company at the new #12, and at one time they were considering an expansion of #12 to accommodate a Ladder Company....

Silver - 04/12/11 - 09:33

You are making an inference, be careful. The above posting does not indicate sole justification, merely "a" justification.

Note - 04/12/11 - 09:42

But is it a true conclusion or a false conclusion?

Going on fact; 1) There are plans to put a Ladder Company in the new #12, and at one time they considered remodeling existing #12 to fit a Ladder Company (just not because of an aerial device); 2) After the old #4 on Wake Forest Rd. was sold, a consultant later made a recommendation that a fire station would serve "this area" well (pointing to a map of the city). "This area" is almost exactly where Old #4 sits.....

Silver - 04/12/11 - 11:28

Silver is correct. When [if] #12 is replaced the current plans have it as a 3-bay station. However, the bays are behind the station facing to the sides with a driveway on either side of the station to make it a true "drive-thru" station. L8 will move to #12 to help boost ISO points. L8 currently only serves 2 stations (excluding it's own). By relocating to #12 it will serve 3 (again, excluding #12). Same it supposed to happen with L6 upon completion of #29 so it can serve 3 stations as well.

RescueRanger - 04/12/11 - 11:52

You also have to take into account that things were done perhaps a bit differently back when that decision was made. They didn't look at today's standards of fire ground priorities, they had their own set. Also given the way that fire was fought back then, the Chief was likely quite correct in saying that the use of handlines far outweighed the use of an elevated masterstream because that's what ladders did back then, provide elevated masterstreams. They didn't serve the search, OVM, ceiling pulling, etc operations that they do today. Just another perspective, we cannot look at only today's standards and factors when judging decisions made so long ago.

And as an aside, is 29 still being built or is that on hold due to the new talk about closing houses etc. Are we really going to build a house to close another when we already are struggling with tightening our belts?

A differing perspective - 04/12/11 - 12:09

There is no talk of station closure or job layoffs in Raleigh. Construction on #29 is slated to start in June.

RescueRanger - 04/12/11 - 12:25

@differing perspective; You are absolutely correct. I guess I was venting earlier, but you're right, back then in Raleigh they really didn't care about truck ops/ladder ops. It was good for an elevated stream and that's all. Extremely based on Engine work only, we can't apply our standards today on how what happened in this scenario back then. I stand corrected!! Still amazes me how certain "leaders" were more involved in cutting this and closing that, only to now end up costing us more in the long run and having to play catch up.

Silver - 04/12/11 - 16:04

@Silver- I have seen a lot of that over the years, cutting costs here and there, doing things that are going to save 'so much money' or 'make us more efficient'. All those things cut (people, stations, apparatus) always wind up having to come back at increased costs. And we spend a lot more money that we really should to prove we can be 'more efficient'. Penny wise and pound foolish.

DJ - 04/12/11 - 16:30

Raleigh has enjoyed a pretty good run of prosperity over the decades and past century, it seems, between population and physical growth. Those numbers have kept going up. Previous fire administrations seemed to have kept pace to pretty good effect, if on the "small thinking" side. Such as, say, stations built smaller than larger. (Though everyone has always had their own beds. No hot-bunking here!) Was that a failure of imagination? Directives to keep costs tighter than looser? Other factors? The City Managers during those periods share their part in the history alongside the fire chiefs. But we're still staffed and still open for business. Reading recent Detroit and Richmond fire department yearbooks saw pages in both dedicated to closed companies. We've never (or not yet) faced such hardships in the Capitol City. The fire load has changed as well. The days of big honkin' commercial fires in old downtown buildings are a thing of the past. Houses, apartments, condos,

and town homes. That's where the hose goes these days. And some of those get pretty large...

Legeros - 04/12/11 - 17:09

It amazes and frustrates me how people act like ladder company ops of forcing doors, searching, ventilating and laddering buildings is something new. All of this has been happening since people started fighting fires. The invention of the ladder company is not a new idea. People around here have just recently started taking their blinders off that there is a better way to do some things on the fireground.

Mike - 04/12/11 - 19:57

Tis' true Mike, but we have come a really, really long way. It's even trickling down to the smaller agencies, which is awesome. It came down to two things; training and mindset. We have overcome the "mindset" issue, and working on the training issue. We are on a decent path now, if you ask me. Definitely work in progress, but we're getting there. Repetition is the key now...

Silver - 04/12/11 - 22:11

So where is Truck 12 now? Was it auctioned off?

Emily - 04/13/11 - 06:35

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.

Kings Mountain Firehouse Barbecue Cookoff, April 15-16

04/12/11 67 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

The Kings Mountain Fire Department is hosting the 15th Annual North Carolina Firehouse Barbecue State Championship on Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16. Activities include live music, rides for kids, and a cornhole tournament. See [this KMFD web page](#) for more information, including over 50 teams! Kings Mountain is 156 miles west of Raleigh, outside Gastonia.



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

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Guns & Hoses Softball Tournament in Chapel Hill, May 13-15

04/12/11 54 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

The [Chapel Hill Firefighters Association](#) is hosting the Fourth Annual Guns & Hoses Softball Tournament on May 13 - 15, to benefit the North Carolina Jaycees Burn Center at UNC Hospital. The entry fee is \$150 per person. Click below to see the flyer with contact information:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Now That's High-Tech Tunnel Rescue!

04/13/11 52 W, 2 I - + 6 - 2

Banner advertisement on the [Takara Tomy web site](#). Their Hyper Rescue product line, based on the [Tokyo Fire Department](#) team. Ah, the imaginations of children, or at least the product designers for their toys...



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Pocket Manual of Fire Protection Management

04/13/11 49 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

Found on the Tokyo Fire Department's [English language web site](#), here's a neat peek of workplace fire prevention strategies on the other side of the world. It's a do-it-yourself, download-and-fold manual of instructions. For fires and earthquakes. Hai, pretty interesting. [View and download.](#)



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Four Alarms in Charlotte This Morning

04/13/11 62 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

First Ward Apartments in uptown Charlotte. One rescue from third-floor apartment. Three injuries. Heavy damage to apartments. The last one's a given. See this [Charlotte Observer story](#) for superb photos by Gary O'Brien. Strong scene lighting probably helped him! Google for other coverage. Maybe readers will post the run card.



Gary O'Brien/Charlotte Observer photo

Initial dispatch as a working fire with possible entrapment at 0406 – BC-1, BC-3 E-8, E-1, E-42, E-2, L-1 and R-10

Second Alarm transmitted at 0407 – BC-4, E-7, E-5, E-6, L-2

L-4 added at 0408

Third alarm transmitted at 0417 – BC-5, E-11, E-18, E-10, L-13

Fourth alarm transmitted at 0451 – BC-7, E-4, E-27, E-40, L-23

Relief companies at 1245 are E-33, E-24, E-42 and L-29

Multiple other units at various times – Field Comm 1, C-1(Chief), C-2, C-3 (Deputy Chiefs), C-202 (Training), C-300, C-339 (Inspections), C-800, C-807, C-808 (Investigations) and Rehab 1

Numerous move-ups

Road Warrior - 04/13/11 - 13:11

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Car Versus Night Club

04/13/11 133 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

WRAL posted this picture of Mama Rabbit's Motor Lounge on Highway 55 in Fuquay-Varina, where on Thursday an irate patron crashed her car into the building. (The lady was told she'd had enough to drink.) She also trashed a picnic table and one with people sitting at same. Two were injured there. She also smacked another vehicle on her way out of the parking lot. She subsequently ran off the road on Highway 50 and struck a tree. Next on the agenda was bodily violence, upon which she reportedly assaulted (a.) rescue squad members at the scene, (b.) a deputy at the scene, and (c.) a doctor at Johnston Memorial Hospital. [Read the whole sordid story](#), plus a couple dozen ever-amusing reader comments. Katie, bar the door, indeed!



WRAL photo

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Tiller Rollover Accident Leads to Cooperative Safety Video

04/13/11 152 W, 1 I - + 2 - 0

[Fire Engineering](#) has [posted a cooperative safety video](#) about the Raleigh Fire Department's apparatus rollover accident on July 10, 2009. The city's tractor-drawn aerial ladder overturned while responding to a structure fire. Three of the four firefighters aboard received non-life threatening injuries, and the apparatus was a total loss.

As the accompanying article notes, this significant incident was rendered even more dramatic by being captured by two video cameras from two different angles. The safety video, a joint production with the Raleigh and Seattle fire departments, features the footage, along with numerous still photos. ([Read the blog](#) from that day.)

While pictures tell a thousand powerful words, the testimonies of those on the truck are even more sobering. Each of four firefighters talks at length on camera about what happened, what they remember, and their thoughts and feelings about that day. Watch, react, reflect.



Every firefighter needs to watch this video. Period. A big thanks to the crew of L4 for their contribution to all firefighters by making such a powerful tool...well done.

AP - 04/13/11 - 21:05

Powerful!. Always Buckle up and always stop on red and slow down on green, just because its green dosent mean they wont run their red. Glad everyone is ok from that wreck and glad they are willing to talk openly about it.

Apex Batt Chief - 04/13/11 - 21:34

Wow. Great video guys, agree 100% "AP".

Silver - 04/13/11 - 23:11

Excellent video. Nothing else I could say that hasn't already been said. Thanks to the crew of L4 for contributing. Stay Safe

Luke - 04/14/11 - 12:39

It takes a lot of courage to put yourself and your mistakes out there for everyone to see. This is a wonderful example of what good can come from each others past mistakes and lessons learned by all. I honestly believe lives will be saved, and habits changed by this awesome video. Thanks to L-4's crew for having the courage to be open and honest about that day and thank God they are all here today.

Task Force 8 Fleet Photos

04/13/11 147 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 8 has posted a trio of fleet photos to their web site. These were taken last week at the North Carolina Highway Patrol training center in south Raleigh by ~~Jeff Harkey~~ Lee Wilson. [See more photos from that shoot.](#) Task Force 8 is comprised of Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, and Cary fire departments. Click to slightly enlarge:



Pictured left to right are:

- Car 71 - Haz-Mat Coordinator, Raleigh FD
- SW 803 - Cary FD
- SW 801 - Raleigh FD
- SR 2 - Haz-Mat / USAR Recon Unit, Raleigh FD
- USAR 5 - Logistics
- USAR 7 - Shoring
- USAR 3 - Base of Operations
- USAR 1 - Equipment
- USAR 2 - Equipment
- USAR 4 - Equipment and Logistics
- SR 3 - Bus, 45 seats
- USAR 6 - Communications
- Wake County EMS - Tactical Paramedic Unit
- SW 802 - Durham FD
- SW 804 - Chapel Hill FD
- Car 72 - Task Force Leader, Raleigh FD

The photos above are actually Lee's (I haven't finished processing mine).

harkey ([Email](#)) - 04/14/11 - 08:46

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Raleigh/Wake 911: Don't Use Email to Report Emergencies

04/14/11 133 W - + 7 - 2

Press release. The Raleigh/Wake 911 Emergency Communications Center reminds area residents that email is not designed for reporting true emergencies. Many employees in the 911 Center, Emergency Management, Fire, and Police Departments have widely published email addresses to conduct normal business, and to make them more accessible to our citizens. However, these individual email addresses typically are not monitored 24-hours a day and should not be used to report emergencies or to request emergency services where an immediate response is required. The city maintains alternative methods such as the Citizen Service Request form on the City's website for resolving quality of life issues. However, calling 911 is the fastest and most reliable means of obtaining emergency law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical assistance. [Read entire press release.](#)

Yeah, there's a good story behind that one....

Anon E. Moose - 04/14/11 - 07:27

Well, here's the "good story." A citizen sent an email reporting suspicious activity to my city email address around 1800hs. I did not see or open the email until about 12 hours later. The sender advised that they had no phone, and did not provide an address other than a general vicinity. Luckily, they used their real name as part of their email address and I was able to use cross references to have an officer sent. The officer responded, took the report, and offered up better suggestions for the future. Even though this was a single event, knowing the results of the Red Cross survey last year on citizens and social media, I requested the city issue this press release to hopefully remind everyone else that email is not 9-1-1 and to avoid any potentially more serious events in the future.

RWECC - 04/14/11 - 15:19

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 E-mail: (optional)
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What Does Heavy Fire Look Like?

04/14/11 121 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

For your Friday discussion and/or crayon coloring, what does heavy fire look like? This one's to benefit the scanner junkies on the blog, and which includes Yours Truly. Help us calibrate our mind's eye. Using the below diagram, describe what you're seeing when you say "heavy fire" when arriving on scene. What's the quantity of the fire that "heavy" translates to? Second question, does "heavy fire" mean something a bit different after the fire's been knocked down? e.g., "you still have heavy fire in this place or that area." Thanks and please remember to color inside the lines.



Engine 23 is on scene....working fire....We have heavy fire from Division A, Division B, Division C, Division D,.....and the roof! True size-up given several years ago.

RescueRanger - 04/15/11 - 11:36

Central, Im on da scene and she's-a-burnin'. Heard this recently from a JoCo department.

TTaylor - 04/15/11 - 16:55

still doesnt beat "close down the turkey shoot boys, its comin out the roof"

LOL - 04/15/11 - 17:00

Those are entirely amusing, but a deviation from my original question. When you say "heavy fire," what does that mean as reflected in the above picture. Fire from one window, in large quantity? Fire from three or four windows, in large quantity? Second floor and attic space? etc.

Legeros - 04/15/11 - 17:03

heavy fire would be indicated by structural members being involved... and extension to more than 1 floor

And I sill like the one of old... "Central, she's walkin' the dawg... page em out... page em all out...."

shevais - 04/15/11 - 20:01

okay, I will play along for you Mikey, since I actually used "heavy fire showing" on a house fire the other week. I said it because, if you were using your drawing for an example similar to what I had, it was fire showing from the entire width of the A side, first and second floor windows

and through the roof. It is kinda a "verbal" cue to let my surrounding companies know that I will be pulling a 2 1/2" attack line as I have already informed them that if they hear that from me, that that's what I/we will be doing. But good question, I'm surprised it hasn't generated much conversation...

Wayne - 04/15/11 - 20:12

Another Rural JoCo department; (unnamed) brush on the scene central, we got heavy fire showing. You can cancel all mutual aid departments and have all our units respond code 3 (emergency traffic).....Minutes later.....(unnamed) command to central, repage our department for a tanker.

smkeater - 04/15/11 - 20:44

That has to be the department to the south east of the county. If so it's "10-22 mutual aid and have M\$^*%w proceed on". Or some departments in joco just check on scene with no size-up.

911 - 04/15/11 - 21:00

This is a perfect illustration of "Fully Involved" <http://youtu.be/4TriR64pweQ>

Sparky - 04/19/11 - 21:48

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Yes

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Raleigh-Durham « What Does Heavy Fire ... » iPhone App For Extric... Airport Firefighters Bake Winning Cookies

Raleigh-Durham Airport Firefighters Bake Winning Cookies

04/14/11 172 W, 2 I - + 9 - 5

Lee Wilson took this fleet photo yesterday at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport fire station, for the occasion of a lunch and plaque presentation to "C" shift firefighters. They won a cookie contest recently conducted as part of a meal delivered to the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill on Friday, March 18. The lasagna lunch was delivered by the Raleigh Fire Department and funded by the [Wake County Chapter](#) of the North Carolina Firefighters' Burned Children Fund.



Lee Wilson photo

The event included a contest, with twelve different kinds of cookies or desserts baked by members of Raleigh, Knightdale, Morrisville, RDU, and Western Wake fire departments. The airport's winning entry was a chocolate cookie with mint cream filling. They received a plaque that will stay at the station until the next contest. Second place was Raleigh Station 11 "A" shift (fire-themed cookies) and third place was Raleigh Fire Prevention Division (brickle bar). [See more photos from yesterday.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

About time they do something.

Jake T. - 04/14/11 - 17:58

Ahhh...good one!Thanks for the support...tic

CFR - 04/14/11 - 23:13

Hey CFR, you guys ever have a bake sale? I'd love to try one!!!

Silver - 04/14/11 - 23:50

@ Jake T:

Ahhhhh. They also all got Martin Guitars for winning. Some are for sale on craigslist.

Martin Guitar - 04/15/11 - 17:55

I hate you forever.

Jake T. - 04/15/11 - 18:45

It is the naked expressions of affection that make this blog so special...

Legeros - 04/15/11 - 18:49

Yeah...stop by anytime and we will whip up a special batch just for yall since we have nothing else to do.(h)

CFR - 04/16/11 - 08:59

Here's your ride-along photos from three years ago (has it been that long, egad): <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2008-0..>

Ran one call that morning, as memory serves, stand by for removing fuel at National Guard.

Legeros - 04/16/11 - 09:41

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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Comment:

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iPhone App For Extrication

04/14/11 69 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

From a reader, here's the neatest thing of the week: an iPhone app that shows the best places for cutting up cars. It's called Extraction Zones and was developed by Bohemian Innovations of Austin, TX. Who knew we'd be carrying such powerful computers on our belts this early in the new century? [Read this article from Wired magazine.](#)



Also available for Android called EX Field

APex Batt CHief - 04/14/11 - 09:08

There is a FREE one for the Iphone

cyoung ([Email](#)) - 04/14/11 - 09:36

Wiser (hazmat) has a freebie for iPhone, and the HazEvac app is pretty cool but costs 3.99. It uses GPS to plot direction of a plume according to amount spilled or released. Definitely all useful to have in your toolbox, especially for those on specialty teams or in command roles.

Silver - 04/14/11 - 10:06

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

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Charlotte Fire Apparatus Web Site

04/14/11 62 W, 1 I - + 8 - 1

Found via the Carolinas Fire Page Yahoo Group, check out charlottefdtrucks.blogspot.com, a blog-based web site featuring photos of all Charlotte Fire Department stations and darn near every piece of rolling stock. Reserve units includes! The site operator and photog is Steven Williams. Great pictures and site format. Love those specialty rigs.



Steven Williams photos

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

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No

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Big Chief, Big Helmet

04/14/11 79 W - + 4 - 4

Speaking of the Queen City, blogger Dave Statter reports on Fire Chief Jon Hannan's recent appearance on WEND 106.5. Seems some rock jocks took shots at the big chief's big helmet, after seeing same in action on Wednesday. Recall that morning's four-bagger and television coverage therein. What was Chief Hannon's response? He paid a visit to Woody and Wilcox, and garnered some free publicity for the Charlotte Fire Department. [Read the story and watch the footage.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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Fire Investigation

04/16/11 45 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Scene from this morning's two-alarm fire in Raleigh on Farrington Drive. Shown are Car 20 (fire investigator), Car 40 (shift Deputy Fire Marshal), and WC1 (county fire investigator). Cause determined as accidental due to improperly discarded smoking material.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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No

Comment:

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This Morning's Two Alarms / Farrington Drive

04/16/11 202 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

Two alarms at [112 Farrington Drive](#). Engine 4 arriving with fire showing from the roof of a two-story, wood-frame apartment building with 4,166 square-feet. Built 1985. Declared major working fire, which resulted in automatic dispatch of second alarm. Interior attack, with fire in second-story apartment and attic space. Deluge gun also utilized outside for a brief bit.

Two hydrants used. Command and medical functions on Farrington Drive, west of building. Staging on Six Forks Road, which was closed by police. Dispatched 3:19 a.m. Controlled 3:58 p.m. Two apartments rendered uninhabitable. Three people displaced. No injuries. First alarm: E4, E18, E15, L1, R1, B1, EMS 3. Second alarm + working fire assignment: E16, E9, E22, E19, L5, B4, R3, A1, C10, C20, C40, EMS 122, EMS 15, EMS 2, D3, D4, M92, T1. Other: C2, WC1.

[See photos from Mike Legeros](#) (and others forthcoming from Lee Wilson). The pics from Yours Truly include his trademark portrait-style close-ups. Said Little Red Riding Hood to the Big Bad Wolf: my, what big pupils you have. That's from the flash, sort of a red eye effect. But with no mugs ugly enough to the break the camera, despite that oft-repeated joke.



I see E-15 blitz nozzle was used. Can anyone tell us how it worked, good or bad!

Jg - 04/16/11 - 13:41

I have a question or two based on recent photos...what is with the "unconventional" lettering of "RIT" on the rear of the reserve ladders? I noticed it last week on 210 and then again on the mid-mount lafrance...which brings me to my next question...what took Raleigh away from mid-mounts? Was that a trial truck? what's the history behind it? Which brings me to my last question...why did RFD go with sticks for a while verses buckets? Was it all about the benjamins? Silver, mikey...I'm sure you can expand accurately and wash out some of the coming speculative answers.

BW - 04/16/11 - 15:32

@BW; the "unconventional lettering" is because it is in fact a reserve piece. "We" might set ours up different than "them" when running it. So, if you use some masking tape it can be easily removed with no damage to the truck, and let's the crew acting as RIT to find the RIT kits quickly. It isn't the most appealing to the eye, but it gets the job done, is easily removed and is temporary.

The ALF was a demo that the CoR "got a deal" on. It saw service as Truck 1, then Ladder 20. I've been assigned to it, and can say that it has

indeed had its' share of maintenance issues. Even had to bail out of it one day due to fire shooting out of the engine access door inside the cab.

Not sure the reasoning behind sticking with sticks. They both have their positives and negatives, but I prefer sticks over platforms personally. To each is own...

Silver - 04/16/11 - 16:26

I just want to say, how grateful for the Raleigh Fire Departments quick response and quick work, they saved our apartment on the opposite end of the building. I just want to let you know that you guys are awesome, and we are blessed by you guys because we did not lose anything, our apartment didnt even smell like smoke. You guys are awesome.

Philip Seawell ([Email](#)) - 04/18/11 - 16:44

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.

Quarterback This Video

04/16/11 47 W - + 5 - 5

Go ahead and take them to task for stream placement, ladders thrown, and maybe even exposures via water curtains! Good for a laugh and a jab, perhaps. Now there's a dangerous workplace, deck of a carrier! Thanks to reader Paul for this one.

I guess your main exposure there is the pilot. The initial stream was pushing fire away from the cockpit so success right?

Andrew - 04/16/11 - 11:15

How many sailors does it take to man a hose line? How much AFFF do you think they used? Looks like the line on the left rear was doing nothing but getting blown into the wind.

Sparky - 04/16/11 - 12:34

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

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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'?

And Another Local Rig Gets its Chevrons

04/16/11 43 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Thursday evening activity at the Western Wake fire station. That's either Engine 196 or Pumper 196. What's a good way to remember which is which? Thanks to reader Jason for sending.



A pumper carries at least 1000 gallons of water and an engine less than 1000 gallons...correct??

Newbie ff - 04/16/11 - 10:52

Pumper stands for Pumper/Tanker. P196 has a dump tube behind that roll up you see there, and I believe it also carries a drop tank if I remember correctly. This is what changes an "engine" to a "pumper". E191 and P196 both carry 1000 gallons of water. E191 has a 1500gpm pump while P196 has a 1250gpm pump (going off memory here so a current WWFR guy can correct me).

Andrew Wallace - 04/16/11 - 11:08

So... the absence of a big honkin' drop-tank outlet on the a@@-end is the answer, that's an Engine!

Legeros - 04/16/11 - 11:17

It's a pumper, there's a dump valve behind the roll up door. This one also has a dump tank.

E191 has neither.

All of WW's trucks are in the process of having Chevrons applied and updated, more accurate patches installed. One of our newer members is providing the services.

shevais - 04/16/11 - 12:27

Shev on Chevrs!

Legeros - 04/16/11 - 12:29

Boy, I sure wish we had chevrons on the ambo's in Forsyth Co... We have some of the least reflectively-marked ambulances from the rear. I envy all of Wake Co's striping...

BadgerMedic - 04/16/11 - 13:22

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Raleigh Fire Department Responds to Tornado Damage

04/16/11 544 W, 3 I - + 5 - 6

How that's for an understated headline? Downtown Raleigh received tornado damage this afternoon, along with other sections of the city. And along with other cities, towns, and communities affected by the far-reaching storm system. Local and national news have coverage a-plenty. We'll add those later, maybe in the morning. Yours Truly was also out and about and has some pics to share. [View an early set of photos by Mike Legeros](#). More later. More photos. More news coverage. More everything.





Might take some time to sort through the details of the Raleigh Fire Department's response, as well as the scope of the storm damage in the Capitol City. Here's what's been gleaned so far. Next step, assessing what the heck was happening in Holly Springs, and the other areas also hit hard.

Raleigh Fire Department Response

Early Damage

- Single-engine response started as thunderstorms approached. That was about, ~~what, 2:30 p.m.?~~ 3:15 p.m.
- Tornadoes reported in Lee County, then in Wake County. All stations, all departments notified.
- Ladder 4 ~~perhaps~~ first to report extensive damage, as found on South Saunders Street. About 4:00 p.m.
- Battalion 3 established command, arriving soon thereafter.
- Hazards included many downed power lines and poles, traffic attempting to travel on South Saunders Street, and one or more natural gas leaks.
- People also everywhere, displaced from homes and businesses, or just curious and out and about.
- Command soon relocated to corner of South and McDowell streets.

Task Force 8

- Activation of NC USAR Task Force 8 requested by Battalion 3.
- Task Force 8 comprised of Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, and Cary fire departments.
- Task Force members and their units reported to Keeter Training Center.
- USAR units reported to South and McDowell streets, for staging.
- USAR members subsequently utilized for building-by-building search along and around South Saunders Street.
- USAR members also sent to Stony Brook Mobile Home Park, in northeast Raleigh. Numerous mobile homes destroyed or damaged. Three reported fatalities.
- USAR teams deactivated about 10:30 p.m.

Call Back and More

- Call back initiated of personnel, and "C" platoon reported to their stations. They were released about 11:00 p.m.
- Reserve engines (three?) staffed and placed in service.
- Battalion-level operations initiated, with each battalion's companies maintaining their status via radio with their Battalion Chief.
- Fire department Emergency Operations Center located in Division Chief's quarters at Station 8, with command staff monitoring all activity and allocating resources as needed.
- Fire department representative also present in City/County Emergency Operations Center.

Calls and Conditions

- Numerous trees and power lines reported down or on roadways.

- Many streets on the south and southeast sides blocked by fallen trees.
- Engine 3 struck by a tree in the 700 block of Dennis Avenue. No injuries to crew. They were operating a reserve pumper.
- Numerous calls for trees striking houses, as well as building collapse calls.
- Stony Brook Mobile Home Park perhaps hit hardest. All residents evacuated. Extensive number of EMS units, along with three or four engines and a ladder company, and a Task Force 8 team.
- At least one working fire, on Oakwood Avenue, about 9:15 p.m.
- At least one shooting, on New Bern Avenue. Engine 3, as usual. Two victims.

This was a very bad storms that hit the raleigh area...Two thumbs up to all the men and women that have been working throughout the day.....

chris ([Email](#)) - 04/17/11 - 01:44

The boys from Fayetteville FD got hit pretty dang hard as well.

Mike - 04/17/11 - 07:50

News & Observer reports some stats today, <http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/04/18/1..>

Estimated 63 homes destroyed, and 184 with major damage in Raleigh. Initial damage estimate between \$3 million and \$5 million.

Legeros - 04/18/11 - 20:26

The N&O has a great graphic in today's section-A showing the path of tornados in the eastern part of the state.

<http://media2.newsobserver.com/smedia/20..>

Andrew Wallace - 04/19/11 - 08:04

Not to mention the damage at KTC. All minor compared to what could have been. Missing some carport shelters, I believe they were located a few blocks away. Could have been a lot worse. All of the USAR equipment was staged there along with the new tiller truck. All outside at the time of the tornado. Station 7 took what looks like a direct hit with minor damage and no injuries. Engine 3 had a tree fall on the reserve truck they were riding that day. Raleigh FD did an outstanding job considering the possibilities and the conditions! Great Job brothers and sisters to the east!

Donaldson - 04/19/11 - 17:56

Thanks D, as I hadn't known about the damage at the training center. Those must be the car ports on the USAR field. And, indeed, quite the fleet was parked near the strike zone, between the tiller and the USAR assets.

Legeros - 04/19/11 - 18:13

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Local and Regional Storm Responses

04/17/11 265 W - + 4 - 1

Sorting through some information from yesterday. Plus what's recalled from riding around, with numerous radio channels being scanned or monitored. Readers add information desired. This post will be updated a few times.

Wake County

- Raleigh - Building damage first discovered about 4:00 p.m. [See prior posting.](#)
- Cary - Building collapse reported about 3:45 p.m., as the storms were hitting. Roof damage at commercial structure at 522 E. Chatham Street, and most units quickly cleared. One of the first building damage calls in the area, as I recall.
- Holly Springs - Then came reports of building damage there, along with one or two reported house fires. Holly Springs FD, Fairview FD, Garner FD, Morrisville FD among agencies that began to get dispatched.
- Garner/Fairview - Next wave of activity as fast-moving storm continue north and east. What happened on the east side, after the storm passed Raleigh?

Regional Responses

- Apex units to Fayetteville, for storm damage.
- Charlotte FD / NC USAR Task Force 3 to Caldwell County, to Collettsville for flash flooding at campground, early in day.
- Charlotte FD / NC USAR Task Force 3 units subsequently to Lee County and Fayetteville, for storm damage.
- Charlotte FD / NC Haz-Mat Regional Response Team 7 also to Lee County.
- Greensboro FD / NC Haz-Mat Regional Response Team 5 to Durham, reported ammonia leak.
- Greensboro FD / NC USAR Task Force 6 units to Sanford in Lee County.
- NC USAR Task Force 8 units remained in Raleigh.
- And certain much other mutual aid!

Media Links

- Fayetteville/Cumberland County - [Fayetteville Observer](#)
- Sanford/Lee County - [Sanford Herald](#)
- Plus all the regular news sites.

Western Wake FD ended up first in to a gas line ruptured off of Holly Springs Road

Listening - 04/17/11 - 10:55

Wilmington Fire, New Hanover Fire, USAR Task Force 11, in Fayetteville as well. Sent last night after storms moved east.

Ryan - 04/17/11 - 11:25

Holly Springs Fire Station 2 was damaged, and the building has been reportedly condemned. Crew not in station at time of damage.

Legeros - 04/17/11 - 16:32

As a point of reference, in a four hour period we received as many calls as we do in an average 24 hour day. At the peak we were entering a call into CAD every 11 – 12 seconds. Both our primary and backup centers were online simultaneously for about two hours during the peak, and we were also receiving all calls for the Holly Springs PSAP.

RWECC - 04/18/11 - 16:11

Carolinas Fire Page incident log via FireNews, plus other coverage: [http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news ...](http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news...)

Carolinas Fire Page mailing list postings, in response to requests for run cards or other incident info:

This evening, Charlotte FD units returned from the Lowes in Sanford. RRT 7, RRT 71, RRT 72, Field Comm 1, Field Comm 2, and Car 501. Thanks Greg. H.

In Cumberland County, the west Fayetteville / Reilly Road response was Fayetteville FD Bat 3, T9, E6, E15, E17, E11, T11, T6, E8, R8, 17, SQ5, CSAR1, CSAR2, along with Fort Bragg FD Bat 2, E51, and E76. (FFD?) Haz-Mat 1 responded between the three incidents. Multiple EMS units were operating, including the EMS mobile command post, and police mobile command post. mobile command post. Thanks Dan M.

Legeros - 04/18/11 - 19:26

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E-mail: (optional)

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Searched - Engine 27 - 9:15

04/17/11 175 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

As seen on a door of a heavily damaged house in the Cardinal Grove subdivision, one of several spots in the Capitol City struck by a tornado or tornadoes yesterday afternoon. Mr. Blogger spent the morning and early afternoon both visiting damage sites, and accompanying Task Force 8 members doing secondary searches in the Maywood Avenue area.

The command post for USAR operations was a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center. Teams were also dispatched to Stony Brook Mobile Park and later to areas including King Charles Road and subdivisions off Forestville Road. One of the Polaris ATVs is reportedly being kept overnight at Station 7, to assist with responses into the areas still impassible for fire apparatus.

The Glascock Street fire station was also ground-zero for a battalion of utility crews, working to restore power to that area. See some of those crews in [day-after pictures by Mike Legeros](#). And apologies for slow site behavior. Don't know the reason. Maybe user visits have skyrocketed!



My sister's house is right behind St. 7 on Sheffield Rd. After winging through her 'hood trying to get to her house Sunday, I can't believe the devastation. I thought we got it badly in Holly Springs. Her 'hood and the places in your pics show differently for sure. Great work by all our emergency responders and TCs for keeping calm and doing it right in the face of such adversity. All the radio traffic I heard was very professional.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 04/20/11 - 14:34

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter, Spring 2011

04/18/11 95 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

The spring 2011 edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to the web site raleighfirenews.org. The contents include: New Water Supply Procedure; Four Alarms for Brush Fire; Development Services; Burn Center Activities; Filling the Bot for MDA; Standing Down; Retirements; Raleigh Fire Department Statistics 2010; Photo Gallery; History Page; Firefighter of the Year Award. Storm coverage next issue! [See the web site](#) for back issues. The *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. [Read the issue](#) , or click to access:



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

Getting Ready to Extinguish a Car Fire

04/18/11 56 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

Engine 11 on St. Albans Drive yesterday, just past Wake Forest Road. Reported as 1400 Wake Forest Road, so Mr. and Mrs. Blogger took a scenic tour through the Duke Hospital campus on the way to this one. It was called Raleigh Community Hospital in humbler times. Click to enlarge:



Why does raleigh even wear airpacks if they dont use them on an obvious working vehicle fire

cup - 04/18/11 - 22:36

Well they maybe forgot to mask up initially and maybe masked up later. Who knows. So are they now terrible firefighters? Not hardly. Is it policy -NO. Mistake made -YES. Get real.

SCBA Police - 04/18/11 - 23:37

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Truck Carrying 3,600 Chickens Crashes Into Surry County Fire Station

04/18/11 116 W, 1 I - + 3 - 5

[FireNews reports](#) on an unusual incident this morning in Surry County, where a tractor-drawn truck carrying 3,600 chickens struck the Mountain Park Fire Department. That's near Elkin. The incident was the result of a two-vehicle accident, versus fowl weather related. And the cluck truck didn't just wing the fire department building, but struck the thing straight on. [The Elkin Tribune also has details](#) and photos. The accident involved a collision with a minivan. There were no injuries to people, though it appears a number of feathered passengers did not survive the egg roll. [See this WGHP story](#) for more photos. Thank you and good night.



WGHP photo

That's a cluckin' mess right there.

ab - 04/18/11 - 22:35

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

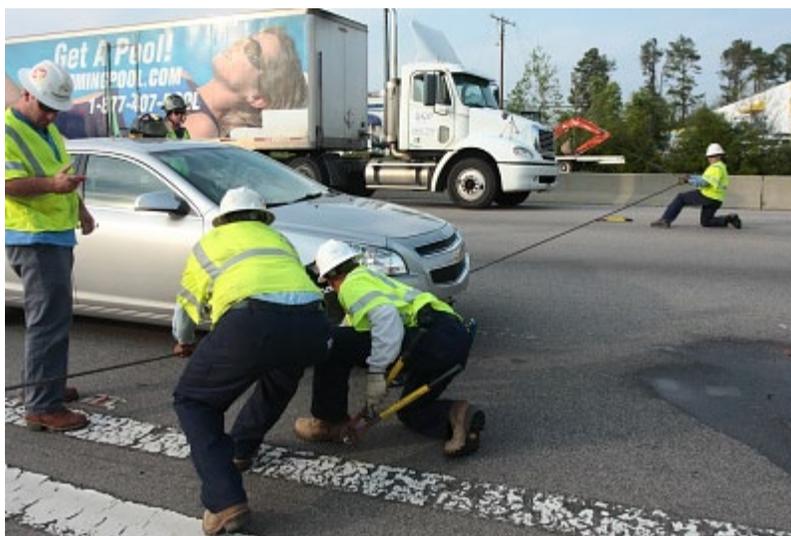
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Lines and Lanes and The Guys in White Hats

04/19/11 168 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Those are Progress Energy workers pulling a power line free from vehicles on the Beltline just west of Yonkers Road yesterday afternoon. One of the lines were snagged by a tractor-trailer truck, which pulled down the accompanying 50-foot pole located on Yonkers Road. Other lines dropped and were struck by other vehicles. Traffic stopped on all lanes, in both directions. Engine 7 responded on Yonkers, Engine 9 on the eastbound lanes, and Engine 12 on the westbound lanes. Two people were transported with minor injuries. [See more pics.](#)

As for the guys (and gals) in white hats, they have been *really* busy lo these last days. Probably tied with or surpassing street and highway workers for labor expended. Next question, what's involved in getting those two collapsed transmission towers operating on Valley Stream Drive? See some of those shots, from [Sunday's summary set](#). Expect big cranes in action, there. Somebody please take and share pictures!



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Warning Gas Pipeline

04/19/11 47 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Taken the day after the storm, during secondary searches by Task Force 8. The location is the northeast corner of Summit Avenue and South Saunders Street. What do you think, probably the location of an earlier gas leak?



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.

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Raleigh Police Department Support Vehicle

04/19/11 63 W, 2 I - + 8 - 8

Seen at Stony Brook Mobile Home Park this weekend. Built by Hackney on a Chevrolet chassis. Recall that the police department twice utilized former fire department rescue trucks as such. First was a [1975 Chevrolet/Murphy ambulance](#). Later was a [1991 Chevrolet/Frontline rescue](#). Remember those rigs?



Mike, here is the link to Hackney for specs and further information. Interesting point that their photo shows lettering on the side. Wonder if they took it off, was it photoshopped on their site or is this a new one that has yet to be lettered. Check it out...

<http://www.hackneyev.com/command/deliver..>

BW - 04/20/11 - 21:20

At one time, back under the previous Admin, RPD had formed an "Emergency Service Unit" similar to that of NYPD. They began training until a member was injured at a training event. I wonder if this was a capital expense budgeted from back then?

Silver - 04/20/11 - 21:48

If memory serves me correct SEU never intended to be like NYPD they were NOT going to handle extrication! But then again before you reply my dad was a major under that previous admin!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jason Lane - 04/21/11 - 00:12

J, this was separate from SEU. Perlov worked to set this up, and my best friend who worked for RPD at the time helped. They were looking at extrication equipment (Holmatro), but not sure if they ever bought any. I know this because I busted his chops about inner-operability with RFD's stuff (plus busting one of our own, the Brother who shares his last name with a sneaker brand, and how RPD would cancel him on pin-jobs).

Anyway, a rope training accident ended/suspended this groups future. I was wondering if this vehicle was something in a capital plan from back then and it came up to be purchased now. Rather than turn in the money, get it then find a use for it...(purely speculation here).

Silver - 04/21/11 - 00:47

Maybe one of the few RPD lurkers can help us out?

Silver - 04/21/11 - 00:48

Thanks for finding the specs, BW!

Legeros - 04/21/11 - 06:28

No problem Mike!

BW - 04/21/11 - 07:53

I believe you're talking about our Mobile Field Force. It still exists, though I haven't heard of them having any training lately (not that I would have been in the loop on that, but still). I just hadn't thought about them lately. Maybe they have gone inactive, I'm not sure. Their main purpose was to be a specialized response to crowds, riots, and disturbances of that sort. I also never heard any talk of them being like NYPD's ESU. I think we're plenty happy to leave the extrications to RFD. Heck, we don't even have defibrillators in any of our cars, so I really don't think assisting in rescue operations is on our radar.

rfburns - 04/22/11 - 23:32

@Silver: Now that I think about it more, I think the "extrication" equipment was probably equipment intended to remove protesters that chain themselves to objects and each other, and intentionally put themselves into precarious situations. An extrication of a different type.

rfburns - 04/24/11 - 11:40

@rf; Was just talking to one of my SEU buds, said they've had this vehicle for about four years or so, and it was bought by previous administration(?) You are correct on the riot and disturbances type of response. That was the original intent of the team.

I agree with you on the extrications, leaving them up to us. Have you ever seen the egos that get thrown around "up there" when you have PD and FD racing to an extrication, to be the one to get the tools in service first?  Unreal.

Silver - 04/25/11 - 06:36

Looking at the properties of the spec sheet file, it was created in 2009. Wow, they have had that truck for a couple years!

Legeros - 04/25/11 - 06:45

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

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No

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National Weather Service Tornado Surveys

04/20/11 42 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Visit the National Weather Service Forecast Office [web site for Raleigh](#) and they have posted tornado surveys for several counties and communities. The reports include both text-based observations and photographs.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Storm Photos Still Posting

04/20/11 82 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Still updating photos taken on Saturday and Sunday, after the storms and tornado that struck the Capitol City. Thanks for your patience. Hope to have everything processed and posted by the end of the week. Took around 1,700 images. [See what's been posted so far](#). After that, maybe some reflections on photography challenges during severe weather. Such as the art of carrying and/or using a giant umbrella while taking scene photos.

2011-04-16-tornado (247 Slides) [Page 1 of 1]

April 16, 2011 - Raleigh Tornado

Return to Main Page
Last Update: April 22 - 8:02 a.m.



Day 1 Summary



Day 2 Summary



Day 3 - USAR Command



Day 4 - South Wilmington Street



Day 1 - Stony Brook Mobile Home Park



Day 1 - Quality Inn



Day 1 - Station 8



Day 1 - Engine 3

Your day 1 – Engine 3 link isnt working. It is pulling the same set that is used for Day 1 – Stony Brook Mobile Home park.

A.S. Meier - 04/20/11 - 09:55

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Polaris Cam

04/20/11 62 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Riding with Task Force 8 in this picture from early Sunday afternoon. Two teams were conducting secondary searches in the Maywood Avenue area. Don't be alarmed by the crazy camera angle. That's just a bit of art. [More storm pictures by Mike Legeros](#) have been posted. This series from the second day is forthcoming.



That Mikey is a wild and crazy guy! (SNL reference)

Steve Martin - 04/21/11 - 06:04

No Hawaiian shirt was harmed in the making of this picture.

Legeros - 04/21/11 - 06:26

Name: (real name
preferred)
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Throwing Ladders / Two Alarms on Walden Pond Drive

04/20/11 114 W, 1 I - + 3 - 1

Reader photo from today's two-alarm fire in Raleigh. Ladder 2 arriving at 4740 Walden Pond Drive with heavy fire showing from the front of a two-story, wood-frame apartment building with 1,865 square-feet. Built 1974. Crews forced entry and found heavy fire in the kitchen area. Ladder 2 was deployed to the roof, for access for ventilation. Dispatched 1:50 p.m. Controlled 2:27 p.m. Two units rendered uninhabitable. No injuries. Cause determined as accidental. Units on scene included E11, E9, E19, L2, R3, B1, E27, A1, C10, C20, E16, E22, E4, L5, B2, B4, C2, C3, EMS 12, EMS 2, EMS 6, D_, D4, M93, T1. Thanks to Justin for the pic. Click to enlarge:



Nice work!

Silver - 04/20/11 - 21:51

I know that Silver would be proud of you guys for those ladders. Just playing Silver. But I understand where you are coming from.

911 - 04/20/11 - 21:52

No offense taken 911, but this is a fine example of the "outside work" required at a working fire. These pics will end up in a PowerPoint, as an example of "what TO do". While priority goes to the search and confinement/ extinguishment, it's about making the building safe for us too.

Silver - 04/20/11 - 23:54

L-2 riding 4 arrived on scene first marked MWF (fire was not major but needed more manpower than just regular assignment) split inside out side teams, E-11 Fire attack group 1 1/2, L-2 search group forced door for attack group, then conducted a primary in Fire Apt, L-2 Vent group performed horz vent on main window in the pic to right set truck up and made their way to roof, R-3 riding 3 arrived radioed we would be assisting vent group did a face to face with vent group vent. Vent group started vertical venting and R-3 began bagging ladders to windows and roof on A and C Side no window on B and D sides, R-3 VES division 3 due to L-2 irons stating they couldn't get to top floor keeping one member at bottom of ladder while R-3 irons and R-3 Officer went into separate Apts on Division 3 nothing found existed div 3, R-3 Irons forced door thru the lock using rex tool w/morris mod on the D exposure apartment R-3 search all 3 divisions nothing found, L-5 picked up the secondary search, E-9 advance a second 1 1/2 to assist with Attack group, RIT staged tools in Division A. Search Primary and Secondary all clear, L-2 R-3 removed smoke w electric fans in all Condos, all crews went to rehab, then overhaul done, returned to service. Great job to all! Great example of Coordinated fire attack. 3 Ladders including aerial ladder to Roof Division, 6 to windows. Ladders used to VES, and there if @#it hit the fan. 1 turtle and 1 lizard saved, One firefighter transported to ER firefighter is doing fine last I heard. "Vote for 4 on the Rescue!" Stay safe Duck Out

Duck R3 ([Email](#)) - 04/21/11 - 13:36

Great play by play Duck! Looks like 2 story on the A side and 3 on the C?

Mike - 04/21/11 - 13:49

SO NICE TO SEE!!!! Great job brothers!!!!

Wayne - 04/21/11 - 17:16

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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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.

This Evening's Airport Haz-Mat

04/21/11 163 W, 2 I - + 5 - 4

We're two for two for recent and unusual haz-mat incidents at the airport. Last Tuesday, a Delta flight from New York to Fort Lauderdale diverted to Raleigh-Durham International Airport. The cause was an electrical odor in the forward cabin that reportedly made the crew members feel sick. The aircraft landed without incident, and no one was hospitalized. That flight carried 94 passengers and five crew. The incident brought a robust fire and EMS response.

This evening, crews responded after an unidentified substance was found in the restroom of an incoming American flight from Chicago. The jet landed and was directed to an isolated area. Raleigh-Durham Airport Emergency services responded, along with a two-alarm EMS response and a haz-mat response from the Raleigh Fire Department. The passengers were removed onto three buses, after which the haz-mat team made their entry. The substance was identified as... talcum powder. Below are a couple pics by Mike Legeros. More later. Click to enlarge:



Aren't the chevrons on the rear of NCTF8 truck in the 2nd photo pointing the wrong way? (IE, down, not up?)

Paul - 04/21/11 - 08:12

LOL. OOOOOOPS!

RescueRanger - 04/21/11 - 17:48

Good job to all RDU CFR Fire Dept. (ARFF), Wake County EMS, and Raleigh Dept. Hazmat. I believe this was the 3rd aircraft that day this happen to in the USA. You never know.

BOAZ - 04/21/11 - 21:23

@BOAZ; unbelievable, dry run? If it was the third in a day, certainly that isn't a coincidence. Catching a flight to Vegas in the morning, I'll be watching like a hawk!

Silver - 04/22/11 - 00:40

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.

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North Carolina Doesn't Have Tornado Sirens

04/21/11 206 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

No surprise there, given that we're a coastal state instead of somewhere on the plains. We had 'em in Minnesota, and Yours Truly remembers those rare but scary/exciting occasions when a warbling siren suggested it was a good time to ride your bicycle back home. [WTVD is reporting on this issue](#). Key quote: "The short answer is that we don't have enough tornadoes to justify having sirens," said Patty McQuillan, NC Department of Crime Control and Public Safety. Observe the professionalism in Ms. McQuillan's response and the absence of the word duh.

Kidding aside, wonder how much of the old Civil Defense warning system infrastructure remains? For that matter, how far and wide were Civil Defense sirens installed? Just in larger towns and cities? And all those rural fire departments that used Civil Defense-issued or surplus equipment, were they tied into any sort of regional or statewide network? (And for our friends down at the ECC, any legacy equipment still connected to national networks down there? There used to be a console with maybe a red phone from Washington? Memory's hazy from my short stint down there two decades ago.)



We still have a hotline that connects us statewide/nationally, which was originally designed to warn us that "the Russians are coming." The issue of public notification is tricky. Sirens are expensive to maintain and install, and you need a lot of them to achieve good coverage. Even with that, if people are indoors or in their cars with the audio system cranked up, will they even hear the warning? After all, when you can't get the driver in front of you to acknowledge the Federal Q and pair of Grover Stuttertones plastered to their back bumper, what attention will they pay to a pole mounted device ten miles away?

Sirens are also dumb. They don't tell you anything specific or provide instruction. Still, we have sirens in Wake for other concerns such as dams and nuclear plants. I am told that back in the day, ECC had an "all call" button that could sound every fire station siren simultaneously, but this is long gone (as are many of the sirens.) Systems such as reverse notification are effective only for wire line telephone customers, can take a little time to notify a large group, and are sometimes dependent upon outdated databases. Cable TV interrupts or crawler messages again only serve people who have power and are watching the tube at the time.

There is much promise from a currently under development technology that would allow messages to be simultaneously broadcast to all wireless users within range of selected towers. This has the benefit of being very geographically specific, meaning that it is a good tool to use even with hazmat evacuations where you don't need to notify anyone outside of a clearly defined area. It will also hit the majority of telephone customers – even those who are passing through the area. Combined with Reverse 9-1-1 this would hit a majority of the population, but again not necessarily those using VoIP phones. When it comes to alerting, no single solution is perfect, and as consumer electronic technology develops we will find even more challenges.

RWECC - 04/21/11 - 09:34

Mike, we still have ours here in the east and it works. We have Fire, Alert, and Attack sounds. All of the original Civil Defense stuff is still in working condition. Even have an extra one if anyone is into that type of nostalgia. County Comm can only activate the "Fire" siren with the Motorola paging tones. All of the other alerts have to be activated manually.

Chris Murray ([Email](#)) - 04/21/11 - 19:19

This subject seems to pop up whenever we have a storm in NC, and I suspect it is usually from the non-native NC people. Excluding dam and nuclear power plant warning areas, sirens sounding in most of NC mean "there is a fire alarm". Sirens are still a tool in the toolbox, and we still use one in my town as part of the fire alarm alert, but there are so many more options now than when sirens were the primary warning means. There are the NOAA Weather Radio alerts that are activated and weather alert radios are a better option than sirens for reaching people with specific information. Supplementing weather radios, there are the numerous automated weather alerts to pagers, computers, Blackberries, etc. Our 911 communications center always broadcasts weather warnings on radio channels, and these are heard by scanner listeners, as well as emergency services. These days, people are often in air conditioned buildings and cars, insulated from outside sounds and sirens at some distance away; as the other poster mentioned, motorists often won't even move for a "Q" siren on their bumper—anyone who has ever driven a fire engine or ambulance can verify this.

dlh - 04/22/11 - 11:13

While the state doesn't have anything official, those who live or happened to be in proximity to any part of NCSU campus heard their siren/alarm and a warning message. I could hear the one from Carter Finely Stadium and the NCSU Vet school, a series of loud beeps/sirens, followed by the message "A tornado warning is in effect. Seek Shelter Immediately" That was the first time I've ever heard that and it made my heart skip a beat almost because it made the situation even more real then we had thought at the time. This alert was about 15-20 minutes before it got really bad in our area

Near NCSU - 04/22/11 - 20:54

Looks like the mainstream media finally caught up with you, since there's a story in the N&O today regarding this:

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/04/27/1..>

Paul - 04/27/11 - 09:17

In response to "Near NCSU", I just received a text message alert from AlertCarolina (a similar system in place at UNC) that just alerted me to today's tornado watch in effect for most of NC. AlertCarolina has never given out warnings for wx in the past; this is the first time. This change is undoubtedly in response to the tornadoes of 4/16.

Wallace - 04/27/11 - 13:49

Selma Fire Dept turned their old fire siren into a tornado siren several years ago.

Zack A - 04/27/11 - 15:33

Correction Zack, the old fire and rescue siren. They used to set it off for rescue calls, too. The 'up and down' tone was for fire calls, the 'hi-lo' tone that most communities used for fire calls was the 'rescue' tone. When I worked there they used it for second duty rescue calls, plus if I was the paramedic waiting on my volunteer to show up, sometimes I would call over to PD and have them set it off. I am sure th neighbors loved it!

DJ - 04/27/11 - 16:11

Thanks I did not know that. I do however remember the first time it went off as a "tornado siren". I was working at JC911 and got several calls because people did know what it was and what to do. I know Benson Rescue use to have the hi-low for Rescue calls, standard up and down for fire. I remember when we cut ours in Micro back on (2009) for fire calls...The guy next door threaten to shoot it down!

Zack A - 04/27/11 - 16:40

From WLOS in Asheville, NC:

When a tornado approached Asheville in the past... people could expect a loud siren to warn them of the danger. But only a few of those horns remain. The sirens were installed in the 1960's as part of the Civil Defense warning system. In the 1970's, after the threat of a nuclear war with Russia faded, these horns were used to blast a loud wail similar to the air raid sirens you hear in World War Two movies. One remains on top of the Flatiorn Building in downtown Asheville. But Emergency Services officials say modern technology has replaced the need for them.

My question is what modern technology?

Wallace ([Email](#)) - 04/28/11 - 07:58

Hey people i'm only 33yrs young, born and raised in Fay, NC. Correct me if i'm wrong but when i was much younger i could distinctly remember hearing sirens when there was severe weather approaching the area. At the time i lived in the yadkin rd. santa fe dr. area. maybe it was an air raid siren i'll never know but thank God someone is listening!!!

shandaM. - 05/03/11 - 00:03

Rockingham county had all their fire sirens upgraded and installed additional sirens for weather after the 1997 Stoneville tornado. Although not a true tornado siren system, it is the only tornado siren system in NC (aside from colleges and individual sirens)

Jason - 06/14/11 - 11:56

Hey Thanks For The Info.. I Was Looking Up Sounds... Then Came Across The Old Air Raid Siren. Then Me Being The Smart Person That I Am Got To Remembering The Time They Took The Sirens Off Of Our Asheville Buildings.... Can't Remember Which Building It Was But I Sure Can Remember When They Said They Were Gonna Take Them Off. Something But It Would Be Better Just To Take Them Down Than To Replace Them With Better Technology! (Thanks Fer Listening, It's pooring Down Rain Right Now So My Computer's Messing Up) Thanks For Everything !!!JJ

Jason Jennings - 08/19/13 - 07:44

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Russian Firefighters in Action

04/21/11 74 W - + 5 - 2

...and in competition. [Firegeezzer found and blogged about](#) this nifty video of Russian firefighters in competition and on scene. Can you throw and climb a ladder that fast? And when's the last time you touched a pompier ladder? Or did we just show our age with that last reference? Plus you'll see some commercial chassis Zil apparatus in action. Those big rigs look tough as nails. Just say Da.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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When Police Officers Confront Public Photographers

04/21/11 128 W - + 6 - 2

Meanwhile, another blog that Mr. Blogger frequently reads is Statter911. The latest posting is about a confrontation caught on tape between a police officer and a news photographer. Hillsborough County, Florida, for that one. Couple issues raised in that video, from good ol' constitutional rights to exactly when should you or shouldn't obey the request of a law officer? After reading, viewing, and reacting, check out Dave's opinion piece on outrage. Graphic footage of a fatal high-rise fire in Moscow, versus a photographer trying to shoot a fatal vehicle fire in Connecticut. Only one of these prompted reader outrage, and it wasn't the one showing bodies and blood and burns in the former Soviet Union. Good reading and good food for thinking.

The way I see it...he got a recording of the victim. That camera is now evidence. The investigator/police officer should have confiscated that electronic recording device.

I fully believe the government should place a lot more restrictions on the press. They are what causing this countries main problems. Today's "news" has a lot do with today's economy.

Paparazzi Hater - 04/21/11 - 16:24

I fully believe the government should place a lot more restrictions on the press. – Paparazzi Hater

That is a very slippery slope my friend. What about the 2nd Amendment, or the 4th Amendment, how about Trial by Jury. Are you willing to give those up, or place more restrictions on them too. As much as I believe the majority of the press is in bed with a certain political party, and they skew the news in favor of their agenda, I would be very afraid of putting restrictions on them. So in case you need reminding here it is: The 1st Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, just as important today as it was when it was written in 1787.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Pearce - 04/21/11 - 20:37

I completely agree with Pearce's view of the constitution however the legislative branch of the State of Florida has some writings of their own. In particular is 843.02. This is a catch all title that the Hillsborough County Deputy was threatening to employ in the video. 843.02 is "Resisting officer without violence to his or her person.—Whoever shall resist, obstruct, or oppose any officer as defined in s. 943.10(1), (2), (3), (6), (7), (8), or (9); member of the Parole Commission or any administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission; county probation officer; parole and probation supervisor; personnel or representative of the Department of Law Enforcement; or other person legally authorized to execute process in the execution of legal process or in the lawful execution of any legal duty, without offering or doing violence to the person of the officer, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree,".

In an essence failure to do as instructed by a law enforcement officer, right or wrong, is obstruction of justice in the State of Florida. In the video from Hillsborough County the deputies were NOT interfering with the freedom of the press. They were more than willing to allow the report to shoot video of the scene they only wanted to control his access to their crime scene. The judges of the state will always side with law enforcement because the issue is who is in charge of the crime scene. You should always heed to orders of law enforcement...right or wrong!

stretch - 04/22/11 - 08:55

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

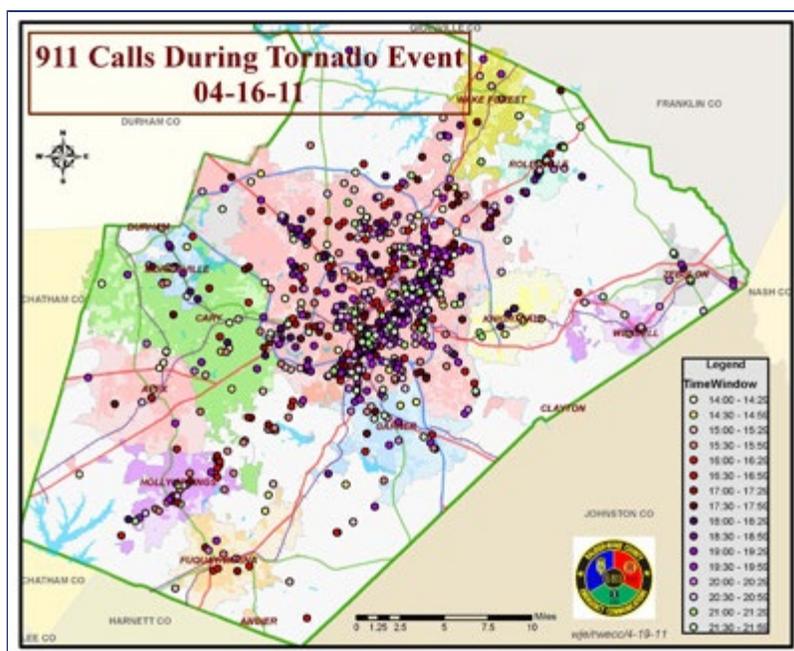
Yes

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - 911 Calls During Wake County Tornado Event « When Police Officers ... » And That's a Wrap

911 Calls During Wake County Tornado Event

04/21/11 82 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

Our friends at the Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center (ECC) have shared an exceptionally interesting map, that plots emergency telephone calls during the tornado event of April 16. The depicted time frame is 2:00 p.m. to 9:59 p.m. Included are calls that were routed from the Holly Springs ECC, which was down. Presumably excluded are calls to the county's other ECCs: Apex, Cary, and the airport. (Are there any others?) Click to view the PDF document:



Great job folks, yall sounded like it was just another normal day at work.

Rob Mitchell - 04/22/11 - 17:37

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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And That's a Wrap

04/21/11 115 W, 1 I - + 3 - 3

Merely four days later, all of my pictures from Saturday's storms and Sunday's aftermath have been posted. [See the entire collection](#). Some 650 pictures split across 16 sets, plus two summary sets. Those were the first to be posted. That translates to 480 keepers, with thrice that many rejects. Total shot count was around 1,700. Neither rain, nor wind, nor strong wind kept Yours Truly from his self-appointed rounds. Only one minor casualty to report, a familiar giant red umbrella that promptly turned inside out upon arrival on South Saunders Street. As for general observations about the experience, watch this space. Need a bit of breathing room, first.



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](#))

Pullin' Hose

04/22/11 49 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Photographer Lee Wilson was first on scene at Wednesday's two-alarm fire on Walden Pond Drive. Here's a good shot of a second line being pulled off Engine 11. [See our prior posting](#), which has been updated with incident details. [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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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Stories of the Storms

04/22/11 77 W - + 6 - 1

Couple local and regional stories from the storm, about the emergency personnel involved in the activities that day. What others have been published or posted?

- [For 911 Staffers, Saturday was an Ultimate Test](#) - News & Observer, today
- [Wake Firefighter Ignores Own Loss to Help Storm Victims](#) - WRAL, yesterday
- [Wilmington Responders Aid in Fayetteville Tornado Relief Efforts](#) - Wilmington Star News, April 17
- [Multi-State Rescue Teams Assist in Storm Recovery](#) - NBC17/Triad, April 18

I am looking forward to some sort of an after action report (AAR) from a couple of agencies that describes what went good during the initial emergency response, but more especially what went wrong or rather what was difficult. I somehow feel there will not be much detail reported as there was a tremendous reactive posture taken by all since the storm moved fast and the damage was relatively unpredictable. Regardless, what about planning for the "next one" or similar incidents? What have we learned from this one? How can we incorporate our recent experience into a larger scale process of response for future incidents?

I would especially like to see a formal synopsis of what RFD-NCTF8, EMS, ECC, and county FDs encountered from a command and control perspective so it may be used for improvement later; and these lessons learned may augment existing procedures or even evolve existing master plans. For example, the 800 mhz/CAD system seemed to fail due to overload. How do we adjust (functionally and procedurally) to a tremendous communications gap in the middle of an incident of this magnitude? Plan "B" should be written and practiced. From an analytical perspective, there is MUCH to learn from this "event." Sometimes simply saying we did a "good job" really means that we "did good" with what we currently understood within the procedures established and the resources available. Hopefully there is more to come. Happy Easter to everyone and remember the significance of this weekend!

A.C. Rich - 04/22/11 - 09:47

100 Watt VHF Mobiles were looking pretty good about the time all the 800 radios crashed.

ncff - 04/22/11 - 22:09

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mystery Siren

04/23/11 34 W, 1 I - + 3 - 3

From a reader, and who we'll refrain from acknowledging, lest the name give away the location of this Civil Defense siren. Hint: it's located outdoors.



I believe that is a FedSig Thunderbolt in downtown Durham.

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) - 04/23/11 - 15:31

My dad who retired from RPD said a long time ago Raleigh had a CD defense siren downtown. Not sure what building tho.

Zack A - 04/23/11 - 16:04

Not Durham...

Legeros - 04/24/11 - 17:03

What about Raleigh?

Zack A - 04/24/11 - 22:22

Is this in NC?

Jason - 06/14/11 - 11:49

Yes, in NC. In fact, in Raleigh.

Legeros - 06/14/11 - 18:32

On top of the Wake County courthouse

DJ - 06/14/11 - 21:19

Dang sure is!

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=pywjx88..>

RescueRanger - 06/14/11 - 21:39

Credit to Wake EM for passing along that clever shot.

Legeros - 06/14/11 - 22:16

Wow, as many times as I've been to Raleigh and never saw that...I'm embarrassed! What a treat though, thanks guys!

Jason - 06/16/11 - 11:57

Not many good vantage points. I know there used to be more of them. One was on top of the Five Points post office, and one was in the parking lot at Memorial Auditorium, near the corner of South and Wilmington. I know there were more, just never found them.

DJ - 06/21/11 - 08:10

This is what they sounded like- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYeqI9xE1..>

DJ - 06/21/11 - 15:09

The siren was recently removed during renovations to the roof of the courthouse.

EM201 - 09/28/11 - 11:12

Here's one for sale in Kansas, if you really want one. Free shipping!

<http://www.ebay.com/itm/Federal-Thunderb..>

Legeros - 09/28/11 - 19:49

Not sure. I have been asking around. They probably had to dismantle it to remove it from the rooftop. If anything was salvageable, it will probably end up at state surplus.

EM201 - 09/29/11 - 15:32

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Working Fire on Rawls Drive

04/23/11 167 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

This was the scene about 90 minutes ago at [630 Rawls Drive](#), with Engine 12 arriving and finding fire through the roof of a one-story, wood-frame, brick-veneer duplex with 1,836 square-feet. Built 1979. Multiple calls reported as reported as units were en route. Command with Battalion 2, arriving right behind Engine 12. Water brought by Engine 7, from the corner of Rawls and Poole. Hazards included electrical power arcing inside structure as water was applied. Crews withdrawn due to roof collapsing. Defensive mode started, with hand lines and blitz nozzle. Special request for extra engine. Dispatched 11:31 p.m. Controlled 12:27 p.m. One person displaced. Three civilians with injuries, with cuts to arms and hands. They broke windows out of apartment on fire, to see if anyone was inside. Cause determined as accidental. Units on scene included E12, E7, E3, E1, E26, L2, B2, A1, C10, C20, C21, C5, EMS 1, EMS 62, EMS 2, D1, T1. More details and photos from Mike Legeros in the morning. Click to enlarge this hot shot:



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 - Before and After « Working Fire on Rawls... » New Navigation For Fi... on Serendipity Drive / Wake County Real Estate Records

Before and After on Serendipity Drive / Wake County Real Estate Records

04/23/11 109 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

With increasing numbers of mobile terminals aboard fire and EMS units, [Wake County real estate records](#) are a valuable resource for structural photos and diagrams. Easy as pie to search the things, and even if you don't know the exact address. How's the site look on smart phone browsers? Could even be useful for collapse situations, as encountered during last week's storms. Also a great resource for bloggers and incident reporters, when citing building details at structure fires! Mike Legeros photo on left, tax photo on right. Two-story, wood-frame, single-family dwelling, with 3,068 square-feet. Built 2003. 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 Navigation For Fire Photos

04/23/11 231 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

Things got slow after the storms and not just around the city. [Mike's fire photo site](#) and the rest of Legeros.com was dragging by Sunday. The cause was an overloaded server. But not bandwidth. Rather, too many pages with too many "file calls" per page. Such as those one-page galleries of fire photo thumbnails. Well, all those embedded files within in a single page hit the server over and over at once, and slowed things down when done across multiple users. (At least, as explained to me.)

The immediate fix was upgrading our server to handle the load, which doubled our monthly costs from \$45 to \$89. Ouch. Next step is attempting to optimize those one-page galleries, and other sites. Here's our first stab, the just-posted photos to last night's fire on Rawls Drive. Instead of a single page of thumbnails, there are four of them. Confusing? Annoying? No big deal? Let's hear your feedback, posted or [mailed personally](#).

There are numerous alternate options, such as moving all future photos to Flickr, which is where Lee's fire photos are hosted. That's a pretty robust site, though the always-square thumbnails are annoying as all get-out. And maybe there's behind-the-scenes stuff that we can do, such as reducing the number of, say, style sheet calls. Learning as we go.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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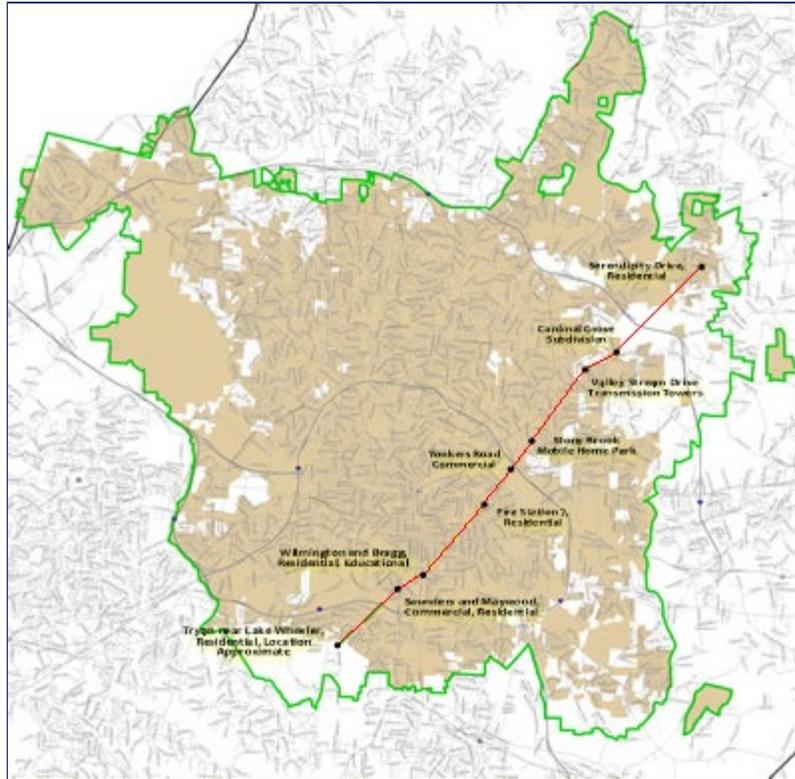
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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Raleigh Tornado Path, Take 1

04/23/11 56 W, 1 I - + 13 - 4

Let's play with some maps. Here's a city limits map from the Raleigh web portal. What's right, wrong, or missing? Need a better spot on Tryon Road, for the first strike area. Next up, maybe make a county-wide version. Need the strike sites outside Raleigh for that one. Click to enlarge:



Looks like this is ticket for additional data, <http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/04/21/1..>

Then there's this residential assessment map from the city, <http://www.raleighnc.gov/content/PubAffa..>

Legeros - 04/23/11 - 13:03

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Fire on the Water

04/23/11 39 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

[FireNews has posted an incident report](#) about a house fire in scenic Southport on April 18 and that includes this neat photo. Question, where was the picture made? Pleasure boat? Fort Fisher ferry?



FireNews photo

I believe if its the picture from the Chief of Bald Head Island its from the ferry that takes people from Southport to BHI.

car3550 - 04/23/11 - 13:30

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department Roll Call, 1972

04/23/11 84 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

As pictured in a *News & Observer* feature titled Day in a Life of a Fireman. Nice formation and nice uniforms. They probably didn't require dress blues for every shift change, but perhaps on inspection day or special occasions. Need to ask the old-timers on that. Any departments around here still doing this on a daily basis? And for the young bucks reading, just how alien or endearing does this seem? [Click to enlarge:](#)



News & Observer photo

Check out those porkchops on the second dude on the right...nice!

Harry - 04/23/11 - 14:28

Also notice the lack of patches back then.

HJ - 04/23/11 - 14:29

RDU does something like this, but they have a different name for it. How bout it guys

Rob Mitchell - 04/23/11 - 19:43

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

New Pierce Pumper For Hopkins

04/23/11 49 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

[As posted on the Pierce Flickr site](#) and with a rare top-mounted pump panel, here's the new Pumper 226 for Hopkins Fire Department in northeastern Wake County. Watch for Stony Hill's new Pierce pumper any day as well:



This may be a novice question, but what are some of the advantages of having a top mounted pump panel, versus side?

Adam - 04/23/11 - 17:22

It's really just personal/department preference. Top mount makes the truck longer, but gets the operator off the ground..which is good for when you're standing on the road, but bad if you need to access stuff in compartments, especially in icy/snowy conditions.

driver - 04/23/11 - 19:36

Also, the old 226 (a Chevy) is a top-mount. I've got some friends at Hopkins, and while a new Pumper is a good thing, they have said that they will miss the old 226 because they could take it anywhere. It was a much smaller truck, so it fit really well down some of those farm paths they have to go down all the time.

It is a nice looking truck, though.

CJS ([Email](#)) - 04/24/11 - 07:03

I like the American flag in the grill, nice touch.

Bobby - 04/24/11 - 07:10

I for one am a HUGE fan of top mounted pump panels for any vehicle that responds to a high speed roadway. I also like them for the fact that they offer the pump operator a view of the scene (fire) no matter which side of the truck that happens to be. With the newer technology of electronic and air actuated valves it pretty much makes getting up and down a non-issue, unless you are having to retrieve equipment.

In my short time at Wake Forest FD I came to appreciate a top mounted pump when driving E63, being able to be up and out of the way on scenes was nice.

Nice looking rig, congrats to the members of Hopkins (and Stony Hill) on their new rigs.

shevais - 04/24/11 - 09:21

Congrats to HRFD on the new piece. As to the question of the side/top mount. It comes to personal preference.. Having a top mount does not

nesserly make the truck any longer than a side mount. That comes down to how the truck is speced out.

Swiman - 04/24/11 - 11:19

My preference is a side mount. Besides being off of the roadway there is no advantage. A good pump operator does not need to see the scene. And to swiman you are right about the specs of the truck but if you are going fore a shorter truck with adequat compartment space then the side mount is the way to go. Also a top mount cuts down on your dunnage area which is again storage space. I do like the fact that Hopkins has went with what they are used to. I also like the side compartments over the front tires. Can anyone tell us what may go in theme (EMS bags maybe)?

911 - 04/24/11 - 16:12

As a former volunteer I like the top mount pump because I could run the deck gun from the pump panel for quick knock downs especially on fast moving brush fires. In the city I would rather have the side mount truck

Rob Mitchell - 04/24/11 - 19:37

CONGRATS Hopkins! The truck looks fantastic! Well, Stony Hill will depart from tradition... the next one will be a side mount. We have operated top mounts for some time now, but the decision to depart was in part due to the COST. The reduction allowed us to add more options that were operationally beneficial (e.g. we added a front suction, overhead ladder rack, a "through the tank" drop tank, and have the extended cab). Our apparatus committee truly focused on options that would benefit our rural response. Now, don't get me wrong... I really like the top mounts (no,... LOVE!), but I am very proud of our group's hard work and their focus on effectiveness. A truly nice truck is on the way for us! The finals are finished and the truck should arrive this week. Preliminary pics are on our Facebook page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Stony-Hill..>

A.C. Rich - 04/24/11 - 21:33

Top Mount adds 19" to the overall length of a truck, if everything else is the same.

driver - 04/25/11 - 00:07

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.

How Dispatching Worked at Station 1

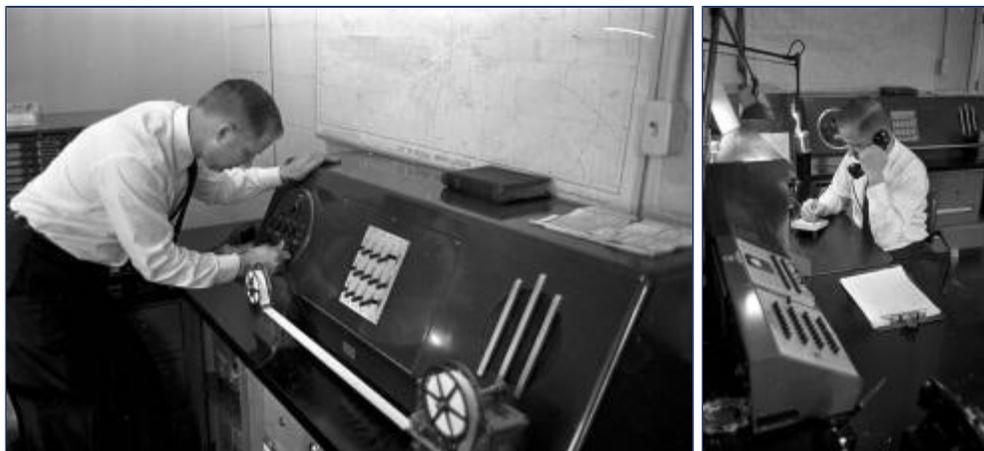
04/24/11 517 W, 4 I - + 6 - 2

Here are some vintage *News & Observer* photos that help explain the history of dispatching at Raleigh Fire Station 1. The first three were taken on March 30, 1960, the day before the city annexed residents in locations including along Western Boulevard west of the city. Station 8 opened at 12:01 a.m. on April 1, when Chief Keeter sent the second engine at Station 1 to occupy a rented residential structure (which still stands) just north of the intersection of Kent Road and Western Boulevard.

The top two photos show the watch room at Station 1, which is the glass-walled room to your left when you enter the South Dawson Street fire station. The bottom left photo shows the switchboard in the Alarm House, which is the two-story brick building behind Station 1. That was built nine years before the fire station, on a lot purchased for both buildings.

The bottom right photo is from 1949, when Station 1 was located on South Salisbury Street. That room housed both switchboard and dispatcher functions. When the new Station 1 opened in 1953, the story goes, both switchboard and dispatcher functions were housed in the watch room. At some point, the switchboard was moved to the second floor of the alarm house. Need better information there. Maybe it accompanied the introduction of rural fire department dispatching in the 1950s, and expanded duties and equipment therein.

Later, the watch room functions were also moved to the alarm house. Then in 1972, everything was transferred to the new city/county communications center. Keep reading below. Or click to enlarge:



News & Observer photos (top and bottom left), North Carolina State Archives photo (bottom right)

How did dispatching work, between these switchboard and dispatcher functions? Here's my best understanding, circa 1960:

Dispatching for alarm boxes

1. Fire alarm box is activated somewhere in the city.
2. The box number is transmitted to all fire stations.

3. The numbers ring on a gong, and also punch on a ticker tape.
4. If the box number was on the station run card, the companies responded.
5. Is there accompanying radio dispatch? Don't know. Department has had mobile radios for only a couple years.
6. Radios are probably used for marking on scene and clearing the scene.

Dispatching for telephone alarms

1. Switchboard receives report of fire.
2. Operator looks up nearest alarm box location to street address.
3. Operator communicates box number to dispatcher in watch room.
4. Dispatcher transmits signal of two bells, which sends signal to all fire stations.
5. Officer at fire station picks up telephone, and dispatcher provides street address and other details.

Exceptions

- ~~There was a method for communicating verbal instructions to fire stations.~~ See above.
- There might have been different methods for communicating to one versus all fire stations.
- ~~Again, don't know if this was done via radio and the base station, or also with the telephone lines.~~
- Were ten codes used at this time? Don't know.

Learn More

- This PDF document has a [history of the city's fire alarm system](#).
- This [fire department timeline from 1950-1950](#) provides more information.
- Some [alarm box locations](#).
- [History of Station 1](#).

Regarding the alarm bells at the stations, as the stories go, if the bells rang at night, those companies NOT responding stayed awake and by their trucks until... well, until the fire was marked under control, I think. They'd slump in their seats, or lay out on the tailboards, the stories go. Believe that practice continued into the mid- or late-1970s. Again, need to confirm and better document.

Legeros - 04/24/11 - 09:10

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

Buy Raleigh's Old Rescue Truck

04/24/11 123 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

[For sale on eBay](#), one of the two 1991 Chevrolet Kodiak rescue trucks that served the Raleigh Fire Department. This one's old Rescue 7, later Rescue 21 and Rescue 19. Placed in service in the spring of 1991. Removed from service in 2000. Vehicle transferred to police department, for use as special operations vehicle. Currently located in Alabama, of all places. Starting bids at \$10,000. Merely 106,000 miles on the thing. And that funky diagonal striping still intact! That was always one of the wilder looking trucks to serve the city. Carried or could a carry a stretcher, though the rear doors were pretty darn high, if memory serves! Thanks to Christopher for the heads up on this one.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Mystery Road

04/24/11 52 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

There appear to be no streets in the city that our readers cannot identify. Thus this segment of abandoned roadway will be identified within an hour or two of posting. Let's test this hypothesis at 4:00 p.m., the time this is being posted.



The old section of ACC Blvd. If its right this is behind the Wal-mart in Brier Creek.

Watson - 04/24/11 - 16:16

And there you have it, solved in 16 minutes.

Legeros - 04/24/11 - 16:27

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Tornado Alley

04/24/11 78 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

Sign seen off South Saunders Street, in the area of Summit Avenue, where last Saturday's storms plowed a path through the area. [See Mike's pictures from last weekend.](#)



Going a few miles north and east and this boat sits in the street on King Charles Road, and beside a mammoth debris pile. The trees felled there and elsewhere are huge, man.



My sister lives in the 'hood which King Charles and Milburnie dissect. It was hit HARD. Spent that Sunday cutting up several trees and limbs off her house, shed, and fences.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 04/28/11 - 12:26

Tight Fit

04/24/11 61 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Bethesda's quint is indeed an end-to-end squeeze into their Station 2 on Leesville Road. Even exits through the rear, due to the truck's height. Yup, took a Sunday drive around Brier Creek. Stocking up on Hawaiian shirts at Wal-Mart, among other errands. Can't be the \$9 price, even if this year's crop could be brighter in color. Click to enlarge:



From what it looks like it looks like a Sutphen to me. Right?

ChrisMac - 04/24/11 - 19:00

yep, E421 is a Sutphen Quint. In fact E411,L413, and the tanker/pumper at Station 2 are Sutphen,as are the reserve Engines at Station1

Charlie - 04/24/11 - 19:25

Should have seen our station 1 when the quint was there. It was less than 2 inches from door to ladder top.

Apex Batt Chief - 04/25/11 - 15:42

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Pods and Robots and Mechanical Arms

04/24/11 36 W - + 5 - 4

Some videos from afar. Found after searching for "Tokyo Fire Department" on YouTube. Felt like a bit of recreational viewing. Wonder how often they use these things...

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Faces Touch Budget Choices

04/25/11 164 W - + 4 - 3

That's the headline of [this News & Observer article](#) today. The city manager last week gave a preview of the coming budget, and the bleak news therein: smaller raises and reduced benefits for another year, for the city's 3,200 employees. He also pledged to avoid calling for raising property taxes. How bad is the projected shortfall? \$8 million to \$10 million. How do you make up the difference? As noted in the article, options include "delay buying new vehicles; eliminate vacant positions in at least six departments, excluding police and firefighters; cutting merit pay increases; adjusting employee benefits." Such cuts have been imposed over the past to years, the article notes. The city has eliminated 109 positions, held off on replacing 95 vehicles, and reduced merit raises from five percent to two percent maximum. There's are also bond issues on the table, for streets and housing. Those would raise property taxes. [Read the entire article](#). Or [learn more about the city budget](#).

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.

Falls Fire Department Recruits Graduate

04/25/11 102 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

[FireNews published a story last week](#) about three volunteer recruits that graduated last month from an in-house firefighter academy at the Falls Fire Department. Their six-month program, similar in course content to a career academy, was conducted by the FFD training division. The recruits received both classroom and practical training to prepare them for responding to emergency incidents. They also must obtain certifications for North Carolina haz-mat operations and NIMS, and complete the Wake County rookie school. Congratulation to Will Corsa, Julio Mercado, and Lewis Lovell. [Read the entire story.](#)



Congratulations guys! I know that yall will continue to do great things.

aw - 04/25/11 - 07:26

So will these guys automatically become vollies for Wake Forest? Is Wake Forest still going to employ volunteers? If not, are these guys just SOL in a few months?

RescueRanger - 04/25/11 - 15:20

Rescue Ranger, they are vollies for Falls. And, there is absolutely no reason that they will be SOL in a few months.

marcus - 04/25/11 - 17:35

I wasn't trying to offend anyone or start a battle but I am curious as to what will happen to them once Falls closes? Will it just be lost education or will W.F. take them in to add to the department's knowledge database?

RescueRanger - 04/25/11 - 20:18

Can someone from Falls provide some more detail on how they did the academy? (i.e. How many days did you hold class, number of hours, curriculum, etc.) Sounds interesting.

scfd205 - 04/26/11 - 12:29

@RescueRanger, they will they will be vollies for Wake Forest. And, no offense was taken. So, there should ne no education lost.

Marcus - 04/26/11 - 13:33

Congradulations fella's. Good way to start the fire service.

911 - 04/26/11 - 20:42

Congrats!

Zack A - 04/27/11 - 16:44

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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The Second Original Engine 9

04/25/11 129 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Raleigh's Engine 9 was first placed in service by October 5, 1953, as a second engine company at Station 1. The 1953 American LaFrance (#4726) pumper and its personnel was moved to the newly opened Station 8 on April 1, 1960. Engine 9 was renamed Engine 8.

The second Engine 9 was placed in service on Valentine's Day, 1963, when Station 9 opened on Six Forks Road. This time, Engine 9 was operating a 1951 American LaFrance pumper (#4432). Here's a *News & Observer* picture of the truck, at the North Valley Apartment fire on September 7, 1970.

As for the second company at Station 1, they were returned to service on April 21, 1961. Named Engine 10, later renamed Engine 15, later renamed Engine 13. Folks were just a little too superstitious to open a Station 13, hence the designation of Engine 13. Click to enlarge:



News & Observer photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Fire Commission Member Ann Suggs Passes Away

04/25/11 148 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Wake County Fire Commission Member Ann Richardson Suggs passed away suddenly on Saturday, April 23. She was 64. Ann served the county's fire service for many years as an active member of the Fire Commission. She was the commission's first Chair after it made the transition from a Facilitator to a Chair. She served in that role from May 2005 until she was elected Vice Chair in November 2008. She served as Vice Chair until January 2010. Ann was also a 37-year employee of the Wake County Finance Department before retiring. [Read her obituary.](#)

Arrangements are as follows:

- **Visitation**

Brown Wynne Funeral Home

[300 St. Mary's Street](#), Raleigh, NC

Wednesday, April 27, 6:00 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- **Funeral**

Brown Wynne Funeral Home

300 St. Mary's Street, Raleigh, NC

Thursday, April 28 at 11:00 AM

Interment to follow at Montlawn Memorial Gardens, [2911 South Wilmington Street](#), Raleigh, NC.



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](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Update on Storm Damage to Holly Springs Station 2

04/25/11 345 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Holly Springs Fire Station 2 at [1140 Avent Ferry Road](#) was damaged during last week's severe storms. The one-story station was built in 1972 by the Holly Springs Rural Fire Department. It was a two-bay, cinder-block building. The station was expanded in 1985 with additional bay space. In 1997, the rural department merged with the two year-old municipal department. The Avent Ferry fire station became Fire Station 2. The building was renovated in 2007, with one of three apparatus bays converted into living space. Below is a picture from 2007.



Fire Chief Cecil Parker today shared an update and timeline on the station, by way of the Wake County Fire Services department. We're working on getting some pictures as well.

- On Saturday, April 16, 2011, Holly Springs Fire Station 2, located at 1140 Avent Ferry Road, was damaged by a passing tornado.
- The engine and staff have been temporarily relocated to Fire Station 1, located at 700 Flint Point Lane.
- Second-out equipment has been relocated to Fairview Station 1. Arrangements have been made to have that equipment dispatched and brought by Fairview as needed.
- The insurance company immediately responded and provided financial support to install temporary shoring for the walls, clean out the facility, and store any undamaged items.
- The town code enforcement department immediately declared the structure unsafe.
- On Tuesday, April 19, 2011, VFIS determined that the structure was damaged beyond repair and has authorized demolition.
- The North Carolina Department of Insurance has been contacted and made aware of situation. They have indicated that plans for reconstruction will be moved through the system immediately so the work can begin.
- The land next to Station 2 has been rented, for locating temporary housing..
- Contractors have been contacted for construction of 30 by 40 building, to house one engine, one ambulance, and a brush truck.
- Staff is reporting to Station 2 each morning and remaining on site until the evening.
- On Tuesday, April 26, 2011, officials will meet with all interested parties to determine a course of action and timeline for replacing Fire Station 2.
- Full-time operations at 1140 Avent Ferry Road with temporary housing are expected to resume within 30 days.

Holly Springs Rural Fire Department

04/25/11 74 W, 2 I - + 10 - 2

As photographed for the *News & Observer* on August 30, 1972. That's thirteen months after incorporation of the Holly Springs Rural Fire Department on July 21, 1971. Shown in front of their fire station on Avent Ferry Road are their first pieces of apparatus, a 1953 GMC tanker and a 1955 International tanker. No idea who is who. Closer view included, for those who recognize those pictured. Click to enlarge:



News & Observer photos

"Front row-Jimmy Holland, Wick Holland, Billy Boone, Jim Russell, Howard Weatherspoon, Second Row- Pete Brewer, Jerry Ellis, Floyd Whitaker, Jimmy Yarborough, John Holleman, Henry Cotton, Larry Bryant, James Issac, And not sure on the guy at the drivers door." From Darrell Morton on Facebook. I was on Holly Springs Rural Fire Department from November 1990 until July 1995. Ray Thaxton was Chief with George Huegerich and Floyd Whitaker were Assistant Chiefs. The town sent us a certified letter in March of 1995, after purchasing a new Perice Dash engine for the department, severing ties, taking the new truck, and starting their own department of public safety as of April 1, 1995. I left in July after moving to Apex when I got married.

Donaldson - 04/26/11 - 22:29

Thanks Donaldson. I realize that I **did** have names for that picture, I just had to... look in my Raleigh/Wake County Firefighting books!

Page 95: "Holly Springs Fire Department, August 1972. Members of the new fire department pose in front of 1140 Avent Ferry Road. Built by the volunteers over a series of Saturdays, the cinderblock station first housed a 1953 GMC tanker (left) and a 1955 International tanker. Fire Chief Jimmy Holland, front row on left, is pictured with Pete Brewer, Jerry Ellis, Floyd Whitaker, Jimmy Yarborough, Jim Russell, Billy Boone, Wick Holland, Ray Thaxton, Wardell Greene, Charles Whitaker, Larry Bryant, Henry Cotton, and Howard Witherspoon. (N&O photograph.)"

Legeros - 04/27/11 - 06:50

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

It Can Happen Here, Really

04/25/11 646 W - + 6 - 2

How are you fixed for training, Charlie? Last week's storms were a dramatic reminder of the importance of skills and systems related to large-scale emergencies. Incident command, resource management, resource capabilities, and so on. It was also a lesson in preparing for the unexpected and infrequent. What types of big or unusual incidents can we expect in Raleigh and Wake County? Here's a sample of what's happened in the past, drawn from my records from the last couple of decades. Excluded are almost all types of structure and woods fires, and smaller-scale technical rescues. Same for smaller scale haz-mat and weather events. It's also pretty Raleigh-centric, but the data makes the point. It really can happen here. And wouldn't you love to see a compilation of the historical lessons learned, over the same period?

- Active shooter, indoors (Apex, May 30, 2010)
- Active shooter, outdoors, sniper at North Hills Mall kills three and wounds eight (Raleigh, May 29, 1972)
- Ammunition explosion at recycling facility (Raleigh, February 12, 2008)
- Asphalt tank explosion, one killed when welding ignites half-full, 10,000 gallon tank (Raleigh, December 29, 1975)
- Asphalt tanker truck explodes. No injuries. (Raleigh, 1979)
- Bomb explosion with injuries or fatalities, indoors (Cary, May 11, 1978; Raleigh, July 10, 1995)
- Bus, commercial, overturns on freeway (Raleigh, August 1, 2007)
- Bus, school, accident involving three busses and dozens of patients (Cary, December 20, 2010)
- Fires in business districts involving multiple buildings or occupancies (Fuquay-Varina, March 1, 1977; Raleigh, July 7, 1981)
- Fires in residential areas involving multiple buildings and nearly the entire subdivision (Raleigh, February 22, 2007)
- Chemical spills of large scope involving evacuations (Cary, Monday before March 13, 1983)
- Chlorine leak at commercial facility, indoors. Square D plant, seven to hospital (Knightdale, August 31, 1983)
- Chlorine leak at public swimming pool, Pullen Park, 37 with non-serious injuries (Raleigh, August 17, 1988)
- Chlorine leak at sewage treatment plant, Sunnybrook Road, three injured, dozens evacuated (Raleigh, June 18, 1987)
- Corrections facility evacuation, for fire. Wake County jail, during courthouse fire (Raleigh, March 18, 1990)
- Corrections facility riot. Polk Youth Center (Raleigh, January 1, 1994)
- Electrical power substation explosion and fire (Raleigh, August 7, 2001 and March 16, 2007; Apex, Friday before January 24, 2003)
- Electrical power transformer fire, inside institutional building (Raleigh, May 23, 2005)
- Flash flooding with numerous water rescues (Raleigh, October 2, 2002, June 14, 2006)
- Fuel oil tanker truck fire at fuel oil facility. White Oil Company (Raleigh, July 10, 1975)
- Gas tanker truck explosion and fire. Beltline for all three (Raleigh, October 17, 1977, December 18, 1998, August 26, 2008)
- Hazardous waste storage facility explosion and fire and big honkin' evacuation zone (Apex, October 5, 2006)
- Hot air balloon crash after collision with TV towers (Garner, June 11, 1989)
- Hospital relocation, requiring transport of 168 patients (Raleigh, September 28, 1980)
- Hostage situation on passenger train. Last four days, two killed (Raleigh, October 8-11, 1982)
- Hurricane (Fran on September 6, 1996 and Floyd on September 16, 1999 were the biggies)
- Ice storm with city-wide gridlock (Raleigh, January 19, 2005)
- Industrial plant explosion, fire, collapse, mass-casualty incident at food processing plant (Garner, June 9, 2009)
- Industrial plant fire and ammonia leak. Pine State Creamery on Glenwood Avenue (Raleigh, February 16 & 17, 1976)
- Mass illness at hotel (Raleigh, June 30, 1977, February 13, 2010)
- Methane explosion at pipeline construction site (February, February 15, 1980)
- Natural gas pipeline rupture (too many to list)
- Natural gas pipeline rupture and fire (Cary, October 10, 2007)
- Nuclear power plant fire. Generator in turbine building with accompanying hydrogen leak (Holly Springs, October 10, 1989)
- Paper recycling plant fire with 2,000 tons of baled paper and outside the city (Raleigh, April 21, 1980)
- Parking deck collapse. Crabtree Valley Mall, no injuries (Raleigh, February 3, 1993)
- Plane crash, commuter plane with multiple fatalities (RDU, February 19, 1988; Morrisville, December 13, 1994)
- Plane crash into house (Raleigh, December 12, 2001)
- Plane crash in residential neighborhood. Ridge Road, after striking church steeple (Raleigh, June 19, 1977)
- Plane explosion and fire at airport, fighter jet (RDU, March 26, 2004)

- Propane tanker truck leak and explosion. Five firefighters injured (Raleigh, January 21, 1974)
- Television transmission tower collapse (Garner, December __, 1989)
- Tire warehouse fire with over 10,000 tires destroyed (Raleigh, August 9, 1980)
- Tornado (Raleigh, November 28, 1988, 2011; Zebulon, April 15, 1996)
- Train derailment, rural, with several cars over embankment (Apex, Monday before March 1, 1972)
- Train derailment, freight, in urban area. Nine cars near Jones Street (Raleigh, November 6, 1979)
- Train derailment, passenger, with dozens of injured people (Wake Forest, August 12, 1974)

Chlorine leak of over a 100 gallons at Fuquay sewer treatment plant on April 3, 2003.

Barn Fire burned over 10,000 round bales, 3 structures, multiple vehicles and equipment with over 40 fire depts. responding and lasting 3 days on November 10, 2005 in Fuquay.

911 - 04/25/11 - 22:23

Late 60s or early 70s, situation at Central Prison, I think it was a riot and fire, or maybe just a riot...memory is cloudy. Several fatalities.

DJ - 04/26/11 - 08:06

Plane crash into Business (McCalls), one fatality (Clayton, 2007)

JC911 - 04/26/11 - 10:03

Go a little beyond the WC borders... AMTRAK/freight collision/derailment, Smithfield/Selma, 1994. One fatality, 20 or so injuries, 400+ on the train. That was a sight, turning into Noble Street, first in on the first unit/ambulance, and seeing all of those people coming through the woods...

DJ - 04/26/11 - 10:47

Airplane crash, Cary, Brampton Apts/Pond, at least 1 possibly 2 fatalities (dont remember exactly) 2004-I think....

Cary FF - 04/26/11 - 12:09

American eagle crash 10 fatal Dec 14 1994 crash I'm Morrisville inbound to RDU

avfd - 04/26/11 - 21:03

The riot at Central Prison was April 17, 1968. Six inmates dead, 75 wounded. The standoff lasted 14 hours.

<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/140..>

The American Eagle crash is listed in the list, under plane crash, commuter plane. Most of the area's other plane crashes have been omitted, though there have been some unusual ones. A couple midair collisions. A couple into lakes, including one at Lake Crabtree decades ago that killed a family.

Legeros - 04/26/11 - 21:18

July 1997 Rex Wellness Center at 1515 SW Cary Parkway, Cary suffers gas explosion and flash fire. Two construction workers injured. Fire quickly extinguished by Engine 4 which was hooked and pressure testing the sprinkler system at the time of explosion. (talk about the right place at the right time.) Several reports of structural collapse after the explosion. Turns out no collapse occurred.

June 2002 Garden Supply Company at 1421 Old Apex Road, Cary. Fire Captain Tim Gouge and Firefighter Todd Dollar are slightly injured when Ladder 3 suffers a catastrophic collapse, the platform dropping 8 to 10 feet missing Division Chief Sam Matthews by a few feet. Chief Matthews had just handed Captain Gouge a second pike pole and turned to walk away. When the ladder started up to open up the wall, it broke at the turn table and fell to the ground, landing just a few steps behind Chief Matthews.

Cary FF - 04/26/11 - 22:51

25 or more big bucks loose on I-540 the other day. Fortunately no one was dispatched, even though there was some pretty close calls with cars swerving everywhere. I didn't stop though, looked like monopoly money.

Oh? - 04/29/11 - 22:36

Stony Hill Receives New Pierce Pumper

04/26/11 38 W, 1 I - + 9 - 7

Photographer Lee Wilson was present when Stony Hill's new Pumper 392 arrived at Station 1 yesterday. The 2011 Pierce Saber 1250/1000 will run out of Station 2. [See more photos.](#)



Thats a nice truck fellows. Im sure it will serve your district very well.

911 - 04/26/11 - 20:40

Great job on the truck Stony Hill! I love the fact depts are putting the chevrons on the front now.

Zack A - 04/27/11 - 16:42

GLad you didn't have to get one of those Pretenders.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 04/28/11 - 12:14

Its the same truck Duda. Shows how smart you are. Idiot!

Car1 - 04/28/11 - 15:52

lol. that's not nice, funny, but not nice. Contender has always been on the Saber chassis. lol

ff - 04/28/11 - 16:20

Car 1, your maturity level amazes me. Very professional.

Car2 - 04/28/11 - 21:03

It's actually different by virtue of manufacturing improvements (we already have a 2005 Contender). Saber chassis... yes it is; but there are differences in the cab and body that place it in-line with the now discontinued "Enforcer" series. There are also noticeable quality differences as this truck was built in Wisconsin and not Florida. All are welcome to drop by and take a look if you like.

A.C. Rich - 04/28/11 - 23:41

Dont leave me out. I think neither of you know what your talking about. Didnt you know that the Chief is always right?

Car3 - 04/29/11 - 20:13

You's guys are real funny, but I think that the committee of the dot com error knows what they're talking about more that the top of the totum pole.

CAR 4.5 - 04/29/11 - 22:29

than*

Car 4.5 - 04/29/11 - 22:30

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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.

More Fleet Photos of Task Force 8

04/26/11 74 W, 1 I - + 13 - 4

Continuing the [posting of a prior week](#), another set of fleet photos of NC USAR Task Force 8 has been posted by photographer (and FireNews Editor-in-Chief) Jeff Harkey. They include this shot that's been heavily processed for cleaner background and foreground details. Harley's photos also include posed shots of each unit and on both sides. How cool is that? [See the entire set of photos.](#)



Jeff Harkey photo

Very impressive fleet! And to think this is only 1 of 11 task forces in North Carolina. Says a lot about North Carolinas preparedness.

AB - 04/26/11 - 21:48

NC USAR Type I Teams

NC USAR TF 3 – Charlotte Fire Department

NC USAR TF 8 – Raleigh Fire Department, Cary Fire Department, Chapel Hill Fire Department, Durham Fire Department, Wake County EMS

NC USAR Type II Teams

NC USAR TF 6 – Greensboro Fire Department

NC USAR TF 10 – Greenville Fire/Rescue Department

NC USAR Type III Teams:

NC USAR TF 4 – Troutman Fire Department, NCTF-1 Inc., Apex Fire Department, Morrisville Fire department.

NC USAR TF 5 – Thomasville Rescue Squad

NC USAR TF 9 – Lumberton Emergency Rescue Unit Inc., Fayetteville Fire Department, Cumberland County EMS and Sheriff's Office.

NC USAR TF 11 – New Hanover County Emergency Management, New Hanover County Fire Department, Wilmington Fire Department

NC USAR Type IV Teams

NC USAR TF 1 – Swain County Emergency Management
NC USAR TF 2 – Buncombe County Emergency Management
NC USAR TF 7 – Ash-Rand Rescue Squad and EMS Inc.

Source: <http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/Index2.cfm..>

Legeros - 04/26/11 - 21:50

Would be awesome if all the of the equipment could be in one place to get a state photo. Same goes for all of the state SMAT equipment. I know Wake Med has an elaborate fleet.

AB - 04/26/11 - 22:03

SMAT I team – Winston-Salem

SMAT II teams – Eight teams, in Wake Forest, Wilmington, Asheville, Charlotte, Durham, Raleigh, Greenville

SMAT III teams – Twenty-nine teams, all over the place

<http://smrs.emspic.org/index.php?option=..>

Legeros - 04/27/11 - 07:10

In addition to SMAT but similar in mission objective is Carolinas Medical Center's MED-1. It deploys as a self sustainable 150+ bed trauma center. It has recently aligned with NC SMAT. I have had to opportunity to work with their staff and help show it's capabilities to the public. A very impressive commodity and another something NC should be proud to own.

<http://www.carolinasmed-1.org/>

Wallace - 04/27/11 - 08:44

Sounds the makings of a fine expanding blog thread! Now if can list the other regional teams as such. Haz-Mat RRT. Others?

LJM - 04/27/11 - 08:56

and don't forget the 7 HazMat Regional Response Teams... they have been in operation for at least 15 years or more, right?

Steven ([Email](#)) - 04/27/11 - 15:55

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Extreme Old School - Bucket Brigade Helmet-Cam

04/27/11 71 W - + 6 - 2

[From Statter911](#), firefighters in West Plains, MO, responding during flooding to a house fire. No apparatus is available, nor SCBA carried in their personal vehicles. They arrive, conduct a search and start a bucket brigade to at least contain the exterior fire as best possible. Just like the days of leather buckets, centuries before. [See Dave's posting](#), and watch the YouTube video below:

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Classic LaFrances From Fayetteville

04/27/11 52 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Found for sale on eBay, this quartet of 35mm slides. Shown in the seller's scans from left to right, top to bottom: 1956 American LaFrance, 750 GPM, Reserve Engine 1; 1967 American LaFrance, 1000 GPM, Reserve Engine 3; 1977 American LaFrance, 1000 GPM, 500 gallons, Engine 3; 1971 Ward LaFrance, 1000 GPM, Engine 2. Photographer unknown. Click to enlarge:



Nothing like the elegance of the ALFs, WLFs, older Macks (C and L models), and older Seagraves. The new stuff coming out all looks alike.

DJ - 04/27/11 - 18:49

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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April Episode of FireWatch

04/27/11 192 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

The [April 2011 episode](#) of the Raleigh Fire Department's cable television series FireWatch features an appearance by Yours Truly. This month's episode is about the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#), the museum we're preparing to open at the training center, and the department's collection of antique apparatus at Station 28.¹

In addition to Mr. Blogger, cleverly disguised as department historian Mike Legeros, the episode also stars Battalion Chief Alan Walters and Asst. Fire Marshal/Fire Protection Engineer Tim Henshaw. The three are also founding members of the historical society. They are interviewed by Deputy Fire Marshal/Fire Educator Ronald Campbell.

FireWatch airs on the RTN-11 cable television channel on Monday (12:30 p.m.) Friday (11:00 a.m.), Saturday (11:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.) and Sunday (2:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m.) [Watch the episode](#), or click the image below showing the scary guy with the [wild hair](#).



¹Speaking of history, also check out the [February episode of FireWatch](#). Retired Lt. Welton Jones, Lt. Randy Harrington, and Firefighter First Class Glenn Todd were interviewed for Black History Month. They discussed the department's diversity, and the history of the city's first black firefighters. Good stuff.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Vintage Greenville Quint

04/28/11 51 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

Also found for sale on Ebay, another 35mm slide. How's this for a beauty? Greenville Fire Department's 1941 Pirsch 85-foot aerial ladder, also equipped with a 750 GPM pump and a 200 gallon tank. Haven't seen many pieces of Pirsch apparatus in the Carolinas. Photographer credit unknown. Click to enlarge:



Thanks Mike. Really wish Greenville would have kept one or two of it's older rigs over the years as museum/parade pieces.

Steven ([Email](#)) - 05/02/11 - 09:35

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Raleigh-Wake County Rescue Medic Proposal, 1976

04/28/11 401 W, 3 I - + 11 - 2

Let's go back in time to the mid-Seventies, when city and county officials were working to provide a better level of emergency medical service to residents of Raleigh and portions of the surrounding county. The specific year is 1976. Funeral homes haven't been transporting patients for about a decade. Various private ambulance companies have come and gone. The current provider for Raleigh residents is Beacon Ambulance Service, operating since 1972 or 1973. They also answer calls in the county.

The Raleigh Fire Department's two rescue squads-- expanded in 1975 from their long-time lone unit-- can also provide patient transport in a pinch. Or maybe on a semi-regular basis. But neither fire nor ambulance personnel are providing much in the way of advanced first aid. The First Responder program is still a few years away in these parts.

Outside of the city, there are rescue squads operating in Apex, Cary, Wake Forest, Wendell, and Zebulon. Some of those have been around for over a decade; others are fairly new. Six Forks Rescue Squad starts that year, in 1976.

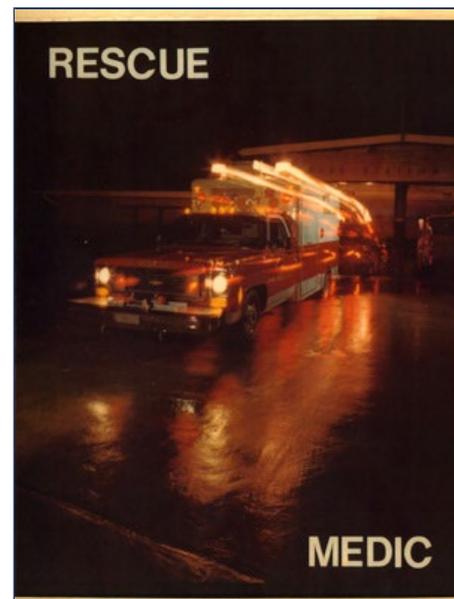
Beacon's been receiving a subsidy from the county, and they asked for an increase the prior year. This and other issues have both city and county officials considering their options for the best combination ambulance and medical service for Raleigh residents. Thus the proposed Rescue Medic program, a city-county initiative to add Emergency Medical Technician-staffed ambulances to the Raleigh Fire Department.

Four two-person medic units at Station 1, Station 10, Station 6/14, and Station 4/15. The department's two rescue squads would be located at Station 2 and Station 9. And their response areas would include some territory outside the city limits.

The proposal was created for the Wake County Office of Emergency Management, and a scan of a copy of that document is presented here. Staffing, equipment, response projections, alternate models, it's all here. The plan was not adopted, of course. The county instead created its own EMS agency that year, and a bit of that history was briefly recounted in [this blog post](#).

We'll await reader comments on what's remembered from that period, and what happened before, during, and after. Thanks to Travis Loy and his dad, veteran Wake County EMS member Fred Loy, for providing this copy.

The PDF document is about 5.5 MB in size, so slower connections will take longer. [Read this Raleigh-Wake County Rescue Medic proposal](#) , or click the upper-right cover to view.



Wow, the \$1,200 ea. cost of the Walkie Talkies in 1976 was a shocker....

Chris ([Email](#)) - 04/29/11 - 18:52

Beacon Ambulance Service

04/29/11 103 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Here's a great old photo to accompany [our prior posting](#). of Beacon Ambulance Service members and their vehicles. Readers can identify who's who, as well as the location. Neat patches on their shirts. Picture from the files of Travis Loy. One of these days, someone'll get a big stack of these local ambulance, rescue, and EMS photos together and realize they've got a history book waiting to be written. Or at least a picture book of historical photos. Trust me, it's easy. Click to enlarge:



And see these prior postings with more pictures:

- [October 15, 2010](#)
- [October 14, 2010](#)
- [October 12, 2010](#)
- [December 15, 2006](#)

Great photo! I actually am working on a book. It's in the infancy stages currently but is moving forward. I have collected bunches of photos, now it's time to sit down and do formal interviews with the likes of Fred Loy and other EMS pioneers here in the Wake/Johnston area to nail down some timelines and get some great stories.

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) - 04/29/11 - 23:13

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Fire Commission Meeting Notice, May 5 - Updated

05/03/11 235 W - + 9 - 4

The next meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission is Thursday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Wake County EMS Training Facility, in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building, [4011 Cary Drive](#). Three documents for the meeting have been made available: the agenda, the minutes from the January 20 meeting, and the latest financial report. [See those documents](#). See you there.

May 3 update. One additional document has been added above, the Fire Budget Committee Recommendation for Fiscal Year 2010. Looking through same, here's some of what's recommended:

- Current tax rate of 8.0 cents maintained
- Department appropriations for personnel and operating budget maintained at rate funded in FY2011, with adjustments including:
 - Decrease to the contract for Cary Suburban Fire District (former Western Wake Station 2 area)
 - Decrease Falls FD by 5.0%, due to implementation of consolidation plan between Wake Forest FD and Falls FD
 - Merit adjustment equal to percent provided to County employees
- Funding for \$2.09 million in Capital Improvement projects, including
 - Replace one brush truck for Bay Leaf FD
 - Replace three cost-shared engines for Fuquay-Varina FD, Garner FD, and Rolesville FD
 - Replace three small vehicles at Garner FD, Wake Forest FD, and Wake-New Hope FD
 - Replace 27 air bottles, 12 defibrillators, 13 thermal image cameras, and undetermined amount of turnout gear.
 - Replace estimated 50 SCBAs.
- Capital projects not included in final recommendation included:
 - Bay Leaf Station 1 replacement (\$3.75 million)
 - Morrisville Station 1 replacement (\$631,000)
 - Zebulon Station 2 (\$400,000)

Name: (real name preferred)

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Reviewing the Storm Response - Unit Numbering

04/29/11 120 W - + 7 - 3

Open question about the severe weather of April 16, 2011. Tornadoes and thunderstorms ripped through Raleigh and Wake County. EMS units and fire units were running everywhere. But only one of the two were using a unified numbering system. Every Wake County EMS asset has a unique unit number. For the various fire departments, however, there were a number of Engines 1s and Engine 2s and Engines 3s operating on the radio channels. Might've sounded a little crazy from the armchair perspective, but did it make a difference in the field? And behind the dispatch console? We've beat this horse before from a theoretical perspective. How did it work in real life, two weeks ago?

I heard alot of radio traffic that I thought was supposed to be eliminated by our radio system. I thought that by having status buttons each unit wouldn't have to tie up the system by calling "Apex Battalion 1 to Raleigh, Raleigh go ahead, Apex Battalion 1 is available". I also noticed some IMO unneeded traffic such as calling in a tree down, I understand others may need to know if an entire road is blocked by numerous trees down but in a case like that day just get out and start cutting the tree, only tie up Raleigh if you need help.

JMHO.

Apex Batt CHief - 04/29/11 - 21:03

No problems in the field.If you are a town, do as you want is what I say.

JG - 04/29/11 - 21:09

No problems in the field, we adapt and overcome and make it work. We are fireman, thats what we do best. If BFE E1 has traffic, they say "BFE Engine 1 to Raleigh on dispatch 1." (or as some would say "on the dispatch") I do not ever notice an Engine 1 talking to another Engine 1. It is always "Morrisville Engine 1 to Holly Springs Engine 1 on Tac 13" or "Garner Engine 3 to Raleigh Engine 3." Like JG says, If you are a municipality, do whatever you want. Hey JG, what about that the radio traffic....." _____ will be ready for service, on the dispatch."

JW - 04/29/11 - 22:24

I respectfully disagree.

"If you are a town, do as you want is what I say."

That's very indicative of ego based decision making vs decision making that is based on what is best for the customer (and best for firefighters).

And in terms of "we adapt and overcome and make it work", that is indicative that you have to adapt and overcome something that is broken to begin with.

Let me phrase my position another way: If you were designing a system today, from the start, would your end result look like what it does now? I somehow doubt it.

How many Battalion 1's are in the county now?

With the exception of Cary (that's another story), all fire units in the county operate on the same radio system. There are clearly duplicate unit identifiers. There is no way that makes a dispatcher's job any easier.

harkey ([Email](#)) - 04/30/11 - 15:00

Since ours is a digital radio system, what sort of visual indicators are available to dispatchers? When they hear a transmission, can see shown on their screen "Raleigh Engine 1." Or is it only a radio identifier number? Or is it even displayed, versus require a query?

Legeros - 04/30/11 - 16:18

It is POSSIBLE to make the actual identifier available to the dispatcher, but it is not practical. There would have to be daily re-programming of identifiers as someone carries a radio from EMS1 to EMS 13.

Another issue that has surfaced – our consistent failure to geographically NAME the COMMAND and to use the name during all future communications. The poor guys sitting at the dispatch console with 4 tac channels going hears 4 different voices saying “HEADQUARTERS from COMMAND.” It would make the top of my head fly off!

CH100 - 04/30/11 - 17:32

Thanks, Chief. Silly me, thinking only of mobile-mounted radios.

Now, for geographic command locations, is that preferred for all units operating, or just command communicating to communications?

mjl

Legeros - 04/30/11 - 17:53

Proper use of Area Command would have definitely reduced the resource ordering from the telecommunicators at ECC and made the comms issues much easier. I strongly believe a plan should now be developed, practiced, and implemented. It should be pre-scripted to allow for not only the authority to implement by initial IC's, but also use pre-established locations, talkgroups, and standardized management strategies. Hey, can we say “IMT's” Chief 100? I believe the iron is now HOT!

A.C. Rich - 04/30/11 - 19:17

I completely agree with Chief100 regarding the naming of command. I preach that to my telecommunicators that if command doesn't name itself, we name it (Market St Command, Clayton High School Command) and address them as such from that point forward. I have worked both sides of the Wake/Johnston line, both in the 911 center and on the ambulance, and consistently we fail to name our command. It is extremely confusing when we have multiple tac/ops talkgroups active and hear “command to central.” I also agree with Chief Rich regarding the use of area commands. When you have several areas of a city or county impacted by an event, the area command concept works extremely well. Have an area command for each geographic area impacted and you will see a much more efficient use of resources and the 911 center doesn't have to blindly follow cad recommendations – they can ensure resources are ordered through the staging officer. I still work in the field as well as in the comm center and the proper use of ICS continues to consistently be a weak link. Chief 100, I applaud you for the hard work you've done getting the EMS division as up-to-speed on ICS as they are, and for your numbering scheme. I'll hold your guys up against any around for proper use of ICS.

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) - 04/30/11 - 21:43

Why would you need daily reprogramming of identifiers? I mean it would take a concerted effort to keep radios with the proper unit but all that means is crews make sure they swap the right radios. Sure if radios had to go out of service for repairs it would have to be updated but deck boxes have to be updated every time units switch trucks so its not that difficult. Additionally, if the radio ID was tied to the unit, when the emergency button is activated wouldn't it be more convenient to have that immediately show which unit activated it?

Joey - 05/01/11 - 10:39

Without beating the dead horse too much, when it comes to all of the radio IDs, just listen to the EMS side of it. We HAVE unique IDs, and even then it is hard for the OVERWORKED and UNDERSTAFFED RW911 center to keep it all straight. I can say “RESCOM from EMS41” two or three times and get answered with “Last unit on RESCOM repeat”. I can only imagine how hard it is for them to keep track of numerous BATTALION 1s, ENGINE 1s, LADDER 1s, etc. You would think we would want to make it easier for them since one day that miscommunication may cost someone dearly. As Harkey said, if we were designing this system from the ground up today, would it look this way? Of course not.

As to naming command, you have to get into the habit. I remember back when ICS first started becoming 'the norm' one of the tenets was to use ICS on the small incidents so you can use it on the larger ones. If we get used to naming command on those smaller incidents where some would say maybe we don't need to use ICS on the radio, maybe we would get better in naming command on the larger incidents. Just sayin'. I used to do it (calling command on smaller incidents) and people thought I was being funny. Even got called down for it a few times. Actually, I was trying to encourage some others to do it so they would not sound so comical on the radio.

Maybe I'll start back.

DJ - 05/01/11 - 17:24

@ Joey....the process for changing DEK box numbers and the process for changing portable radio ID's are two different animals. Changing portable radio ID's is a lot more difficult and time consuming. Incidentally, there are more than enough radios out there now that dont show the correct unit ID that is calling.

Dispatcher - 05/02/11 - 15:34

A portable radio goes in for repair, a replacement is issued. When the repaired radio is ready, someone else's radio needs work, so the repaired radio goes somewhere else, and so on, and so one, and so on.

DJ - 05/02/11 - 18:05

I'm not a dispatcher so I can't speak for them. But I don't see any problem with each department having an Engine 1 and so on. When you use your department name in front of your unit number it seems to be sufficient. Now for the radio traffic during the storm: it's going to happen when dealing with such a tragic situation. If anyone can recall, status heads didn't work nor was there any ops or tac channels assigned. Normal day to day radio operations work great for Wake County. Chief Rich you are exactly right about the command structure that should have taken place that day. Each district should have had their own operations channel and then I believe Dispatch 1 wouldn't have been tied up so bad. I noticed that a lot of departments were trying to generate a run number for every tree down and every house that had damage. Firehouse software has an incident type called something like "natural incident" that could have been used for all the tree downs and power lines down that some departments were faced with. The department that I work for responded to a neighboring department for a tree down and actually removed hundreds of trees and checked numerous of houses in about a four hour period. There was one call report completed and everything was drawn out in the narrative. I will have to quote a piece of radio traffic I heard that day: "Raleigh from ????? Car 2 emergency traffic" "????? Car 2 go ahead" "10-4 Raleigh can you start a time and number for ?????? Car 2 for a low hanging power line at..... and have Progress Energy respond." This happened during the midst of the storm with about 60 pending calls that wasn't even dispatched yet.

911 - 05/02/11 - 21:44

If the dispatcher looks at their screen in sure it shows up as RFC2 or ZBC2 etc.... I can see them missing it if they are slammed.

411 - 05/03/11 - 10:27

So let me ask the nay-sayers of designing a comprehensive system for Wake fire units: just what are you afraid of?

Using your logic, you would "advocate" a system in Wake where EMS would have several "EMS-1" units, such as, Wake EMS-1, Cary EMS-1, Eastern Wake EMS-1, and so forth. Does that sound like a good idea? Of course not.

Neither does thirteen Engine 1s, and however many Ladder 1s.

harkey ([Email](#)) - 05/03/11 - 20:42

Here in Craven county each Fire Dept has its own Station number so example New Bern is station 41, Township 7 is station 21 so the city doesn't operate too much on the county radio but if we do we would say example Craven from 41 engine 11. and they know it was New Bern but on a normal basis the county depts would use the same type of thing Craven from 21 E7 for station 21 engine 7 and so forth. But in everyday in New Bern we have our own channel so just say example New Bern Ladder 1 and dispatch would know Ladder 1 was calling them

nbfrvollie - 05/03/11 - 20:44

Maybe I'm missing something, but Craven county sounds even more confusing. Correct me if I'm misguided but the obvious example Wake County should follow is Guilford County. Local counties that have a county wide unit number system include Durham, Chatham and Orange counties. They are more rural counties, but Guilford County is not.

Andrew - 05/03/11 - 21:27

...but didn't High Point FD exempt itself from Guilford's system? Or was just with regard to county-wide station numbers?

Legeros - 05/03/11 - 21:31

I don't know much about Guilford County but in Harnett County they use the same system. Each district has a number. Example if you are district number is 8 then your engine number is 821, pumper tanker is 841, ambulance is either medic 8 or 851, tankers are 831, ladder is 848, rescue is 881, and brush is 871. I like that if it's what you are use too. I actually like how Stoney Hill, Bay Leaf, and the rest of the departments use. I am against this because of the change but it's one of those things that I would have to get over. This is a very sensitive topic for some but is a great discussion.

911 - 05/03/11 - 22:33

Yes, High Point is own their own little planet, which makes it a perfect model for Wake County no? Cary could exempt!

Andrew - 05/04/11 - 11:59

A system akin to what Harnett County has would make perfectly good sense for Wake. Just decide a convention for the suffix numbers to ensure consistency and assign a station number for each station not department. Folks would learn it quickly and it would eliminate any chance for confusion on every incident. But then some holier than though folks would claim financial hardship in replacing the gold leaf numbers and the concept would die a quick death. And the fire service would remain again unimpeded by progress.

chaos rules - 05/06/11 - 17:24

I agree "chaos"...we've beat it to death around these parts. Mikey, there's a project for you; how many comments have been stored concerning the modernization/ standardizing/ enhancing the Wake County Fire Service?

Bayleaf and Stony Hill are fine examples of a countywide program that could work and would be a great starting point; go back to the county station numbers and use them as a prefix when multiple units of the same type exist in a firehouse, or sole number of a single piece of that type exists (Engine 2-6-1, 2-6-2 or Squad 26 and use Chief 26, Chief 26-A, Chief 26-B).

Silver - 05/07/11 - 01:00

Ha, Silver. Your suggestion of using county station numbers as a prefix WAS a numbering system, back in the day!

Legeros - 05/07/11 - 08:33

I know!! Bring it back!!

Silver - 05/07/11 - 12:34

Stony Hill (26,39), Bay Leaf (12,25,36), Hopkins (22), Wendell (11), Rolesville FD (15), and Knightdale Public Safety (13) are the only department's using the older numbering format. At SH, I plan to keep it around for a while.

A.C. Rich - 05/07/11 - 14:16

... and Western Wake (19) (sorry for the omission)

A.C. Rich - 05/07/11 - 14:17

Chief-

You forgot about Zebulon too (9). I,unlike many around here, agree and would LOVE to see some kind of better system in place, but again too many people with the "My Kingdom" mentality and "who's going to pay to re-gold leaf my trucks??" REALLY?? *So, that is more important than say...SAFETY due to a miscommunication??* I've heard several people say "It's not so hard to just say XX E-1 and besides I like it" but to that I say, well it's not so hard to say E-261 or E-191 or E-222, plus there wouldn't be any confusion. BUT until a true concern for the safety of citizens in this county and those of us that ride the rigs to protect them, occurs from all the powers to be in the county, there will never been any real change here. It truly is,in my opinion,a SAD situation that a county with 1 million citizens in 2011 still operates like a county with 20,000 citizens in 1985. While the entire county does not operate this way, the greater majority does. Oh well, off my soapbox and round of kicking this poor horse again.

Stay safe out there folks

Wayne - 05/07/11 - 19:03

Will county consolidation tip the scale on this someday? Okay, being presumptuous here. Is a county-run fire department the likely future for the non-municipal fire departments in Wake County? If your answer is "yes" or perhaps "probably," then surely unit numbering will be improved. And even if your name isn't Shirley.

Consolidation. The "C" word. Does it make some folks tremble, and set others to excited tail-wagging? The county already owns the lion's share of those department's new apparatus, no? Facility ownership, less so. Stony Hill #1, Fuquay-Varina #3, Garner #4. And if/when Bay Leaf #1 gets built, that'll also be a county building, I believe.

Paying for the people, now that's your big budget item. But there'd be freed monies. Put all your "rural" department resources in a pot and, for starters, you'll probably prune a station or two. And redistribute resources. And eliminate redundancies, either immediately or perhaps over time. Staff positions on paper are still living and breathing people, however.

Thus it would be an exceptionally emotional transition, were it made. Some think it's a "will be" situation. So far, there haven't been calls for action from citizens or officials in that direction (have there been?). But the future is an awfully long time...

Legeros - 05/07/11 - 19:22

Ooops... yep, forgot Zebulon (sorry).

I say a county department is probably just around the corner unless "things" change somehow. The catapult may simply be a change in select leadership positions at the county staff level, which is certainly coming in the future. New leadership may view our current status a little differently. For years I have been an advocate that we should try to control our destiny by setting examples, yet an overall lack of unity seems to diminish the goal of collective effort. "We" seemingly keep on failing ourselves due to many reasons, one being the competition for funding and/or trying to project our credibility to qualify for funding consideration. Once again, a lack of unity is displayed. Also, it is seemingly more unpopular today to "do the right thing" as many prefer maintenance of the status quo and political correctness to protect interests. Here is a novel idea... if it is wrong, say it is wrong. Don't dismiss the issue.

Ironically, all of these previously indicated behaviors are natural (believe it or not). The twist comes when a different behavior enters into the picture and it is in a position of power. If the new is valued over the current... change will occur regardless of our attempts to control or even guide it. Consider this: the projected budget for Wake Co. fire next FY is ~\$20 million.

A.C. Rich - 05/07/11 - 17:38

Here's a map to help visualize what we're talking about, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..> (as posting) or <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..> (as full image). Those are all the fire insurance districts in the county. Anything colored white is a municipal fire district. Anything non-white (pink, gray, etc.) is a "rural" district. (Plus RDU, which is also colored in that fashion.)

A couple municipal districts are covered by private fire departments. Garner, Rolesville, Wendell. And maybe Wake Forest, which is part-private, no? Many "rural" districts are covered by municipal fire departments. Apex, Morrisville, Zebulon, etc. They receive county funding for that coverage.

So what are we talking about, when talking about consolidation and what might happen if the county "ran things" with regard to rural fire protection? From an administrative perspective, it could mean folding all private fire departments into a single entity. But are there are probably other variations, no? Anyway, that's what the map looks like.

Legeros - 05/08/11 - 03:24

I don't see the point in all this. If the mess hits the fan in Fuquay, and we have 30 different units coming, I really don't think anybody is going to care what those units are called. As long as they get there and can get the job done. Different departments do things their own way and that is perfectly fine by most. If we want to call an engine in Fuquay, Fuquay Engine 2, why does it matter? If Holly Springs calls their Engine 2 1297386427651879...still coming if we call but to me Holly Springs Engine 2 is a lot easier to identify instead of 1297386427651879. In an industry that is ever changing, terminology, tactics, and so on seem to be more of an issue than a silly number game. County departments who still "condition red" it... That's the stuff we need to work on.

TTaylor - 05/09/11 - 14:28

You pose a good question, Taylor. What indeed is the point? And thus my original question. When all heck was breaking loose— and "30 different units" were coming— how did the current system work? Were there specific successes or failures to substantiate the value of either "the way it is" or "the way it should be changed." 'Cause that's ultimately the gauge of change, proposed or otherwise. Did it add value? Did it make a difference? 'Cause, you know, it's easy to discuss all this stuff. But it's worth connecting to outcomes. To case examples. Otherwise, we're just talkin', no?

Legeros - 05/09/11 - 17:13

Wake Forest is the same as Garner and is the same as Rolesville. They are combi departments that contract with both the town and county to provide fire protection.

AC how does the amount of this year's budget vary from last year's? If it is more then by how much?

Mike - 05/09/11 - 20:10

FY11 – \$1,993,975 (operating) \$2,610,000 (capital)

FY10 – \$1,255,530 (operating) \$3,774,000 (capital)

FY09 – \$1,391,075 (operating) \$2,796,000 (capital)

FY08 – \$1,818,504 (operating) \$9,812,000 (capital)

If I read the budget docs correctly from <http://www.wakegov.com/budget/pastbudget..>

Legeros - 05/09/11 - 20:17

Not much increase, but all is dependent on collections and growth. The fire tax revenues from previous years were presented at the past Fire Commission meeting: FY 2010-11 was \$20,195,000. FY 2009-10 was 20,285,000. FY 2008-09 was 20,427,000. The rate is 8 cents and has been since FY 2008-09.

The collection estimate for FY 2011-12 is \$20,248,000 and the Fire Commission recommended budget is 84% operating at \$16,545,315 (with a 2% merit increase included) and 16% capital at ~\$3,700,000. Operating includes salaries, supplies, etc. Capital includes new stations, new apparatus, and new equipment (Turnout gear replacement, TIC replacement, SCBA replacement, SCBA cylinder replacement, Defib replacement). Source – Fire Commission Handouts from the May 5th meeting.

A.C. Rich - 05/09/11 - 23:49

ML, from my experience the day of the storm, we were dispatched to Fairview and once we arrived we stayed with them for most of the afternoon. Our station 1 was with Holly Springs for the most part. When our tones hit for the initial call for Engine 2 to go to fairview, everything went back to an area command style operation. We would clear from a call and check with command, roll to another, and another with out ever having to call central. The only time I think we talked to central was when we let them know we were back in Fuquay. This seemed to work out great in my opinon. We've done this before with "storm" events in FV and worked out great then. After it was all said and done, 1 report for our station with a batch entry of different locations we had went to and task that had been performed.

TTaylor - 05/10/11 - 07:37

Thanks AC

Mike - 05/10/11 - 08:17

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Helmet Camera Clip Production

04/30/11 77 W - + 3 - 4

[Dave Statter has posted this helmet-cam clip](#) out of East Palo Alto, CA. There are a couple interesting production techniques to the clip. It opens with footage from inside the apparatus, perhaps with the helmet camera being used as a dash camera? They've added radio traffic to the soundtrack, along with transcriptions as captions. The footage is also shown at about double-speed, to render the activities at a faster, well, clip.

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Wherever Disaster Strikes

04/30/11 17 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) vehicle seen at Chavis Park. [Click to enlarge:](#)



You can go to the Old Walmart in Garner where the FEMA Field Office is set up and see all the FEMA vehicles you want.

Mike - 04/30/11 - 21:21

Giddy-up! Might be my Sunday drive, right there!

Legeros - 04/30/11 - 21:24

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The Golden Hour

04/30/11 59 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

For photography, that is. First and last hour of sunlight, roughly speaking. Light gets warmer, shadows get longer. Everything looks prettier. Particularly common in cinematography, e.g. the pictures in moving pictures. Below are medics on Skycrest Drive a couple hours ago. [Read the Wiki page on the subject.](#)



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House on Stilts?

04/30/11 46 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Rather it's a home with heavy fire damage on Blank Angus Drive in Johnston County. The two-story structure was reported ablaze just before 2 p.m., [reports this WRAL story](#). They get the photo credit as well.



Video of the incident, http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/vid..

Legeros - 05/01/11 - 17:07

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Tour Raleigh's New Decon Trailer

05/01/11 126 W, 1 I - + 4 - 8

[Lee Wilson has posted photos](#) showing the inside of Raleigh's new decon trailer. The Schantz & Sons trailer was outfitted by Matthews Specialty Vehicles. It's designed for decontamination of responders at hazardous materials incidents. There are two separate individual shower stalls, as well as stations for undress/dressing. Looks like the equipment includes hot water heaters and tanks to capture the contaminated water. The trailer is also carries an all-terrain vehicle. The unit replaces a box truck that carried decon equipment that requiring assembly for deployment. It's housed at Station 22 and staffed by Ladder 5. And it's pulled by a 2005 Ford F-550 Super Duty prime mover that's designed SR3. [See our prior posting](#) on the trailer as well.



Lee Wilson photo

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No

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Bertie County Volunteer Firefighters Spring into Action After Storm

05/01/11 108 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

[The Virginian-Pilot today posted a nice feature](#) on the Bertie County volunteer firefighters who responded to the tornado on April 16, 2011. All twelve of the county's fire departments responded, with over 100 firefighters responding within minutes of the touchdown. The twister killed 11 and injured 50 in those first 15 minutes. It's been called the worst disaster in the history of the large, rural county with a population of just over 21,000 people. [Read the story](#). Thanks to David for sending. Readers are also welcome to post their stories from the storms, as they continue northeast from Wake County and toward Virginia.



Virginian-Pilot photo

What are the departments in Bertie County? Here's a list from FireNews.net: http://www.firenews.net/nc_fds.htm#ber

Askeville
 Aulander
 Blue Jay
 Colerain
 Kelford
 Lewiston-Woodville
 Merry-Hill Midway
 Perrytown
 Powellsville
 Roxobel
 Trap
 Windsor

Legeros - 05/01/11 - 08:55

Mike, thanks for the article posting. That list is correct, as for departments, and the NC Forest Service has a plow and equipment at Green's Cross on US 17. There is an active Bertie firefighter's association, as well, which meets monthly. There is one ladder truck in the county, a

Pierce in Windsor FD which was recently obtained from Navy surplus. The county fire radio system is VHF high-band and VIPER units are in use by law enforcement and communications; EMS and fire departments are dispatched by Bertie Communications/911, which is part of the Sheriff's office. Bertie County provides some annual funding to supplement fire departments (\$10K per dept.??) so fund-raising events and grant-seeking are a necessity. There are EMS stations currently manned in Colerain, Windsor, and Lewiston-Woodville.

dl - 05/01/11 - 11:04

Speaking of which, FireNews.net today has an interview with the Colerain Fire Chief about the events of that day:

<http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news..>

Legeros - 05/01/11 - 11:54

dl – how did the Trap FD fare? I tried to contact them and the county EM director but never got a response. Western Wake donated Trap our former pumper/tanker 297 and wanted to see if they had any needs that we might be able to help them with. My wife is from Gates County and the word from folks there and in the news was that they got hit bad. I know the death toll in that county was 11. Thanks for any update you might be able to provide.

D.Cates - 05/01/11 - 14:40

D.Cates,

I really don't have first-hand info on Trap's situation, as I was not involved in the response over in their part of the county (I was actually out of the county during that storm). I can't speak for them so it would be best to try to talk directly to them; I am sure they would appreciate it. Also, maybe try the EM director, Rickey Freeman at 252-794-5302 office or email him, rickey.freeman@bertie.nc.gov . As a retired chief of another department, I will say thanks to you and Western Wake for the past help and your current concern to those guys in Trap.

dl - 05/01/11 - 16:44

Thanks dl... I had emailed Rickey but it was like 2 days after the storm... he may not have even gotten to may email due to heavy volume. I'll try to call. We're glad to help, just part of the brotherhood.

D.Cates - 05/02/11 - 10:43

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Disaster Blows In, and Rescuers Become the Rescued

05/01/11 123 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Today's *News & Observer* has a [profile of the Miller family](#), paramedic and nurse Allison Miller and her retired parents Paul and Ruby. They live across the street from each other on King Charles Drive, in one of the neighborhoods hit hard by the tornado on April 16. Both of their homes were severely damaged. In the days that followed, off-duty firefighters and medics and others have been helping the Millers with the physical demands of securing and clearing their property. They've since moved into temporary housing, but plan to stay on King Charles. Which is where they've lived for over 30 years. [Read the story](#), which includes a good-sized photo gallery.



News & Observer photo

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Wherever Disaster Strikes #2

05/02/11 29 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Seen this weekend behind the old Wal-Mart in Garner. With what looked like ten antennas and a satellite dish on the roof. Click to enlarge:



left an hour ago. Behind it getting on 40 at S.Saunders, as for the antennae- looked like a porcupine

J.Boggs - 05/03/11 - 13:35

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Slow Down

05/03/11 104 W - + 11 - 3

We've often blogging about our favorite fire bloggers to the north. Today let's stay close to home and blog about a local blogger and paramedic (and frequent participant here). His soapbox is named 9-ECHO-1, which the code for a code. The blog address is <http://9-echo-1.blogspot.com>. The latest posting is first-person account of him and the Missus in their personal vehicle and in proximity of an emergency call. They observe the fire unit, which enters the intersection in a cautious fashion. They observe the EMS unit, which goes through the intersection at a considerable faster clip. [Read the narrative yourself.](#)

Good One DJ. I drove Ladder truck yesterday on a call for first time in LONG time. I was on 4 lane and had open right lane and almost took it, then Engineer who was riding Officer reminded me to go left. Its the little things and complacency that is going to get us hurt. I teach driving and know to always pass on the left.

Apex Batt Chief - 05/03/11 - 09:10

From that blog: "And that electronic siren you have on that ambulance? Set it on wail. Leave it. Stop playing with it. 'ET' can't hear you."

Ha! Good stuff! The police cars have this weird "phaser" type siren on them, which I suppose sounds like it's making lots of noise. But in reality, I think it makes the siren not catch as much attention. I used to be one of those that spent as much time changing the siren mode as I did driving. But now, I agree: leave it on wail.

rfburns - 05/03/11 - 11:41

you know how many times as you're clearing an intersection and a driver (often distracted) fails to yield right of way and you ask yourself... "where's a cop when you need one?"

Well yesterday as we were responding to a call and approaching an intersection which had just yellow to red lighted us, we slowed, stopped and watched a car with a driver on the phone gun it through the intersection as the remainder of the vehicles remained stopped. When we cleared the intersection we noticed a black and white sitting at the same intersection, gave him a glance, he whipped a U turn and had what I'm sure was a learning conversation with said driver. The amazing part is even after the driver looked right at us, watched us turn behind him, he continued down the road, in the left lane, at full bore. Sometimes it just happens that an officer is at the right place at the right time.

Slow down, control the intersections, and drive for the conditions.

shevais - 05/03/11 - 11:45

I read each and every DJ post on his blogs. He is always spot on with each and every post. We are lucky to have folks like him in our Public Safety circles here in NC. Rock on DJ, Rock on!

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/03/11 - 18:54

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Yes

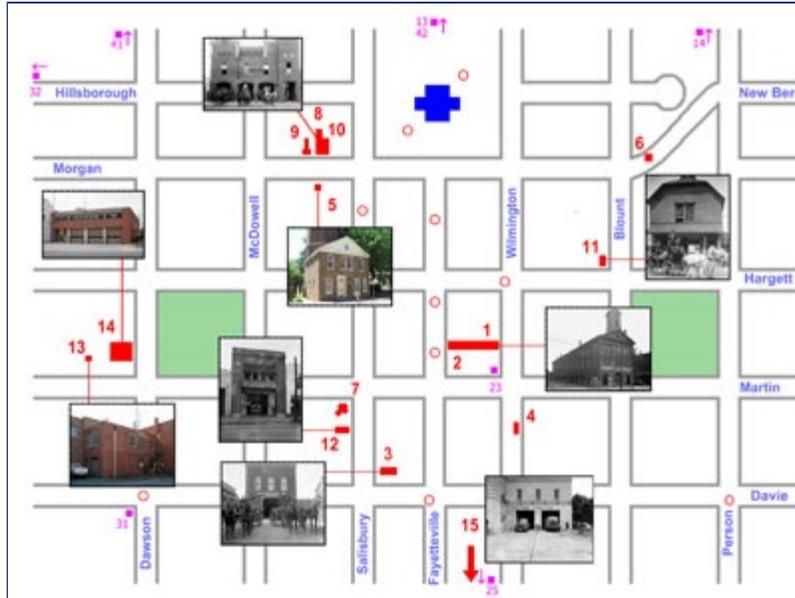
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Raleigh Fire Department Historical Map

05/03/11 44 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Where were Raleigh's old fire stations located downtown? Here's a historical map, and newly updated with inset images. And some data corrections, drawn from Mr. Blogger's research on the city's [volunteer fire companies](#). Click to see larger version:



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 No

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Sixth Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service This Weekend

05/04/11 183 W, 1 I - + 6 - 10

Don't forget about Saturday's fallen firefighter ceremony in downtown Raleigh. The Sixth Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service is preceded by a procession of fire apparatus at 10:00 a.m. The annual parade starts on Hillsborough Street and concludes at the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial at Nash Square.

The memorial service starts at 1:00 p.m. The names of two fallen firefighters will be added: **Chad Eric Green**, 34, died on November 4, 2009, after responding to a motor vehicle crash. He was the Deputy Chief of Union Cross Fire Department in Forsyth County. **Richard Adam Miller**, 24, died on December 29, 2009, while participating in physical fitness training at Belmont Fire Department Headquarters in Gaston County.

[See this FireNews article](#) for maps and more information. Learn more about the [North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#). Or [read about the histories](#) of North Carolina's fallen firefighters. Over 225 members of the state's fire service have died in the line of duty since the first recorded death of Washington volunteer firefighter Edward Peed in 1902.



Lee Wilson/FireNews photo

FYI, Chad Eric Green should be Chad Eric Greene, got email last week to correct on ncfff.org

Chad S. - 05/04/11 - 14:11

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

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Yes
No

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/ [Textile](#)

The Future of Fireground Communication

05/04/11 40 W, 1 I - + 7 - 7

From a reader, some humor on the subject of fireground communication. And they keep straight faces nearly the entire time! How many mics are you wearing... Thanks Marshall. Click to [watch the clip on YouTube](#).



I do believe I saw at least a couple of folks wandering around wearing these compact radio setups at the RARSFest (Ham Radio Fest) last weekend at the NC Fairgrounds. :-)

Near the end you also see the compact TIC in use at many firegrounds.

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/04/11 - 10:39

It may work better than some of what he have these days...just sayin'

DJ - 05/04/11 - 10:59

Love the video!!! But the radio set up reminded me of an old radio we used to have in the back of our lock up many years ago. I did a search on the net and I found it. According to the retired chief that used the radio it weighed about 25 pounds and he found it was easier to use if he wore it on his chest instead of his back.

<http://i1086.photobucket.com/albums/j442..>

<http://i1086.photobucket.com/albums/j442..>

Credit to Geoff Fors and his website <http://www.wb6nvh.com/index.htm>

stretch - 05/04/11 - 14:55

Name: (real name)

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Six Forks EMS Ceases Operations

05/04/11 238 W - + 9 - 9

As many have heard and some have asked about, Six Forks EMS ceased operations this week, due to internal issues that have been reported in local media. Wake County EMS assumed the role of provider for their response area at 0800 on Monday, May 3, and has placed four units in service:

- EMS 34 at the airport, operating 0800-2000. That EMS station is named RDU. The facility is a warehouse on Mt. Herman Road.
- EMS 35 at Raleigh Fire Station 17, operating 0800-2000.
- EMS 36 at Bay Leaf Station 3. Full-time unit. That EMS station is named Six Forks Main.
- EMS 22 at Bay Leaf Fire Station 2. Full-time unit. That EMS station is named Six Forks North.

Plans are to renumber EMS 36 as EMS 6. The other unit numbers will remain the same. District 4 has remained in service, and continues to operate from Bay Leaf Station 3 / Six Forks Main. It has been assigned a Dodge Durango. The status of the eight ambulances owned by Six Forks EMS is pending. Half will likely be used by Wake County EMS.

In respect for the good people and our good friends at Six Forks EMS, let's refrain from commentary on their issues. There are forums on the various media sites, for starters. Facebook is also a good avenue for expressing thoughts and feelings about this unexpected change in the local EMS landscape. We can only wish them the best through this unexpected and challenging time.

It was a little disheartening to see 1280 stripped of its markings (The DC-4 Ram). Any idea where they're storing the rest of the fleet in the interim?

PJ - 05/04/11 - 21:18

Yesterday, the fleet was being stored at the RDU EMS station. Lee Wilson snapped and posted some pics, <http://www.legeros.com/firepics>

Legeros - 05/04/11 - 21:31

The old EMS station out by the airport, down the road from the Sheetz...what is in there now?

Silver - 05/04/11 - 22:02

When last I was over there, UNC hospital was storing some of their mega-rig inter facility transport trucks. It has been some time though.

PJ - 05/04/11 - 22:53

Believe that building, old EMS Station 6, was built by RDU. Tax records says the airport owns it. 2,145 square-feet, built 1997.

Remember when the EMS station was a house on a hill just west of National Guard Drive. The EMS unit stayed parked outside, and then they built a shelter, I believe. The structures are gone, but isn't the foundation still visible as you drive by?

That was back before Station 24 was built, and the scuttlebutt said Raleigh and Cary were both building fire stations at the airport. Raleigh's in Brier Creek and Cary's over by the hotel. And the department would share/split the structural response to RDU.

Legeros - 05/05/11 - 06:26

That old house was the airport manager's house. At one time, there were several houses and some apartments that stood on airport property. Authority employees could rent thoses for 'next-to-nothing'. There were problems. The apartments were actually and old motel that had definitely seen better days. The wells and septic tanks were, well, not at their best. But still, the price was right.

The EMS station that was built came with the good and the bad. The good part was the call volume. It was good at that time to have a station you could rotate to for a little break. The two month rotation I ran out there netted an average of two calls per 24 hours. The bad? No cable. We had satellite for a couple of days but then the owner took his satellite box to his next station.

I remember the talk that both RFD and CFD were building stations. That would have been nice and I wish that they had both built stations out there. Nothing like being at the trash collection facility off Globe Road, pumping on someone's chest at 1715 on a Thursday afternoon, waiting for CFD E1 to get there. I was glad to see them!

DJ - 05/05/11 - 07:28

The old EMS 6 on National Guard Drive is owned by RDU Airport Authority. It is leased to UNC Air Care. They usually keep two ground units in the building.

RDU - 05/05/11 - 11:05

Cool. always wondered what they were using it for since 6 moved out. UNC doesn't staff a ground unit there, do they?

Silver - 05/05/11 - 14:42

now with Six Forks Ems shut down, that leaves Cary Area EMS, and Eastern Wake EMS as the only private EMS providers in the county, unless Bethesda EMS in Durham County, also responds in to Wake. this is a sign of a tough economy, however i think Wake County EMS is more than capable of filling the void.

charlie - 05/06/11 - 17:25

I'm fairly certain Eastern Wake is next on the list eventually followed by Cary. Dr. Myers is to good at his job to not get his way. I think it's an excellent plan for the citizens of Wake county. I'd imagine county-wide fire will be next.

RescueRanger - 05/06/11 - 20:56

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.

Nineteen Days Later

05/05/11 34 W, 4 I - + 9 - 1

Early-evening explorations in the area of North King Charles and Marlborough roads, one of the neighborhoods that suffered great damage during the April 16 tornado. More later. Click to enlarge:



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 - Interview with Cary Fire Chief Ned Perry, 1999

05/05/11 188 W - + 7 - 5

Interview with Cary Fire Chief Ned Perry, 1999

From a reader and for your weekend reading, here's an archived transcription of an interview with former Cary Fire Chief Ned Perry. He was chief of the department from 1975 until 1993, and came from the Raleigh Fire Department, where he was a Captain. When he came to Cary, as he recalls in the interview, the department had 14 paid members and 11 volunteers.

He recounts the growth the department, the building of stations, and the buying of apparatus. He remembers some unusual calls: a plane crash into a lake when he still worked for Raleigh, and a distraught man's bomb that killed himself and his wife in a lawyers office. And a host of other topics and remembrances.

[Read the PDF-format transcription](#) (find Perry's name and click the corresponding icon), written in 2001 from a 1999 recording for the Cary Heritage Museum Oral History Project. There's nothing so good as an oral history. And they're very easy to start doing. Yours Truly has been recording retired and retiring Raleigh firefighters for years now, as well as such former members as Chief Perry. No transcriptions just yet.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Big Black

05/05/11 37 W, 1 I - + 8 - 9

Found while browsing the [Pierce Flickr site](#). You know things aren't going good if you see this baby on scene. Pierce Velocity command post delivered to the FBI in Quantico, VA. Click for larger:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Thinking About a Book

05/06/11 617 W - + 7 - 3

Okay, you got me thinking about those former airport EMS stations. Pictures probably exist of both. Maybe personal photos. Maybe newspaper photos. Such pictures would be perfect for a photo history of rescue and EMS. Local history, say, just Wake County.

Who makes such local history books? Arcadia Publishing, for starters. Their Images of America series is what Yours Truly used for his [Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting books](#). They're thin paperbacks, about 120 pages. Photo-intensive, usually two page. Plus captions. Plus some text sections.

Who wants to write this one? My project plate's a bit full, but here are some of the steps required for prospective authors. Based on how I approached my books, that is.

- Expect to need about 200 photos.
 - Meaning photographic prints.
 - No newspaper clippings.
 - No low-resolution digital images.
 - And probably preferring to avoid those small, grainy personal snapshots of yore. But, if that's all you got, that's all got.
- For this subject, they'd include representations of people, places, things, and events. e.g.,
 - People – Medics, EMTs, First Responders, ambulance drivers, etc.
 - Places – Base stations, EMS stations, rescue squad buildings, fire stations, etc.
 - Things – Ambulances, rescue trucks, special equipment, special vehicles, etc.
 - Events – Emergency calls, major incidents, public events, training, life at the station.
- And you'd probably mix 'n' match the above categories.
 - Some fleet shots with people in them, others with only vehicles, for example. Though this might be personal preference.
 - My preference is, say, building photos that show buildings. Vehicle photos that show vehicles. And perhaps people photos separate.
 - But if, say, the only photo you've found of the first ambulance of Agency X includes a bunch of people in front of the thing, then so be it.
- How do you find that many pictures?
 - Myself, I'd collect double or triple that amount, if possible, to have the best or more representative to choose from.
 - Start by personally visiting every EMS agency in Wake County. Ask for or start digging around for scrapbooks and old files of clippings.
 - Next, contact individual members, past and present. Issue a call for contributed historical photos.
 - Next, visit the local newspapers. Want pictures of Northern Wake Rescue? Visit the Wake Weekly and see what they might have.
- Note about newspapers
 - You might have to start by looking through old issues. Then if you find one with a good photo, see if the paper has the image or the negative on file.
 - For the News & Observer and Raleigh Times, all of their old images are at the State Archives.
 - More on this later.
- You'll also need captions.
 - So you'll need access to the history of what's shown in photos.
 - If it's written down or compiled, you're good to go.
 - More likely, you'll be asking folks what they remember, and then compiling and correcting and verifying everything.
 - You'll also want names for the faces, which means showing lots of people lots of pictures. Facebook might help in this regard. But you can send e-mail around or such. But expect leg work!

Question: Will you get royalties?

Answer: Yes, this particular publisher—Arcadia—is a for-profit company. Not a vanity press. You'll get an amount per book, based on sales.

Question: Will you make money?

Answer: Yes, if your expenditures are less than your royalties. But you mind spend some dough to make the thing. Photo scans at the State Archive are \$4 a pop, for example. That adds up if you start ordering dozens and dozens.

To be continued, some time.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Demolition of a Fire Station

05/06/11 247 W, 1 I - + 9 - 7

Reader Dale Johnson sends this picture of Holly Springs Station 2, damaged in the April 16 tornado and presently a pile of rubble. Read about the station and the damage [in this prior posting](#). Lee Wilson also posted a few pictures of the station, taken yesterday and last week. See those pictures [here](#) and [here](#). Click to enlarge:



Next question, how many fire stations in Wake County have been demolished over the years and decades? They include...

- Cary FD - First fire stations, including 1953 addition to Town Hall on Chatham Street.
- Fairground FD - First fire station on Blue Ridge Road, built 1961.
- Forest Service - Towers in Apex and Knightdale, built 1940 and 1938, respectively.
- Holly Springs PS - First fire station on N. Main Street, built 1995.
- New Hope FD - First fire station at Louisburg and New Hope roads, opened 1956.
- Raleigh FD - Original Station 1 (1896), Station 2 (1870), Station 3 (1898), and Station 5 (1926).
- Raleigh FD - Second Station 2 (1914), also original drill tower (1954).
- RDU CFR - First fire stations, including multi-purpose building #3, opened 1980.
- Six Forks Road FD - First two fire stations on, yes, Six Forks Road.
- Swift Creek FD - First fire station, a shed on Tryon Road, built 1961.
- Wake Forest FD #2 - Taylor Street.
- Wendell FD - First fire stations, including Fourth Street (1952) and Hollybrook Road (c1961).
- Western Boulevard FD - Fire station at Western and Powell, opened 1957.
- Yrac FD - First fire station at Cedar and Ward, opened 1961.
- Zebulon FD - First fire station(s).

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

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Caption This Photo / Parade Staging

05/07/11 48 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

[Wake & District Public Safety Pipes & Drums](#) members prior to a procession of apparatus and honor guards this morning in downtown Raleigh, and which preceded the Sixth Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial at Nash Square.



come on, hit me.

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/07/11 - 17:03

So it was C2H50H

Rob Mitchell - 05/08/11 - 05:11

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Cary's 1953 Seagrave / Remembering Vernon Thompson

05/07/11 204 W, 3 I - + 5 - 6

This morning's North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial procession of apparatus and honor guards included this 1953 Seagrave 70th Anniversary Series pumper from the Cary Fire Department. The open-cab beauty is powered by a 202 HP, 12-cylinder motor, has a 750 GPM pump and 500-gallon tank. It cost \$15,000 and replaced a 1931 Chevrolet pumper that required hand-pushing at times. [Click to enlarge:](#)



The banner remembers Cary Firefighter Vernon Lee Thompson, 28, who was killed on June 16, 1960, when their 4,200-gallon tractor-drawn tanker overturned near Meredith College. Thompson and Firefighter Billy Henderson were responding to a rekindled trash near the Camp Polk prison dump. They had turned from Highway 1 onto a service road that ran between Meredith College property and the State College animal husbandry farm.

The tanker overturned and both were thrown from the cab. The truck rolled onto Henderson Thompson. He was pinned under the cab, and died after fuel leaking from the gas tank ignited. Funeral services were held on June 18 at Cary Baptist Church, with burial at Cary Cemetery the same day. Thompson was a volunteer member of the Cary Fire Department. Read more about Thompson and other [line-of-duty deaths in Wake County](#). [Click to slightly enlarge:](#)



Raleigh Times photos

Thompson was the only one that died. He died waited on a wrecker to lift the truck off him. Henderson was thrown clear.

fire1983 - 05/07/11 - 15:52

I meant waiting on the wrecker..

fire1983 - 05/08/11 - 18:37

that is not Cary's actual original truck, but one that was found and restored to mirror the original truck.

Glad to see it up and running!

little known fact - 05/10/11 - 10:28

I was wondering about that. I was thinking that the CFD Seagrave at one time had the original engine swapped out for a diesel.

DJ - 05/10/11 - 14:18

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Bahama Fire Department Auxiliary Unit

05/07/11 54 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

The interesting piece of apparatus was parked at Nash Square this afternoon, where the Sixth Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service. Looks like a rehab unit, and perhaps operated by a department "auxiliary." Maybe our readers can provide more information.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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What The Heck Are You Taking a Picture Of?

05/07/11 113 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

That's one of the more common questions these days for Yours Truly, as exaggerated close-ups and crazy camera angles are becoming increasingly common. (What can I say, different is appealing.) The other oft-heard query is "where's your shirt?" There are times, believe it or not, when Mr. Blogger appears in public sans tropical attire, and the effect can be a bit disorienting. Please remain calm. But back to crazy camera angles. Here's a Charlotte Fire Department Honor Guard member (I think) at today's Sixth Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial ceremony at Nash Square.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Cover Photo / EMS World / The Future of EMS

05/07/11 132 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

From time to time, a photo of mine proves good enough for a magazine cover. The [May 2011 issue of EMS World](#) is a good example. The cover story is by Wake County EMS Chief Skip Kirkwood. The article topic is the future of EMS, in a context summarized by Kirkwood's question "do we want EMS to be reactive or proactive?" [Read the online version.](#)

The article includes pictures of a Wake County APP in action. Obviously the shots are staged, since patient privacy would make such field photos tricky or perhaps impossible. That the pictured "patients" resemble other Wake County paramedics is perhaps a figment of your imagination. Photo credits Mike Legeros, duh.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Corinth Holders 1962 Ford/American LaFrance

05/08/11 108 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

Photographer Lee Wilson spent the day the other day at the Corinth Holders Fire Department in Johnston County, where a barbecue fundraiser was underway. They are planning to restore the engine, which was their first purchased-new piece of fire apparatus, I believe. They're looking for pictures of the truck, and information about its history. Have stories of the truck and its decades of service? Post or email. The ubiquitous cab-over Ford pumper. Wonder how many of those were delivered in North Carolina, by LaFrance or others? Had to have been dozens, or maybe hundreds. [See more pictures from Lee.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

More like hundreds. The ALF/Fords I know of around here were Corinth-Holder, Apex, Bethesda, and Cary. I think Clayton also had one.

DJ - 05/08/11 - 14:57

I have seen alot of Howe and John Bean's mounted on these style cabs all over Eastern North Carolina, some still in service.

car3550 - 05/08/11 - 18:06

Most of the departments in Beaufort, Dare and Hyde Counties have/had at least one. My first station, Bunyan VFD in Beaufort Co., had an '85 with a jumpseat, but I can't recall who built the body. It wasn't Bean or Howe. They sold it to Pantego VFD in the same county a couple years ago when they took delivery of their new Pierce Enforcer. That area still has a lot of those type pieces in use out that way. I miss riding the jumpseat on that old truck!

Duda ([Email](#)) - 05/10/11 - 08:26

Holly Springs had a 1971 or 72 Ford / Bean with the high pressure pump. No jump cab on that truck. I learned how to pump on that truck, and it was a blast to drive.

Apex had several over the years. The two I remember most were the Ford / Quality with jump cabs. If you can call it that. You still got wet when it rained, but your SCBA was dry. I was driving one of those trucks the night Fran came through. We were stuck in New Hill on our way to a cardiac call when the tress across the road blocked us. When we turned around, there where more trees, and there we sat as the eye came over. A state owned motor grader with a front mounted rock rake came to get us and led us back to town pushing the trees out of the way. I will never forget that night.

Morrisville had a pair of Ford / E-Ones. They were 1990 models and from what I was told, the last two of that combination off the E-One line. They had raised roof jump cabs and in my opinion, were the best looking Ford C Cab trucks I have seen.

Cary had a Ford / Pierce truck with jump cab. I remember being passed by a school bus while running emergency traffic on that truck. That thing would not get out of it's own way. It was cut down and and the pump mounted on a trailer for training which was at station 6 last time I saw it.

I have seen several of these trucks in old photos around the county, but these are the ones I have had personal experiences with.

Donaldson - 05/12/11 - 14:53

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

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New Water Supply Procedures for Raleigh Fire Department

05/08/11 223 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Listen closely to structure fires in Raleigh, and you'll hear some new radio traffic with regard to water supply. Beginning May 1, first-arriving engine companies now catch their own supply lines. This gives the first arriving engine an established water supply **before** their personnel enter the burning structure.

Also new are the big honkin' hydrant assist valves you've probably seen mounted on tailboards. They weigh 37 pounds and have four openings for five-inch hose. Here's how it works: the valve connects to the hydrant, and the supply line connects to the valve. The second-arriving engine then parks at the hydrant, and also connects to the valve.

This allows the second engine to easily boost pressure on the supply line, and increase efficiency of the water coming to the first engine. There are other benefits to the new procedure. For example, it puts one less engine in front of the fire building. The first-arriving engine also has the option of "laying in dry" instead of "laying in wet."

Read more about the new procedure in the Spring Issue of the [Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter](#). Or see photos of training on the new procedures from a few months ago. See those shots, from [morning training](#) and [afternoon training](#).



WWFR had training with RFD E8, E14, and R3 on this piece. Good training, and it looks like a good tool to boost water supply in the major working fires that seem to be popping up frequently. From what I could tell, and from talking to the officers, it seems like the way they'll be deploying this was well thought out and will benefit us and those we serve. It's not as cumbersome as it appears, and RFD is working on a little better labeling.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 05/09/11 - 09:44

Little Philly

10-4 - 05/10/11 - 17:41

Hey Duda, for us that don't know explain the way they deploy this unit.

911 - 05/10/11 - 20:58

Little Philly? Perhaps. But the Philadelphia FD knows a thing or two about fighting big fires. I think it would be ignorant not to learn from departments like that. It's a needed change not only for Raleigh, but for the entire county to consider where hydrants are located. This is a great example of how change can be a good thing.

Phillip - 05/11/11 - 06:41

911- While i'm not Duda, maybe I can explain how we are using the valve.

The hydrant assist valve (officially called the "Oasis" valve and made by TFT) is attached to the 5" and is mounted on the tailboard.

If we are fully staffed and have a good idea we are going to have a working fire (IE smoke column or multiple calls) prior to our arrival we are supposed to lay our own line in and charge it ourselves (laying in wet).

If we are short staffed we can stop, wrap the hydrant, and lay in dry. The second due engine will stop at the hydrant and finish the connection.

If there is no visible fire or smoke, we can proceed in without laying a line and if we need to upgrade to a working fire the second due will lay in wet, or reverse lay.

Once the 5" is charged, another engine (usually the second due) will attach a 5" from the discharge side of the valve to their 5" intake. Another 5" is attached from the 5" discharge of the engine to the intake side of the valve. Then there is a crank handle on the hydrant assist valve that is opened to charge the 5" going to the "boost" engine. Once the boost engine has water they can boost pressure to the pumping engine.

Clear as mud?

firedriver - 05/11/11 - 17:20

It sure is. At my department we lay in using the first due, or should I say try to. Considering on smoke column or multiple calls or the Battalion arriving first. We have three stations but they are so far away from each other and traffic is so bad you almost can't depend on them to get your water supply in a timely fashion. We do run with 1000 and 750 gallons on our engines so you have a little more time than you guys in Raleigh. Sounds like a nice peice of equipment. I was talking to a RFD luitenant the other day who refered to the oasis valve as being the "water maker". I thought that was funny.

911 - 05/11/11 - 21:27

Digging up an old thread here.....We're looking at hydrant assist valves at the volunteers. Is there any specific reason why the TFT version was chosen over other brands like Humat or Akron? We have a poor water system in some parts and no consistent response times of if/when the 2nd due will show up. Thought is the first due can have a continuous water supply, and when the 2nd due shows up they can boost if needed and all they have to do is hook up to the valve. This way we don't have to shut down the hydrant to cut a pumper in. I too prefer the pumper over the valve, but with no consistent response times in the volunteer fd, I feel much better having the first due catch their own hydrant.

This is an assumption on my part having never used one and trying to learn more about the possibilities/advantages of the valve, but could this valve speed up the amount of time it takes to supply water in a reverse lay? Reverse out, connect the valve/supply line to the hydrant, turn it on and THEN make the connections to boost pressure so there is at least water on the way while the boost connections are made? We don't have these valves at work and we seem to waste a lot of time at fires when we reverse out waiting on the pump operator to make all of his/her connections before water is sent. The 2nd due most all the time is the unit laying a line, and in the outlying areas the 1st due may be close to running out of water before the 2nd due even begins to reverse out, and then having to wait on all the connections to be made before we get water.

NotSo - 05/02/12 - 14:51

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Mystery Stream

05/08/11 38 W, 1 I - + 6 - 9

Okay, let's see if the chump can stump his readers with this one. Major working fire somewhere, sometime in Raleigh. And within the last decade, though that clue is probably not needed, knowing this crowd.



Penmark

Rob Mitchell - 05/08/11 - 05:47

Damn. 20 minutes.

Need to adjust the time zone, too. It's not that early here!

Legeros - 05/08/11 - 05:50

How? its correct on the computer screen

Rob Mitchell - 05/08/11 - 18:40

Observe the 5:47 a.m. timestamp on your comment above.

Legeros - 05/08/11 - 19:52

Ahhhh, ye' old Seagrave. Hated to see her go...

Silver - 05/08/11 - 21:19

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Speaking of Oral Histories

05/09/11 121 W - + 4 - 7

Found this page from the Oral History Association, with guidance Doug Boyd Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky Libraries, on choosing and using digital and portable recording equipment. One great piece of advice is below, it's news to me. Though it shouldn't be, given the interfere I have observed with, say, VHF scanners and my BlackBerry. And by blogging about it, there's an even greater chance that I'll remember this piece of advice going forward!

Turn your cell phone off during an interview. A cell phone in vibrate mode may not ring, but cellular phones periodically "handshake" with the local tower. This signal can often interfere with recorders printing unwanted noise on the recording.

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

Comment:

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Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter, Special Edition - The Tornado

05/09/11 85 W, 2 I - + 12 - 4

A special edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to raleighfirenews.org. The eight-page issue features stories, photos, and other information about the April 16 tornado. Department historian Mike Legeros conducted interviews and compiled submitted stories from personnel. Other contributors include FireNews Editor-in-Chief Jeff Harkey, who created a nifty map showing storm damage. [Read the issue](#) , or click below to access. The newsletter is an otherwise quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens.



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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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Smoke From Dare Wildire Reaches Raleigh

05/11/11 104 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

[The News & Observer notes this morning](#) that the smoke from a 21,000-acre wildfire in Dare County has reached Raleigh. Of course, anyone who was outside yesterday morning has smelled the thing. Like a cross between burning wood and burning plastic. And with sniffers reporting smells all around Raleigh and Wake County via Facebook. Betcha more than a few odor investigations are being run by departments between here and the coast! The Associated Press wrote the story, the *Virginian-Pilot* published the below photo by Bill Tiernan, that appears on the *Observer's* web site.



Bill Tiernan / Virginian-Pilot photo

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

Remember personal info?
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Comment:

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School Bus Burns in Edgecombe County

05/11/11 49 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Here's something you don't see every day, a fully-involved school bus. That happened this morning on West Logsboro Road in Edgecombe County. The driver and 39 students aboard safely evacuated. The fire started inside an air-conditioning unit. [Read the WTVD story.](#)



WTVD photo

Wait, the fire started where? Buses have a/c now?

RescueRanger - 05/11/11 - 20:55

Not a good day for the NC school system. We had a school bus roll this evening in JoCo. Luckily there were no kids aboard nor the driver hurt. More or less waiting for SHP and traffic control.

911 - 05/11/11 - 21:32

Kudos go out big-time to the kids that told the driver, and to the driver for her quick thinking and ability to stay calm enough to get 39 children off the bus without further incident or injury.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 05/15/11 - 00:30

looks like a good training prop at Sherman Harris (sorry Tramp could not resist)

Rob Mitchell - 05/15/11 - 10:27

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Vehicles in Buildings

05/12/11 118 W - + 9 - 5

Does it seem like calls are on the rise for vehicles into buildings? Or have they always been happening at a rate of a couple a week around here? There were two in Raleigh yesterday. [WRAL is reporting](#) on sport utility vehicle struck an apartment building on Burgundy Street. No injuries, even to the driver, who exited the vehicle prior to the collision. Also early yesterday evening, a vehicle struck a commercial building on New Falls of Neuse Road. The Falls Fire Department responded to that one, and it brought Raleigh Car 40 and city building inspectors to the scene. Haven't found any news coverage on that one. Unknown if either driver blew the horn first.

I heard Wake Forest get dispatched to a car vs. a building last friday.

911 - 05/12/11 - 17:51

Down here in New Bern we have had a few lately here is a article from one a few weeks ago with a few good picks <http://www.newbernsj.com/news/car-96944-..> better check your pizza for glass shards LOL

nbfrvollie - 05/13/11 - 06:30

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Yes

No

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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.

Yesterday's Bus Accident / Morgan Street

05/13/11 103 W, 1 I - + 6 - 8

[Photographer Lee Wilson has posted photos](#) of yesterday's early evening bus accident on Morgan and Harrington streets, where a CAT bus and passenger car apparently collided at the intersection, followed by the bus striking three parked cars. Engine 13, Ladder 4, EMS 1, EMS 13, District 1, and District 2 were on scene. The other fire and EMS units were canceled. Trying to remember, a bus accidents get how many EMS resources? Three ambulances, two District Chiefs, one APP, and Truck 1? First Alarm dispatch, I believe. [We blogged about that before](#). As for the bus accident, there were no injuries.



Lee Wilson photo

4 ambulances and 2 DC's
mike your slipping! - 05/13/11 - 07:31

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

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Different Sides of the Story

05/13/11 171 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

The morning news brings reports of a road closure in Raleigh: New Hope Road and Fawn Glen Drive. Something about a vehicle accident and a gunshot wound and the investigation therein. Depending upon the news site, you'll read some different sides to the story. [WTVD is leading with the accident itself](#), with an allegedly intoxicated driver and a passenger who may have had a gunshot wound to the head. [WRAL is leading with the story](#) of someone seeking help after the accident, who was apparently mistaken for a burglar after going to a nearby house for help. Says the homeowner, the person kicked in their door! [NBC 17 is also leading](#) with the "getting help" aspect of the narrative, but adds that police say the homeowners tried to chase down the driver and the passenger! Couple lessons to learn there, the least of which suggests that kicking down doors might add to injuries experienced in any accidents you are trying to report.



WTVD photo

Name: (real name preferred)
 E-mail: (optional)
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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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More History of Raleigh Fire Department Dispatching

05/13/11 460 W - + 12 - 4

[Continuing some history](#) of how dispatching worked in the Raleigh Fire Department, here's how things worked in the early 1950s, prior to the installation of radios in 1955. This information is based on interviews with retiree firefighters, at their monthly breakfast at Pam's Restaurant.

Box Alarm

1. Rings at all fire stations.
2. Station bell rings with box number.
3. Repeated four times.
4. Punch tape records box number. Work even when power's out.
5. Captain goes to box containing run cards located beside/underneath punch tape. Confirms street address of box number, even if he knows it by heart. Drivers and others would memorize some/many box number locations.
6. Rest of company gets dressed/gets on truck.
7. For companies not responding, they stay ready/on truck/awake for 15 minutes. If it's night, they can go back to bed after 15 minutes. When did this tradition cease? TBD.
8. When returning companies/last company has returned to the station AND is back in service, three bells are rung at all fire stations.
9. If at night, all companies must get up and go to the truck, in case the signal was a mistake and really meant two bells.

Telephone Alarm

1. Rings at all fire stations.
2. Station bell rings with two bells.
3. Presumably repeated, probably four times.
4. Captain goes to watch room/dispatcher telephone, and picks up phone. Dispatcher tells street address and any additional details.
5. Continue with step #6 above.

After Radios / After 1955

- When a company/last company returned to service, they could radio that status, and the dispatcher would signal the three bells to all stations.
- Speakers were added to the fire stations at a later time for communicating dispatches, with bad/scratchy audio quality. This replaced the telephone that Captains used, for the "two bell" alarms.
- Box alarms were discontinued in 1973, with removal of alarm boxes.
- Telephone alarm boxes (ERT) were installed at some point after the alarm boxes.

Radio Notes

- Mobile radios installed on all apparatus with base station at Station 1 in 1955.
- Base stations installed in all fire stations in 1957.
- Were mobile units installed on all apparatus at same time? Need to check.
- Raleigh FD dispatching county fire departments starts in 1958.

Station 1 Coverage

- When Station 1 companies (engines only?) are dispatched, Engine 4 responds to Station 1 with lights and siren.
- This continued for ten years (!) after the installation of radios.
- Quite embarrassing, recall retiree firefighters, thinking of possible reactions by citizens

Dispatcher Notes

- [See this blog posting](#), with more dispatching history.
- On nights and weekends, the FD switchboard took emergency calls for other city departments, such as public utilities.

- The alarm house had a garage on the first floor. Retirees don't remember the garage used for storage of any fire department vehicle, at least circa 1950s and later.

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This Morning's Haz-Mat Incident / Highway 50

05/13/11 157 W, 2 I - + 5 - 4

Chemicals burning in a trash truck at Highway 50 and Ten-Ten Road. Reported about 11:00 a.m. The two workers aboard the Waste Industries truck reported feeling ill. One was transported to WakeMed, after feeling a burning sensation in the back of his throat. One of the EMS workers who transported the patient also developed similiar symptoms, and was also treated at the hospital. No names or conditions have been released. Traffic was diverted from the area. One home was evacuated. The truck was subsequently moved to a different location, so the contents could be better examined. Garner and Raleigh units were on scene, including North Carolina Haz-Mat Regional Response Team 4. That's Haz-Mat 2, from Station 15. The cause of the fire has not been determined. Crews checked the contents and found cans of insecticide. Readers can perhaps expand the narrative. Sources: [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#), [News & Observer](#).



WTVD photo



WRAL photo

Name: (real name preferred)
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Durham Firefighters Training at Station 2

05/14/11 40 W - + 8 - 2

[Here's a neat WTVD video story](#) about a 750 square-foot simulator that Durham firefighters built in the basement of Station 2. They constructed the thing six months ago and with their money. Includes a smoke machine!

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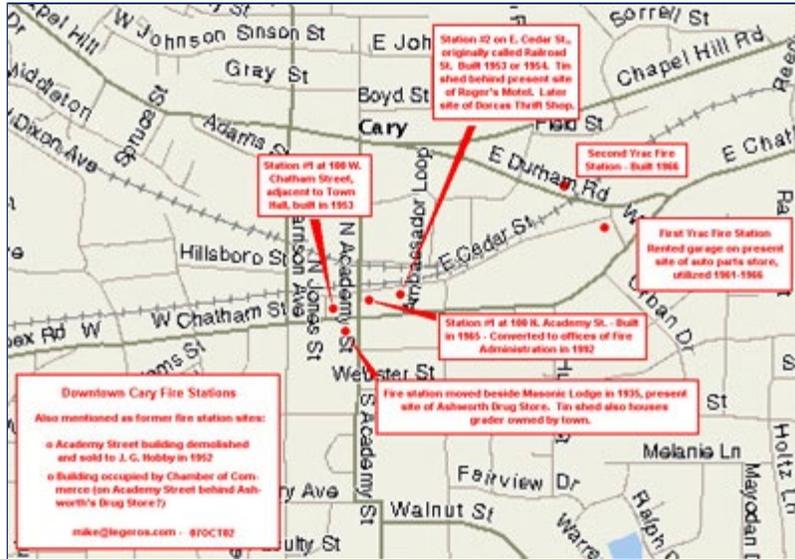
([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Downtown Cary Fire Stations

05/14/11 65 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

Has a decade really passed since I started researching my *Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting* books? One of the pieces of that puzzle was understanding the history of the Cary Fire Department. Made this map in 2002 to help myself understand the different locations of the town's first fire stations. Been years since I last reviewed those materials. Click to enlarge:



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Car Hits Pole, Pole Hits Car

05/14/11 66 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Here's an interesting accident scene from this afternoon. Six Forks Road at Ramblewood Drive. Vehicle exiting the Beltline struck a utility pole, which split and struck a passing vehicle on Six Forks. One injury in the first car, minor. Engine 9 and EMS 36 (?) on scene. And some crazy guy in a wheelchair, and taking pictures, no less! Click to enlarge:



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District 4

05/14/11 42 W, 1 I - + 13 - 5

This is a vehicle that District 4 is operating, since Six Forks EMS ceased operation on May 3. The Wake County EMS Dodge Durango SUV replaced the Six Forks EMS Dodge Ram pick-up with camper shell.



So now that some of the dust has settled a little, how many Six Forks employees/volunteers have landed with Wake EMS? Or is it still too early to know for sure how many people the County took on?

Buckwheat - 05/15/11 - 15:30

Who is staffing DC4 now? Did the Six Forks DC's transfer over as County DC's?

Curious - 05/15/11 - 17:34

Can't give you a number, but it is a bunch, and growing every day. Many are in various stages of "on-boarding" – I9 documentation, background checks, all that stuff.

Several of the guys who were DCs at Six Forks are now DCs with the county.

CH100 - 05/15/11 - 18:32

Same can be said of the pending transfer from Apex. WCEMS has been a class act on their end.

DJ - 05/15/11 - 21:52

Not everyone was so lucky, I'm not sure how many, if any, others got stuck, but I'm one of the orphaned. I had just gotten my schedule ironed out to get back on a truck with better regularity, but I never saw this coming. I had two good months in the last six, and was sitting down to work out a May schedule on the 5th.

I've been told that those that didn't meet the standard to transfer can reapply for the next open academy... whenever the county is off its hiring freeze I guess. Then if I really want to stay with EMS I will have to quit the job that supports my family so I can take the academy, to start over learning about the system I've already been a part of at SFEMS. I'd volunteer if they had the mechanism in place. It's frustrating, I had a lot of hope when I went through that orientation, and then to be just dropped. I'm not sure what to do next, I'm not even sure what will happen to all of my CMEs.

For my friends and former colleagues that depended on SFEMS for their living, I'm relieved that things have gone this well for you. I wish you all the best, and good luck! And DJ, I will never forget that long hike in the woods last year!

PJ - 05/16/11 - 00:47

That was a long hike. And the moral of that story is always be nice to your patient. You never know which hospital's CEO that their child is the administrative assistant for!

DJ - 05/16/11 - 16:56

Think I know that story, too!

Legeros - 05/16/11 - 17:01

Anyone know if that Ram is going to be up for auction???

Silver - 05/16/11 - 20:59

There are two of them. One is a base model, the other upgraded. DC4 usually ran the base model, but for a while the upgraded unit (usually 1200) was used. The difference in driving and riding was night and day! The upgraded one has the aluminum wheels and cloth seats.

DJ - 05/16/11 - 22:05

Definitely the upgraded one, nice truck....they going up for auction?

Silver - 05/16/11 - 22:16

I haven't heard. I would think so, one or both.

DJ - 05/16/11 - 23:28

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Morning Fires

05/15/11 162 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Starting Sunday morning with a pair of house fires and both inside the Beltline. Very different neighborhoods, however, and very different reactions by the neighbors. First one about 7:00 a.m. Duplex on Cumberland Street. Fire in back bedroom. Engine 3 first on scene. One resident transported. Second one about two hours later. Duplex on Farrior Road. Engine 14 arriving. Fire in hallway, quickly extinguished. Two cats rescued and treated, with one surviving. Yours Truly arrived "late" for both.

The former was a cross-town ride, the latter was considerably closer. Delayed response due to consulting maps. Farrior as spoken by Locution sounds quite a bit like Sawyer, which isn't remotely near the more easily understood cross-streets of Nottingham and Dixie Trail. Took a lot of after-the-fact photos at both scenes. There's still plenty to shoot after the fire is out and the smoke is clearing. Salvage and overhaul. Hose repacking. Investigators. Neighbors. Helps paint the complete picture. Click to enlarge:



I'm intrigued by the "different reactions by neighbors" comment. What happened?

rfburns - 05/15/11 - 15:09

Nothing out of the ordinary, per se. Neighbors on the south side seemed considerably less fazed about a fire on their block, than those on Farrior.

Legeros - 05/15/11 - 15:23

Gotcha. Yeah, that neighborhood is much more used to emergency vehicles in general. Also, the tornado last month came within a few blocks of that street, so a small contained house fire may seem like nothing compared to that.

rfburns - 05/15/11 - 15:27

Add in a long vehicle pursuit involving Raleigh PD and NCSHP this AM was pretty active on the radios. For the record: The pursuit was stopped by a successful PIT Maneuver performed by SHP Troopers.

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/15/11 - 15:46

they're all on crack at the 1st hood and probably had no clue what was happening.

lee - 05/15/11 - 17:39

Well, there's that perspective as well...

Legeros - 05/15/11 - 17:52

@Lee... Uh, WTF?

Eric - 05/16/11 - 09:46

One transported from the first fire as well by EMS

ncnjems ([Email](#)) - 05/16/11 - 20:16

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Mystery Construction

05/15/11 48 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

What's this thing being built at the corner of Cumberland and Tipton, just up the road from this morning's fire? Three bays, three entrances, and a concrete wheelchair ramp. Public building of some sort? House of worship? Funeral home?



Looks like this one's going to be a... taxi company. Thanks Tim, for that info.

Legeros - 05/22/11 - 14:14

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Abandoned Mobile Home Park

05/15/11 12:1 W, 1 I - + 11 - 0

Guess it's been a while since Yours Truly traveled across the river on Buffalo Road. The mobile home park that was right there on the left is no longer right there on the left! The roads are still present, and a mail building is still standing. There's fencing on the Buffalo Road side, and presumably around the entire property. Have heard a residential development was planned for the 48-acre space. Tax records say the thing closed in June 2010, but it sounds like it was some years earlier. [See more photos](#), plus some aerial shots from Wake County. It's also worth a look [using Bing Maps](#) and their bird's eye view.



Mike, I love the "spelunking" missions you take. Reminds me of the trips into the woods when I was a young lad with my buddies, lurking through abandoned farm houses and stuff. If you ever want a tag-along, I'm in!!

Silver - 05/16/11 - 21:07

Get enough people and we can rent a bus. The Legeros Reality Tour.

Legeros - 05/16/11 - 21:38

I lived in Riverwalk for quite a few years. Never the greatest place.

Jake T. - 05/18/11 - 14:21

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

FireNews Feature About April 16 Tornado Incident Commanders

05/16/11 156 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

[FireNews](#) Editor-in-Chief Jeff Harkey has been interviewing incident commanders about the events of April 16, when a series of tornadoes struck central and eastern North Carolina. The feature is titled *At the Command Post*. The latest edition interviews Wake County EMS Chief for Operations Jon Olson. He was the initial incident commander at Stonybrook Mobile Home Park in Raleigh. The mobile home park was one of the major damage sites in the Capitol City, and the only location with fatalities.

[Read the feature](#), which includes photos from Mike Legeros and a couple video clips of the storm passing through Raleigh. Plus there's a look back at the 1988 tornado, with ol' Charlie Gaddy in a clip from WRAL. And Yours Truly was wandering around that particular command post that morning, agog at the mass of responders and emergency vehicles at Townridge Shopping Center.



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Wake County 2012 Recommended Budget

05/17/11 157 W - + 7 - 9

The county manager yesterday presented his 2012 recommended budget, as assorted media outlets are reporting. The budget document and a mess of related materials-- budget message, budget presentation, budget PowerPoint slides, etc.-- are [available on www.wakegov.com](http://www.wakegov.com). Haven't done an in-depth analysis of the fire and EMS sections just yet. Readers are welcome to contribute perspectives.

On the fire side, the budget recommendations from the Fire Commission were approved at a meeting on May 5. [Read a blog posting](#) with that summary. Had prior engagement that evening, so didn't attend. Have however listened to an audio recording. The Bay Leaf Station 1 replacement was a point of discussion, in a matter involving how the Fire Commission Budget Commission conducted the vote. Thus that project appears still on the table but not part of what was recommended, and thus remains listed in the long-range capital plans in the above budget document. Clear as mud?

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Please Turn Up The House Lights

05/17/11 90 W - + 10 - 7

Humble request for event planners. Consider raising the house lights. Make it a bit brighter. Or maybe a lot brighter The greater the light, the better the photos that all of those family members are taking. Not everyone has high-speed cameras or knows how to take good low-light shots. Heck, even the "pros" in Hawaiian shirts aren't always happy with their results. That darker ambiance looks cool, sure, but it's sure tough on picture-making. Humbly submitted for your consideration. Refute as desired.

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

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Out of Chaos Comes Order

05/17/11 65 W - + 4 - 9

Here's a heck of a good fire video as [found by Dave Statter on Statter911](#). Apartment fire in Geneva, NY. Combination department(s), with firefighters first arriving in personal vehicles. You can watch it here, but you'll want to go to Dave's site for reader commentary. His site's one of the best for responses and reactions to fire footage.

My favorite part is the guy running around yelling the "F" word while trying to tell people to get out. That screamed professionalism.

Marcus - 05/17/11 - 21:57

That's actually a pretty good question, Marcus. Is profanity toward citizens (or peers) in such circumstances universally unprofessional? Or is there/should there be leeway in the heat of such moments?

Legeros - 05/17/11 - 22:20

All and all watching this video, the fire got put out pretty quick once the trucks arrived on scene. That begs the question however, if everyone goes to the scene, who brings the trucks?

My biggest problem in the video is the PASS alarm activating for 4+ minutes and was still activated at the end. That is supposed to be a firefighter down!!! If we get complacent, then someone dies... Just that simple. Treat each PASS activation as a firefighter down, and if it is a pack left unattended, TURN IT OFF!!!

Language in the heat of the moment directed at anybody is not accepted where I work. Do we make mistakes, sure. Think of it this way, if we can't control our language in the heat of the moment, then how can we control the scene?

My two cents...

Donaldson - 05/17/11 - 23:10

The language question then makes me think about law enforcement. Cursing is probably taught as a technique for establishing dominance in confrontational situations. Or at least, that's how I start thinking until I realize... most of my perceptions of "what happens in those situations" comes from popular culture!

Legeros - 05/18/11 - 06:51

No, cursing is definitely not taught in law enforcement (at least not in the academy). The current chief gets very upset about any cussing, anywhere, anytime.

However, you quickly learn on the street some people simply don't respond to normal language and don't listen to tone of voice. With some people, you have to include an F-bomb to say "I'm not just asking politely, that's an order!" It's kind of like using your kid's middle name.

Besides, isn't the F-word in New York the equivalent of "heck" here?

rfburns - 05/18/11 - 07:23

In my opinion, there is a little too much confusion happening here. You cannot tell me that there is any type of true accountability system happening, as I saw several people engage without even forming crews or giving tags to an accountability officer. (Maybe it all happened off screen?) There will be people that say that accountability is a waste of time and the fire went out, etc. but accountability when POV's are involved is a huge issue. How about getting the apparatus to the scene? If half of the people running around the parking lot had stopped at the firehouse, maybe a truck could have arrived to calm that guy down who was dropping the "f" bomb at old ladies! Good job getting ladders up and getting water on the fire after the arrival of the apparatus. There ladders would have gone up faster had they formed cohesive teams instead of freelancing like a lot of them were. The guy who superman's his shirt off and eventually dons just a turnout coat is my favorite character, after of course Johnny "F-Bomb"! While the end result was good, the means to get there could use a little tuning in the realm of safety. I have been on a volunteer department, and have POV'ed myself; accountability must be enforced for the safety of your people, no matter how bad they want to instantaneously "help". Your help is wasted when you die and we didn't realize you ran into that building by yourself, freaking out like it was your first call. While you must move efficiently, that does not mean spastically.

Bob P. - 05/18/11 - 09:16

I need to edit my post... "There" should be "Their"... I hate it when people do that!

Bob P.'s Editor - 05/18/11 - 09:25

Marcus hit on the head. Why the F-Bomb? That never puts the fire out, it's doesnt save lives or curb violence or stop crime. You are just showing complete ignorance by running your mouth especially when there's an Emergency.

Oh and yeah...did anyone happen to see the guy in the red turn out coat helping pull a ladder with shorts on? See video at the 4:30 mark.

There is zero room for that in the hot zone of any major working incident.

The best place for that person is to be out of the way....I dont care who you are. You are not safe.

If you are gonna wear a coat or boots and or a helmet...get your pants on and take off those tennis shoes.

Police officers don't wear their weapon on a few and select calls. They wear it al the time. Thats their protection so why aren't we wearing our protection at a major incident? Especailly a working fire?

Monster Energy - 05/18/11 - 10:04

Bob is exactly correct and this video just reaffirms my prior statements about the differences between vollies and career. Yes, the minimum standard training is the same. However, the difference between the two comes from the consistent training and experience that the career side receives. Maybe now some of y'all will understand where I base my opinion.

RescueRanger - 05/18/11 - 10:07

<http://www.policeone.com/chiefs-sheriffs..>

This article reminded me of this blog entry. On the one side, you have officers being disciplined for using profanity. On the other side, you have the comments on the story almost overwhelmingly saying that you can't function on the street, dealing with the dark side of society, and not use language they understand.

Now, I'm not saying there was any reason for profanity in the fire situation that started this blog entry. I just think that sometimes, profanity is required to get through to the more difficult members of society.

rfburns - 05/26/11 - 22:45

Wake County EMS System Cardiac Arrest Save Ceremony / EMS Week

05/17/11 190 W - + 6 - 11

Tomorrow night is the annual Wake County EMS System Cardiac Arrest Save Ceremony. Held at Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts, the event starts at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18. The ceremony recognizes Wake County emergency responders and 57 cardiac arrest survivors during the calendar year 2010.

This year's guest speaker in North Carolina State University student Spencer Shell along with his family. Spencer suffered cardiac arrest while jogging on the NCSU campus last fall. [Read that story from a prior posting.](#) To help celebrate his survival, a vocal group from the college will perform "Acappology."

The ceremony is also one of a number of events recognizing National EMS Week, which concludes with EMS Day in Raleigh on Saturday, May 21. The event is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Kroger Grocery Store parking lot, 1610 Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard, in downtown Raleigh. Residents are invited to meet paramedics, tour ambulances, and participate in health screenings. Heck, you might even meet one or more members of the crack Wake County EMS Photo Unit!

My husband is one of those that will be there tonight as he is a Cardiac Arrest Survivor. On December 12, 2010 while at our local Food Lion in Wendell, he was standing in the checkout line when he went into cardiac arrest. Just as this happened one of the paramedics from the Fire Station right down the street happened to come into the store on a food run we believe. Talk about being in the right place at the right time. This saved my husband from not only death, but also from severe brain damage. We are so proud and thankful for all the paramedics and the Fireman that go above and beyond in there service to the communities where they serve. I can't say enough about them. We are so very grateful that they were there to save my husband's life. Thank you...Bruce and Pamela Hay & family

Pamela Hay ([Email](#)) - 05/18/11 - 16:03

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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.

Red Car, Green Car

05/18/11 73 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Durham Highway firefighter directs traffic in the 6700 block of Ebenezer Church Road, where a tree decided that it didn't like a power line. This one brought a trifecta of dispatched departments: Durham Highway, Western Wake, and Raleigh. Yours Truly raced to the scene, eager to provide comprehensive coverage of exciting but lesser-known duties of the modern firefighter. No call is too small for Camera Guy. Click to enlarge:



3 engines for a tree on some power lines. Really? Please tell us that the first due engine cancelled the other 2 once they got there.

Mike - 05/19/11 - 09:34

Original dispatch was WWE191, RFE17, DHR5.

It's one of those unique areas where it's WW's response area, DH's Insurance area and RF's closest unit area. And from the looks of the pictures and the report DH's Engine was first on scene, assessed the situation and released the WW and RF units.

shevais - 05/19/11 - 10:57

After looking at the pictures I have a few questions for everyone:

Do you respond routine or emergency traffic for calls of this nature?

How do you position your apparatus at incidents involving power lines?

In my opinion, an incident of this type does not warrant an emergency response. I think that you should park a little farther away than the apparatus in the picture. Why did DH respond because it was their insurance area? Were they dispatched or did they "jump" it? Seems like a gigantic waste of my tax money in general. If it is WW's response area then they should respond, as insurance rating is not effected by "trees down on a power line" calls.

D. Advocate - 05/19/11 - 13:39

@ D.Advocate... some of your answers have been already given. The dispatch was WWE191, RFE17, DHR5. The only reason DH was dispatched is because WWR295 is out of service. The response to an FEWD call in WW's response area is 1-E, 1-R. In this area you also get 1-AA (RFE17). I'm sure DHE4 added to the call seeing as they may have been closer and able to respond quicker. And yes, I do as our policy states, respond emergency traffic to this type of incident. For nothing else but to be able to identify the potential hazard to the motoring or cycling citizens and make them aware of the problem and try to prevent further issues with the hazard. I cannot attest to the parking of the

driver in the picture. They parked where they felt the need to park. But yes, I try to park a bit further out from the down wires if possible.

As for it being a gigantic waste of "your" tax dollars, all it cost was the fuel to put these trucks on the road, and I'm sure your part of that fuel cost was a significantly small portion of your \$.08/\$100 fire tax on the value of your property.

shevais - 05/19/11 - 14:18

But does a tree on power line qualify as a "true emergency" in the courts eyes. Say you went through a stoplight running hot to this and injured someone what would be the courts response to this as a "true emergency".

Another D. Advocate - 05/19/11 - 15:57

@Another Advocate, as long as the apparatus driver could prove that they were driving according to the law and SOP I doubt that a scenario like the one you describe would even make it to court. However, I can definitely see a department having to explain to a jury why they were sitting in traffic when a civilian injured themselves at a scene that had already been reported to the authorities.

Eric - 05/19/11 - 16:41

If that is the case then do you run all calls hot. Like a CO alarm is it a hot or cold response, or a EMS call when information relayed to you by EMD lets you know it is not life threatening and that the few minutes of safe response cold will not make any difference in the outcome of the call. i know we can "what if" this all day long going back and forth. I think trees down or lines down are not warranted to be hot responses.

Another D. Advocate - 05/19/11 - 19:57

I think that there can certainly be a fair debate about what should be considered an "emergency"; in my opinion, any incident that could endanger life is an emergency until an authority arrives on scene and confirms that it is not. To use your example, I do think that a CO alarm in a residence (especially at night) is an emergency. Also, I think that running "hot" doesn't necessarily mean that a response is unsafe. That distracted driver who drives through an intersection and hits the big red truck with flashing lights and loud sirens could just as easily drive through a red light into moving traffic.

Eric - 05/19/11 - 20:42

Hot responses may cause erratic responses from other vehicles whether they hit another vehicle, drive off the road or simply slam on the brakes and get rear ended by someone else. For that reason alone I would say hot responses equate to LESS safe responses, I wouldn't necessarily say unsafe. Risk assessment can be very subjective but I think its fair to say that hot responses are less safe than cold responses.

Joey - 05/19/11 - 20:54

Since I was on the call maybe I can provide some insight. What Shevais said about our SOP at WW is correct, and the response area vs. district is also correct. All 3 departments responded emergency traffic. We met E-17 at Duraleigh and Ebenezer Church and yielded the R.O.W. to them, all 3 departments arrived simultaneously (DHFDF beat us all by about 20 seconds.) DHFDF also took the call and advised us on 191 and E-17 to clear (thanks guys!). As for hot/cold responses; we are all learning more through research, statistics, and near-misses now than ever before about the dangers associated with responding to and returning from calls- best practice is to stay alert, wear the belt, and exercise due regard. From what I understand there is consideration here in WC for a Fire-EMD style dispatch where the 911 call-taker can ask key questions to get the appropriate info that will ultimately help determine if a hot response is warranted (ECC jump in at ANY time). Ultimately it's up to "the powers that be" in our agencies to determine what we run hot and cold to, and whatever guideline or policy they implement we will follow... as we at WWFR did on this call. As for officer discretion there is no doubt in my mind that my Chief, and others I know in this county for that matter, would support the 2nd or 3rd in truck on a lower priority call such as this one "cutting back routine" once another unit has arrived on scene- just advise that unit that you're cutting back.

No doubt a tree down or wires down is often viewed as low priority, but back to Shevais' consideration for the pedestrian, child playing, or bicyclist who may come into contact with the wire. Or the car that rounds the bend on this very curvy road and strikes the down tree, and now we have the potential for a P.I. wreck- been on a few of those calls too. We dont know what we are going to, so get someone there to assess and restrict access to the scene. For those of you who want to talk risk assessment consider those scenarios, and given the fact that you dont know if the wire is down and arcing in a populated area, or the tree is blocking the road and causing an mvc hazard- can you really make a picture-perfect and risk-free decsion? NO. So for now, Im gonna keep running hot if I'm the only one dispatched, and cut back if im the 2nd or 3rd in once the first due has arrived...until my bosses tell me to do otherwise.

J.Boggs - 05/19/11 - 22:03

I can't believe some of you are arguing about this. Ask your self if this call constitutes an emergency if one of the power lines snap with the weight and splits your little kid or wife in two. Like it has been said, first in (PD or FIRE) can cut the other trucks back.

your kid - 05/20/11 - 00:59

Very well put Shev and Jason. Sounds like the 2 advocates are the same 2 that would be pissed for having to pull over to let a fire truck pass to go to their own house burning with their kids trapped inside. Maybe the same ones that would complain about the weather being to cold and then complaining about how hot it is.

JoCo already dispatches calls as a Code 1 (non-emergency) or Code 3 (Haul @\$\$). Its ultimately left up to the Departments officers on responding code 1 or code 3 but atleast dispatch puts that information out there for us.

The way I look at this is, if someone felt the need to call 911 for an emergency situation then there must be an emergency. Get there, size it up, and handle business!

TTaylor - 05/20/11 - 11:36

It really is darn near impossible to have a rational discussion with some of you people. The two Devil's advocates are simply saying that, in their opinion, a call for lines down does not justify an emergency response. Somehow it has been twisted by a couple of you to mean that they would not want a hot response if someone were struck by a telephone pole and "split in two" and that they are the same kind of people who would be upset by a speeding truck traveling to their own house. Perhaps this is why public safety has an image problem in many places, instead of having a discussion (which I will say a couple people here TRIED to do) it often results in over generalizations and insults to people who simply wonder if flying down the road with lights and sirens is always necessary.

I'd have to disagree with that if someone calls 911 there must be an emergency. EMS has run the alpha call system for a while and it has prevented emergency responses to many calls types that simply don't need them. Someone called 911 for a lift assist, does that mean it should be a hot response until the first unit arrives? Same thing applies with the FD, if the caller says there are lines down but no vehicles or people involved, do think it is necessary to have a emergency response every time that happens?

Personally, I'm not pissed when I have to pull over for a firetruck going emergency traffic, I'd give them the benefit of the doubt they are going to a true emergency. I do however have a problem with public safety personnel driving like crazy people when they aren't running calls. Like the Western Wake people (I think it was the rescue, it was going so fast I didn't want to catch up and just saw the rear) I saw leaving Bojangles on East Chatham last week going 15 over and tailgating.

Joey - 05/20/11 - 14:27

The way I look at it is, if they were the Chief or whomever then they can make the decision. Until then they need to worry about their job and not ours.

911 - 05/20/11 - 15:40

"Personally, I'm not pissed when I have to pull over for a firetruck going emergency traffic, I'd give them the benefit of the doubt they are going to a true emergency."

Thats great, then we probably dont have to worry about you picking up a downed power line or crashing your car into a tree thats down in the roadway. Its those other people who we worry about. With that being said, a quicker response to remove a hazard or to protect the folks from such hazard would justify a hot response.

When folks get to talking about wasted tax dollars, thats where it pisses me off. For 1 we dont get paid enough to do what we do, none of us are in it for the money but it would be nice not to work 2 or more jobs to support our families. If the comment wouldve been left out, then i probably wouldve never jumped in.

As for the "speeding tailgater" you shouldve flipped on your blue lights and issued a citizens citation. Emergency Service Personel arent perfect, we all make mistakes. If everyone was perfect the need for us wouldnt exist. Just keep that in mind the next time you are making a right hand turn and oncoming traffic forgets to use their blinker and you curse them as you look down and realize your blinker isnt on either!

TTaylor - 05/20/11 - 16:07

Joey, I invite you to call the fire chief of Western Wake and give a time and date of when and where you saw this action and the appropriate actions will be taken I can promise that.

Or better yet send me an email and I will see that it gets handled. That is not acceptable by our organizational standards and will be handled.

shevais ([Email](#)) - 05/20/11 - 18:18

One more thing... I'm all for coding or categorizing calls, but let's face the fact that in Wake County we are often "locutioned and forgot about."

We get a nature of the call and an address. Very rarely do we get additional information, or we get information that only comes out on the rip-n-run but not over the alpha pagers, as happened to a call I was on last week. Typically in this system we have to have a wait and see mentality with calls, where we have to wait until we get there and see what we have/need. I am ALL for additional information given on calls to allow the company officers to make good decisions on how to respond to calls. It's one of the downsides of the way our system operates, and the downfall of staffing shortages in our very busy comms center.

shevais - 05/20/11 - 18:23

@Shev- I know that you guys seldom get any updates, while we get them sometimes on the MDT. I usually try to update everyone, although now in Apex they have MDTs and are getting the same stuff we are. The sad part is that I have been called down a couple of times for 'excess radio traffic'. No matter, I'll do it anyway. I would rather, though, that RW911 go back and provide verbal updates. I know they are busy, but a lot of times we are driving emergency traffic and trying to look out for the actions of the motoring public, and having to hit the update button to get the updated info takes our eyes off of traffic. Sure, we can slow down (I am all for that) but people just plain out do stupid stuff when sirens come around. And there are the times that the MDT will update multiple times with the same info. Oh well, it is what it is. I will try and remember to start updating you guys outside of Apex when I am running with you, since after all, information is power!

DJ - 05/20/11 - 19:03

Joey you are a Mutt.

Concerned Brother - 05/20/11 - 21:14

To the comment regarding a "fire emd" – well it is out there. It's actually called EFD and RWECC has been receiving the training over the last few weeks. EFD is a great protocol system and prompts the telecommunicator to ask questions that sometimes they may not think about (Placard #, direction the spill/hazmat is flowing, how many stories in a structure, etc). We have used EFD for a number of years in Johnston County and the policy is to relay ALL pertinent information on the initial dispatch (which would be problematic for locution.) On initial dispatch we advise, "caller reporting oven fire, already extinguished" or "smell of smoke in the upstairs bedroom," etc. Anytime new or updated information is received it is also to go out over the air (even though they may have an MDT) so that all responders hear the updates. Alpha calls are dispatched as cold responses, but based on the additional information provided, the company/chief officer has the right to alter the response level of their agency/company.

JoCo911 - 05/21/11 - 00:03

The problem is that Fire Departments can't get over the "that was our district" mentality. If Engine 17 is closest, let them have the run. Who cares. I know many of the departments in Wake Co., including some of the listed in this article are full out that mentality. Its 2011. Get over yourselves.

Old Timer - 05/21/11 - 10:58

Wait a minute, Old Timer. In the case described above, where closest unit meets insurance district meets response district, I am pretty sure there are policy requirements that compel the units to continue their response. With policies derived from legal requirements that the department responds, no?

Or do dispatched units/departments have way more leeway to decline or let the other dispatched departments handle?

Legeros - 05/21/11 - 11:40

Insurance ratings only apply to Structural Responses. There are not tax districts, other than the City and County. Thus, the citizen will receive the service they pay tax for. I feel it is a waste of resources.

Old Timer - 05/21/11 - 13:22

For all those with legal concerns – try to find the law. I'm guessing that you won't be able to, because it probably doesn't exist. Unless you find a statute that says otherwise, the legal standard is the negligence standard – what would a reasonable person with the same or similar training do in similar circumstances? A reasonable person might conclude that an event that ordinarily gets a single unit response only needs a single unit response, no matter which side of a man-made line the incident fell upon.

SkipK - 05/21/11 - 14:18

@Old Timer... nobody ever said that anybody responded because it was 'their' ISO district. DHR5 was dispatched because it was the next closest Rescue truck, due to WW's Rescue being out of service. As for the Auto AId/Closest Unit, being RFE17, it works both ways, with the county going into the city and the city going into the county. CAD cannot differentiate between a FEWD or a FCODE or a FHOUSE when dealing with an AA unit. So you get one on every call. When the scene has been evaluated usually that AA unit can be cleared and return to their primary area of response. Ie RFE17 returning to service (as WWE191 did as well) and going back to serve the citizens of the City. Just as when

the county unit goes into the city, the municipality has a legal obligation to provide the service, which is why a county unit cannot cancel a city unit to a call within the city. That city unit can cut back, proceed and take the report.

Ultimately the closest unit philosophy has been put into place to provide the highest level of customer service to the citizens, regardless of where they might live. You get the closest resource to handle your issue, and the jurisdiction is sorted out later. Look at some history of calls in this county and you'll see times where this was not in place and was to the detriment of the customer. This is honestly a great stride that has been made in this county with agencies working together more seamlessly than has ever taken place. I can promise you that WW is not, nor ever has been of the "that was ours" mentality. We respond to all areas we are dispatched to, and which we can be of immediate assistance. Which in CAD terms means a calculated arrival time of 30 seconds or more ahead of the first due unit whose jurisdiction the call is in.

shevais - 05/21/11 - 17:13

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

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One Hundred

05/19/11 59 W, 1 I - + 7 - 7

Chief's car as parked at the Venue Formerly Known as Memorial Auditorium and for the occasion of the annual Wake County EMS System Cardiac Arrest Saves Ceremony. [See photos from the event](#) from Lee Wilson. [See photos of people arriving](#) at the event by Mike Legeros. Read [prior blog posting](#).



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Buy Holly Springs/Fuquay-Varina's Old Engine

05/19/11 61 W, 1 I - + 9 - 7

This 1984 E-One pumper is [being auctioned by GovDeals](#). Only 71,000 miles! Four days and some hours remaining. Served Fuquay-Varina and later Holly Springs fire departments. Thanks for sending, Matthew. Also, a question from the same reader. Where did Holly Springs' Kenworth/FMC pumper wind up? One of our readers certainly knows that answer.



GovDeals photo

Now that's a unit. Learned to pump off of that old jewel!!

911 - 05/19/11 - 22:58

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No

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Who's Blocking What?

05/19/11 80 W - + 8 - 6

This morning's morning reading is a posting on a technology-in-education web site, about [web site blocking and myths therein](#). Did you know, for example, that some schools block the National Geographic web site? It's an interesting article and with interesting links. And it brings to mind the fact that some readers of this blog are blocked from work access to legeros.com or flickr.com. What interesting or unusual site blocking is in effect where you work?

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Mystery Bridge, Revealed

05/21/11 29 W, 6 I - + 10 - 8

Somewhere in Raleigh. Short in height and length. Concrete over wooden beams! How old does that make the thing? To be determined. Click to enlarge:



This is NOT the bridge on Fayetteville Road at Wilmington Street, by the old water plant. Think that bridge is gone, though the concrete base is there there.

Legeros - 05/20/11 - 07:07

Carolina Pines at Granite Street?

pearce - 05/20/11 - 12:06

Looks similar to the Falls of Neuse Road bridge!

Falling In - 05/21/11 - 10:53

We have a winner! That's indeed just about across the street from Station 2. Added a 1959 map excerpt above. The bridge isn't but ten feet or less off the ground, so it must've covered a shallow stream that emptied from the lake shown on the map. Back then, Carolina Pines Avenue aligned with Parkland Road on the other side of South Saunders Street. Wonder when Parkland was closed, and did have anything to do with the opening of Station 2 in 1969 and the maintenance shop connected to the back, and that was accessed from Parkland? Notice also a street called Orphanage Street. Yet another orphanage there, presumably?

Legeros - 05/21/11 - 16:55

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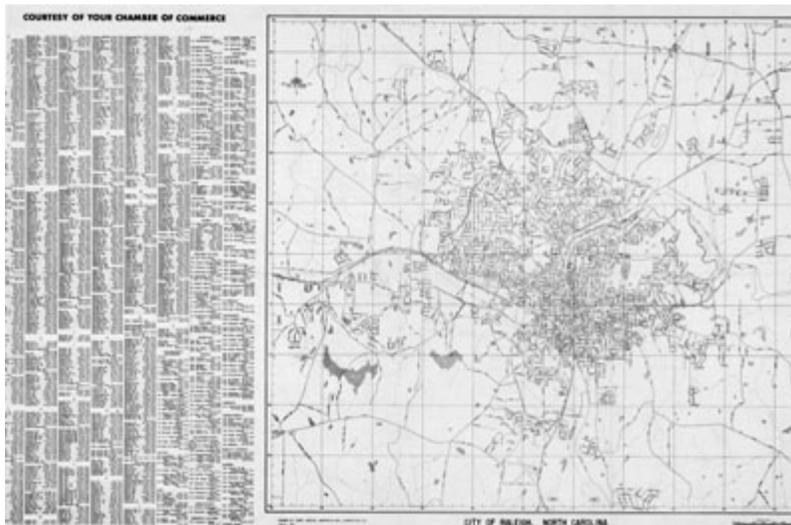
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Raleigh Street Map, 1959

05/19/11 209 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

For your evening enjoyment, check out [this digitized 1959 street map](#) published by the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. It's presented by the UNC Library's North Carolina Maps web site.



Some of what's noticed:

- No Beltline!
- Rhamkatte Road is present-day Lake Wheeler Road.
- Avent Ferry Road has been rerouted to Western Boulevard, east of Dan Allen Drive.
- Gorman Street is still decades away from connecting to Hillsborough Street.
- Hillsboro Street is spelled thus.
- Reedy Creek Road and State Farm Road ride right into Umstead Park.
- Creedmore Road is spelled thus.
- Leesville Road starts at Glenwood Avenue.
- Millbrook Road ends at Six Forks Road.
- Howell's Road is a street south of Lassister Mill and should be the site of Howell's Store, which was also the first location of the Six Forks Road FD.
- Mini City doesn't exist, of course.
- Race Track Road leads to... a race track, east of Old Wake Forest Road.
- North Boulevard is named thus.
- Rose Lane looks long as heck.
- Creech Road is named Old Creech Road and New Creech Road.
- Raleigh Municipal Airport is shown in south Raleigh.
- Parkland Road runs parallel to Pecan Road, where a new Fire Station 2 will be built in ten years.

Absolutely cool. I have been looking for an old Raleigh map, from the 70s, off and on for a while.

DJ - 05/19/11 - 22:01

A nice accompaniment to the maps on that site are the Wake County IMAPS historical aerial maps, which date to 1981. You have to endure the street labels, which I can't figure out how to toggle off. But neat all the same.

Legeros - 05/19/11 - 22:08

An absolutely awesome find! Is there a story behind the neighborhood across from North Hills, where the streets were numbered? Comparing that map against today's map, it looks like 9th St=Lassiter Mill Rd, 7th St=Dartmouth Rd, 8th St=Camelot Dr, 14th St=Lambeth Dr, etc.

In that same area, I guess Rogers Rd is now Ramblewood Dr. And it's neat how Howell's Rd runs through what would eventually become North Hills Mall. Also, if you carefully compare the above map and today's map at the intersection of Millbrook and Six Forks, it looks like back then Millbrook was aligned with what is today Windel Dr. Also funny to think that this area was a few miles outside the city limits back then!

rfburns - 05/20/11 - 07:02

There are other Raleigh maps on the site, such as this one from 1928, <http://dc.lib.unc.edu/u/?ncmaps,9544>

You can do some pretty neat map-based explorations, across the various maps.

Legeros - 05/20/11 - 07:05

Also, it looks like Wake Forest Road had already been screwed up where it crossed Downtown Blvd by this time. I wonder when that happened...

rfburns - 05/20/11 - 07:15

If you look at the 1948 map, Downtown Boulevard doesn't exist. Instead, a road named what looks like Dawson extended north to Fairview Road. Then Louisburg Road started where Wake Forest Road turned north.

Legeros - 05/20/11 - 07:40

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That Long String of Tones

05/19/11 119 W - + 9 - 7

Exactly how many different dispatch tones do we hear, for a haz-mat call at North Carolina State University? Tonight's is the third (or is it fourth?) in recent days. Let's see if we can count and correctly identify them:

1. Engine 5 on main campus or Engine 20 on Centennial Campus
2. Engine 8 (usually responding as SR2, a recon unit)
3. Ladder 7
4. Ladder 5 (usually responding as SR 3, a decon unit)
5. Rescue 3
6. Battalion 3
7. Air 1
8. Haz-Mat 1 (staffed by Engine 2)
9. Haz-Mat 2 (staffed by Engine 15)
10. Car 10

That should be about right. Might be a second Battalion Chief in there. What's the EMS response, you ask? Three ambulances, two chiefs, one APP, and the special operations support unit. e.g., big ol' Truck 1.

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Vintage Haz-Mat Action

05/20/11 166 W, 1 I - + 5 - 10

Albeit staged action and as photographed by Gary Knight, probably in the late 1980s. The first hazardous materials unit of the Raleigh Fire Department was placed in service in 1984. That was a 1977 Chevrolet panel van housed at Station 2. The number of haz-mat companies was expanded in 1990 to three: Engine 2, Engine 13, and Truck 8. Then expanded again in 1992 with the addition of Engine 15 and Truck 15.

The haz-mat unit was moved to Station 20 in 1990 and back to Station 2 in 2004. The haz-mat van was replaced in 1991 with a Simon/Duplex/E-One custom-cab apparatus. The panel van was retained as a support unit. Those trucks were upgraded in 2006 with a tractor-drawn Freightliner/Hackney. In 2003, a second haz-mat unit was placed in service at Station 15, using a 1988 GMC extended panel van.

Let's see, other bits of history: Wake County first contracted with Raleigh for haz-mat response in 1992. And North Carolina Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team 4 moved to Raleigh from Durham County in 2004. Click to enlarge:



Gary Knight photo

“ the little truck always follows the big truck ”

RFD HAZMAT - 05/20/11 - 18:21

Name: (real name)

Remember personal info?

Camp Celebrate Fire Truck Parade

05/21/11 102 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

The *News & Observer* has posted pictures from photographer Travis Long of yesterday's fire truck parade, that carried children who have survived burn injuries from Triangle Town Center to Camp Kanata. Their destination is the location of Camp Celebrate, an annual weekend camp for children who have survived burn injuries. From the pictures, participating departments included Raleigh, Cary, Chapel Hill, Morrisville, Knightdale, Stony Hill, Bay Leaf, and a place called Cotton. That's near Hope Mills in Cumberland County. [Read the N&O story](#) and see the [gallery of 65 images](#).



Travis Long/News & Observer photo

Apex, Fairview, Holly Springs, Southern Pines, Durham, Roxboro, Hopkins, and Zebulon all had apparatus out there. I'm sure I have miss a couple more...

Mike - 05/21/11 - 08:58

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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The Little Round Knob

05/21/11 324 W, 1 I - + 8 - 10

Every digital SLR camera has a little round knob that controls the shooting mode. The settings include Automatic, Program Shift (P), Shutter Priority (Tv), Aperture Priority (Av), and Manual (M). Mr. Blogger uses Program Shift (P) nearly always. The notable exception is when the little round knob gets bumped. This happens from time to time, and results in some or many pictures taken in Shutter Priority (Tv) mode. (Accidental bumping into Automatic mode is easier to detect indoors, as the flash starts popping up.)

This happened last night, as Yours Truly attended the Cary Fire Department's inaugural promotion and awards ceremony. ([See those photos.](#)) Thanks for the invite on that one. But apologies for the grainy photos, which will be posted shortly. Imagine the surprise, shock, and horror upon discovering, some hundreds of pictures into the night, that your DSLR camera has been shooting Tv instead of P. That's when you realize why your pictures had been darker than brighter, and why you bumped the ISO higher and eventually to 1600. Which allows more light, but adds noise/grain to the image.

What's the remedy in such situations? Can't start over. Can add additional post-processing, using something like Noise Ninja. (Never tried heard, but have heard about.) Or you live with the results. In this case, the amount of grain is acceptable and perhaps entirely fine. How to prevent future miscues?

Well, you can check your damn camera before you start shooting. And keep watching the thing, as you jostle it around. (The newest Canon DSLR camers have a locking knob, which is even better!) Perhaps add a little sign to the strap: check your damn settings. (More than photographer has told me their story of attaching notes to their camera, until checking ISO settings became automatic to them.) And maybe, in general, just getting better. It takes time. Always learning. Always improving.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Cary's Climate Showcase Fire Station 8

05/21/11 86 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

The *Cary Citizen* recently published an article about the green building principles planned for Fire Station 8 and will result in what the article calls the first green firehouse in the United States. Environmentally friendly features will include low-emitting building materials, enhanced ventilation systems, extensive day lighting, and solar cells producing power for resale. The two-story (!) station will be built at 408 Mills Park Drive. Construction is scheduled to start this fall, and with a 14 month time to completion. [Read the story.](#)



First green firehouse in United States? That can't be right, can it? Do they mean a type of custom-built green firehouse, that's all-new?

Legeros - 05/21/11 - 11:36

Beautiful design regardless, love the traditional doors.

Silver - 05/21/11 - 11:48

Two stories...so that means there will be a fire pole, right?

Sparky - 05/21/11 - 11:52

There will probably be some kind of administrative space in the second story, or accounting for it's existence. Just a guess. I don't know much about CFD and if they need dedicated space for that, etc...

BC - 05/21/11 - 14:59

Here's a project page from the town about the facility: <http://www.townofcary.org/Departments/Fi..>

The project includes a 14,860 square foot, two-story building and site improvements:

- * 13,700 square foot fire station with 3 apparatus bays, office space and living quarters.
- * 1,160 square foot police satellite office will be co-located within the building.
- * 350 foot communications tower will be co-located on the site.

Legeros - 05/21/11 - 15:02

Any CFD guys know if a County/Cary medic unit will be housed here as well?

Silver - 05/21/11 - 15:12

As of the last design I saw:

There will be 2 poles. One near the front stairs and one near the back stairs.

2nd floor is dorm space, workout room and locker room/bathroom.

1st floor is a multi-purpose/conference/training room in the front corner that can be used by both FD and PD members. There is a dedicated area for CPD to have interview rooms, and office space, with a side door for their use into their area. 1st floor will also house office space for FD personnel, a dayroom, kitchen and a watch room at the front of the building next to an enclosed foyer.

Also the building will be constructed using 'green' principles but not obtain a LEED certification as that adds extra cost.

As for the EMS unit, that is in the hands of the deployment committee of Wake EMS.

The bi-fold doors while costing more initially open faster and have less maintenance costs over the life of the door.

someanswers - 05/21/11 - 16:36

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Two Helicopters

05/21/11 28 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

The WakeMed air ambulance fleet appears to have been expanded. Are they operating two units these days, or is one a reserve? Click to enlarge:



I took an unfortunate ride on a mobile unit from Wakemed North to big Wake recently. I asked the nurse this question. She said that one of them is a backup. They are evidently flying enough that they miss business when one is down for maintenance etc.

Chuck - 05/21/11 - 16:43

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Historical State - History in Red and White

05/21/11 98 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

The bridge thread gets me thinking and using Google, notably curious about orphanage history in the Capital City. Found the following, never seen before. Historical State, a gateway to history of North Carolina State University. And more notably, some 16,000 photos from the university's archives! Do a search on, say, "fire" and you'll see shots from Pullen Hall in 1965, Tompkins Hall in 1914, and even a Fairground Fire Department image, albeit with an incorrect date. Check it out: <http://historicalstate.lib.ncsu.edu>.

The screenshot shows the 'HISTORICAL STATE' website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'NC STATE UNIVERSITY', 'DIRECTORY', 'LIBRARIES', 'MYRACKPORTAL', 'CAMPUSMAP', and 'SEARCH NOW'. The main header features the text 'HISTORICAL STATE history in red and white' with 'Home' and 'Browse' links. A search bar contains the word 'fire' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there are two columns of filters: 'Limit your search' and 'You searched for:'. The 'Limit your search' column includes filters for 'Collection' (Green 'N' Growing (5), University Archives Photographs (32)), 'Decade' (1900s (2), 1910s (12), 1920s (5), 1930s (2), 1940s (7), 1950s (6), 1960s (6), 1970s (5), 1980s (4), 1990s (1)), 'Type' (Still image (33)), and 'Subject' (Universities and colleges (32), Buildings (32), Fires (21), North Carolina State University, College of Textiles (11), Pullen Hall (Raleigh, N.C.) (11), Tompkins Hall (Raleigh...)). The 'You searched for:' column shows 'fire' and 'University Archives Photographs'. It indicates 'Displaying items 1 - 20 of 53' with pagination links for 'Previous', '1', '2', and '3'. Two search results are visible: 'Pullen Hall, fire' with a date of 1965-02, and 'Greenhouses, fire damage' with a date of 1977. Each result includes a thumbnail image and a 'Quick View' link.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

All-Terrain Vehicles?

05/22/11 71 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Does every department have an ATV these days? Lee Wilson yesterday photographed the Holly Springs Fire Department's ATV at a Relay For Life event at Womble Park. WakeMed Air Mobile 1 also made an appearance. [Send your ATV photos](#), and we'll compile and post on the blog. (Or send a link, if there's already a photo online of your ATV.) [See Lee's photos from Holly Springs](#).



Lee Wilson photo

Nope Just Department's that have a lot of Money

\$\$\$ - 05/22/11 - 11:54

I disagree, I know many departments that have these and do not have a lot of money. I would argue that the departments who have them have a need for it. I think if there is a true need for such a vehicle, it can be easily obtained in most any budget. I would also say that there are those that get many of such equipment for show or just to have it, but those are in the minority I would think.

John Pershing - 05/22/11 - 21:16

this Holly Springs one was a former Holly Springs town ATV.

lee - 05/23/11 - 03:45

JCSO search and rescue atv: "<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2009-10-24-sfd-open-house/slides/2009-10-23-sfd-open-house-12-mjl.html>":url

SMFD R-3: "<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2009-10-24-sfd-open-house/slides/2009-10-23-sfd-open-house-27-mjl.html>":url

BW - 05/24/11 - 09:41

@Mike...will you edit the hyperlink, forgot to modify after previewing...thanks

BW - 05/24/11 - 09:46

two more and I'm done

Cary FD polaris:

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/galleryc/apparatus/cary-2008-polaris.jpg>

Clayton FD ATV-4

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2010-10-10-cfd-open-house/slides/2010-10-10-cfd-open-house-22-mjl.html>

BW - 05/24/11 - 09:55

WWFR Car 19. 2008(?) Kawasaki Mule 4x4 with winch. Purchased with grant money, including its enclosed trailer. Modified/equipped to carry a Stokes basket and backboard and to be able to extract patients while the medical staff works on them. Can be configured on-the-fly to suit the needs of the call. Now all we need is a slide-in pump and tank unit...

I'll send you some pictures tonight.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 05/26/11 - 17:09

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Temporary Holly Springs Station 2

05/22/11 120 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

This trailer home has been installed as a temporary Holly Springs Station 2. The original station was demolished after damage from the April 16 tornado. The temporary station is housed on a vacant lot beside the original location at 1140 Avent Ferry Road. The town is also planning construction of a second temporary building to house an engine, brush truck, and ambulance. [Read our prior posting](#) about those plans. [Or see more photos](#) of the temporary station from Lee Wilson. And since Mr. Blogger is a historian, you know what the next question will be. How many *temporary* fire stations have come and gone in Raleigh and Wake County? We'll start working on that answer...



Lee Wilson photo

Temporary fire stations, you ask? Started working on this for a bit, then did a blog search.

Guess what, we already went this route in 2008! Here's that list, with a couple updates:

- 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.
- Holly Springs Station 3 is located in a house on Friendship Road, and opened in 2008.
- 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 from 1961 to 1962.
- Wake Forest Station 3 was first a leased house on Forestville Road, used from 2007 to 2009.
- 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.

From this thread <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

Legeros - 05/22/11 - 07:24

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Raleigh Asks How Technology Can Aid City

05/22/11 170 W - + 7 - 9

That's a headline from today's *News & Observer*, and a pretty good summation of the mission of CityCamp Raleigh. Heard about that one? It's a citizen-driven, three-day event in downtown Raleigh in early June. It will consist of meetings and workshops and presentations, for participants to brainstorm on how technology can help the city.

And in particular, how technology can help with (a.) the services the city provides to citizens and (b.) the collaboration and communication with citizens, about those services and how they're managed. I think that's an accurate summation, but welcome corrections. Anyway, [read the N&O article](#). Or visit the [official CityCamp Raleigh site](#).

Will this event turn its participants eyes toward emergency services? I am guessing crime and thus police protection is on the agenda as an issue for discussion. It usually is. Fire protection? Don't know. Emergency medical services? Well, those are county-provided, so they could be outside their scope, if it's truly exclusive to city-provided services.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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The Origins of Raleigh's Air Raid Sirens

05/22/11 154 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Blogger Frank Blazich passes along this [nifty posting of his about the history of Raleigh's air raid sirens](#). His blog is about the history of the North Carolina Civil Defense Agency. His research has found that the city approved the purchase of nine 2.5 horsepower sirens in September 1942. They were remote controlled and replaced some type of "home-made" siren atop the Capitol Building. They were installed in October 1942, and intended to use them after the war in the fire alarm system. To the best of my knowledge and research, any use for fire alarms did not happen. Below is a picture that appears in the book *North Carolina's Role in World War II*, photo credit not indicated. Next question, what happened to those nine original sirens? Which ones were replaced with newer models? How many are still left today?



That is the same model of siren that was mounted at the Yrac fire station (smaller of the two). There was also one of these at Brogden, and at one time, Pittsboro.

DJ - 05/22/11 - 19:08

Correction, it is similar. Same horsepower as the Yrac and Brogden sirens, but I am pretty sure those were 'Sireno' brand. The Raleigh sirens were Sterlings, with a lower tone.

DJ - 05/22/11 - 19:08

The picture is found on page 31 of the fourth edition of Sarah McCulloh Lemmon's book "North Carolina's Role in World War II." The original is in the possession of the North Carolina Archives. The January 19, 1942 edition of the "News and Observer" featured this image with the following caption: "Will Wynne, pioneer Raleigh electrician and radio expert, conceived the idea of a revolving siren. He presented his idea to John Bray, chief air-raid warden for Raleigh's Civilian Defense Volunteer Forces. The new siren was set up and built by members of Bray's staff: H. I. West, engineer of buildings and grounds; H. L. Rivenbark, supervisor of the buildings maintenance force, and Neil Spence, member of the maintenance staff. Rivenbark and West are shown checking the siren. It is powered by electricity." I just found this information and thus my interpretation of the photograph is incorrect. Thus, I have no real idea what type of siren the city purchased but apparently this is the "home-made" siren referred to in the Office of Civilian Defense newsletter blips.

Frank Blazich ([Web Site](#)) - 05/23/11 - 16:52

Frank, I believe the siren is very likely a Sireno brand, as Dale notes above. What's been added is a homemade mechanism for revolving the siren.

Legeros - 05/23/11 - 18:53

That is a Sterling air raid siren...

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/23/11 - 20:08

The revolving aspect makes sense, being there is a manufacturer's tag on the siren body. Well, this appears to be Raleigh's first siren then. I'll see if I can find out any information on what the nine purchased sirens were. This summer I'll be back in the archives and have an idea on where to look.

Frank Blazich ([Web Site](#)) - 05/24/11 - 08:23

Hopefully I'll be receiving a 1950s vintage Thunderbolt siren this fall that was promised to me to bring back to Raleigh and restore for display.

Frank Blazich ([Web Site](#)) - 05/24/11 - 10:55

OK, I stand corrected. The Yrac siren could have been a Sterling. This sounds just like it-

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

DJ - 05/24/11 - 16:37

And if you want to hear what the later Civil Defense sirens in Raleigh sounded like, emitting the "the world is coming to an end" sound, go here-

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYeqI9xE1..>

These units were Federal 100T Thunderbolts, similar to what used to be located around the Harris Nuclear Plant. The HNP units were single tone, while the Civil Defense units were dual tone. They used to test them every couple of months or so, and it always seemed on Wednesdays around 11:30. It is a sound that would send chills up your spine. The description of the video suggests looking up 'Cuban Missile Crisis' By all means. I remember my Dad had built a bomb shelter in our back yard as a result.

DJ - 05/24/11 - 16:50

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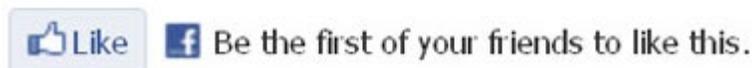
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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Facebook Like Buttons Added

05/22/11 62 W, 1 I - + 3 - 2

We've added Facebook **Like** buttons to this blog. They're on each entry page, located just above the comments. Alas, limitations of technology prevent their implementation on the home page. Click each entry's **Comments** link to see the Like button. We're slowly catching up with the rest of the social media universe.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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This Morning's Two Alarms / Hensley Drive, Updated

05/23/11 184 W, 1 I - + 3 - 2

And another major fire this morning. Two alarms at 416 Hensley Drive. Engine 4 arriving at a two-story, wood-frame apartment building with 10,872 square-feet. Built 1979. Communications advised multiple callers as well as power company reporting fire showing. Engine 4 arriving with heavy fire venting from attic and declared working fire.

Defensive operations soon started. Ladder 1 and Ladder 3 deployed. Command located at entrance to parking lot on Hensley Drive. Medical monitoring and rehab in parking lot beside command. Staging on Hensley. Dispatched 3:37 a.m. Second alarm requested about 3:58 a.m. Controlled 4:51 a.m. Cause determined as accidental due to lightning strike. No injuries with eight units uninhabitable and 27 people displaced.

Units on scene included: E4, E9, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, L1, L3, R1, R3, B1, B4, A1, C10, C20, EMS 15, EMS 2, EMS 2, D4, D1, M91, T1. Reverse order for arrival of photographers, with shots coming from Wilson ([see photos](#)) and later Legeros ([see photos](#)), shown below. Regarding the inevitable reader questions and/or commentary, go ahead and try your real name for a change. It won't hurt.



Lee Wilson photo

I'll pass on the real name (for now), but I promise not to be controversial or insulting.

Question for the masses: Once the standard number of units for a "reported apartment fire" has been dispatched, if multiple callers are saying "I see flames", will ECC go ahead and dispatch more resources as a working fire, or does that always wait for that first arriving engine to call it a working fire?

rfburns - 05/23/11 - 08:00

Here's some overnight footage from WRAL, http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/vid..

And the WTVD story, <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?sectio..>

Just sit through the ads.

Legeros - 05/23/11 - 09:06

RF, it's debatable from both fronts on this concept, but our ECC waits on the first arriving unit to make the call.

Silver - 05/23/11 - 12:11

Thanks, Silver. I suspected that, and I do see there are two clear sides of that issue. I just wanted to know for sure.

rfburns - 05/23/11 - 12:36

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Traffic Cam Car Fire

05/23/11 30 W, 1 I - + 3 - 3

Western Wake Fire Department arrives and extinguishes a car fire on Interstate 40 at Harrison Avenue. Cary Fire Department also on the call. Click to enlarge:



One small correction: CFD E-1 was actually first arriving and controlling the fire with WW P-19? arriving next and providing blocking and access to the vehicle via combi-tool. Great job everyone, including IMAP!

BW - 05/24/11 - 09:28

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Hooks

05/24/11 68 W, 1 I - + 4 - 0

Photo by Mike Legeros in the aftermath of last night's major fire on Hensley Court. Photographer Lee Wilson arrived ~~about the time of the 20-minute par~~ just head of the fourth engine. [See his photos](#), as well as [those by Legeros](#). That guy was still asleep and arrived at the 90-minute mark. Or read the prior posting with [incident details](#).



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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When Trains Collide / Union County Derailment

05/24/11 69 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

Morning news with reports of a railroad accident in Union County. Reading [WSCO-TV report](#). Four injured when two freights collided in Mineral Springs. Derailment and fire and evacuations. No haz-mats being transported. One freight train rear-ended another. Readers to the west, share stories as desired. File under It Can Happen Here. How are your rail corridor response plans, these days?



WSCO-TV 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'?

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

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

Mystery Platform

05/24/11 21 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Who recognizes the bucket truck holding the [Patriot Flag](#) in place during a recent appearance? Click to enlarge:



Looks like a Mack Aerialscope boom... probably RFD's old one (now in South Carolina?)

A.C. Rich - 05/24/11 - 20:09

I agree with Capt AC...looks like an A-scope...

DJ - 05/24/11 - 21:05

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 - *Mystery Platform Revealed* « **Mystery Platform** » *New Old Ambulances* / *Raleigh's Old Aerialscope*

Mystery Platform Revealed / Raleigh's Old Aerialscope

05/25/11 96 W, 6 I - + 3 - 7

Didn't take readers long to identify the bucket of a Mack Aerialscope in [our prior posting](#). Nor to make the inference that it might be Raleigh's old 1977 Mack/Baker Aerialscope. Our friends in Barnwell, South Carolina, where the apparatus is serving, have shared some other pictures. They purchased the piece as city surplus in 2007. And they shared a [couple pictures in 2010](#). Their latest update shows the cosmetic work they've lately performed, including gold leaf and reflective trim. Thanks for the pictures, Tony. Click to enlarge:



Barnwell Fire Department photos

Somehow I missed this. Fascinating! Thanks for the update.

Rescue Ranger - 07/10/13 - 20:59

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

New Old Ambulances

05/25/11 32 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Wake County has re-lettered two Chevrolet ambulances formerly operated by Six Forks EMS. Photographer Lee Wilson photographed them this week, and has [posted some pictures](#).



Lee Wilson photo

Saw one on I-440 Monday. Had to do a double take on the thin blue stripe and the orange/blue chevrons. Different.

DJ - 05/25/11 - 08:19

So these 2 trucks are in service, anyone know what the unit numbers and where there stationed?
Or are these peak load trucks?

Agreed DJ, orange/blue is different.

Bucky - 05/25/11 - 11:06

I would think that they will probably be assigned since the two Chevys are practically brand new, and the E450 is a brand new chassis with a not-so-old box.

DJ - 05/25/11 - 13:37

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Vintage Fayetteville Rigs

05/25/11 69 W, 2 I - + 4 - 4

Found for sale on eBay, a couple of 35mm slides of vintage Fayetteville apparatus. Left is a 1980 Oshkosh/Pierce 85-foot snorkel, shown in front of the old Central Fire Station. Right is a 1971 Walter crash truck at Fayetteville Municipal Airport, Crash 2. Wonder how many Walter trucks operated around North Carolina? Raleigh-Durham Airport had four over the years, of 1959, 1973, 1977, and 1989/1977 model years. Click to slightly enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh's Proposed Budget

05/25/11 137 W - + 3 - 3

Details in this [May 11 press release](#), which include links to a budget presentation, operating budget document, and capital budget document. The press release provides a summary of the proposed budget. No property tax increase, no lay-offs. Elimination of 32 vacant positions. Changes and reductions to employee compensation.

Notable changes for the fire department: delayed replacement of two older engines, postponement of next fire academy by six months, and reduced and/or delayed training purchases. The police department is also postponing their next academy by six months, along with the elimination of ten civilian positions.

Capital Improvement projects include Fire Station 3 replacement (FY14-FY16), Fire Station 12 relocation ((FY13-FY14), Fire Station 14 replacement or relocation (FY13-FY15), a driver training facility (FY13-FY15), and a training facility expansion (FY15-FY16). Read the [press release about the budget](#).

wow! they put off replacement Apparatus last year too.

charlie - 05/26/11 - 01:23

Tough times my friend. You know it's bad when this area has to crunch numbers this tight. Anyone know the status of #29?

Silver - 05/26/11 - 01:29

you better be thankful folks aren't getting laid off yet...I'd rather ride an old apparatus than not have a job

ncff - 05/26/11 - 11:36

I just wish they were able to find the cuts elsewhere rather than take from our retirement. I will be turning in my resignation notice to the association.

RescueRanger - 05/26/11 - 12:13

@RR...yeah, when you look at it, it's a raise if you do, unfortunately.

I know of someone that explained the business sense of raising dues to some other folks, and how the unfortunate reality is when folks pay is cut/trimmed they're going to cut things out of their life they could sort of do without and/or were "nice to have" versus necessity (HBO/Showtime/Cinemax, that souped up iphoneBlackberryDroid, and sadly the association falls in there as well).

Silver - 05/26/11 - 17:51

Replace Station 12 2013-2014, Get this, they are fixing to replace the lights in the station with new efficient models. Wonder if the lights will pay for themselves by then. Just saying!!!

Rob Mitchell - 05/26/11 - 18:40

The lighting improvements were federal funded from stimulus grants, <http://www.raleighnc.gov/environment/con..>

Legeros - 05/26/11 - 18:42

I feel the COR should raise their tax rate by .01 to .3835 . The increase would help tremendously and Raleigh would still remain one of the cheapest places to live in Wake County, even with that "minimal" increase. Yes, not having to pay association dues is very appealing. No offense to the RPPFA (I've been a member for over 22 years), but I need the money more right now to pay for my family's health insurance.

A.C. Rich - 05/26/11 - 23:19

Mike, there was no COR money involved at all?

Rob Mitchell - 05/27/11 - 12:56

Don't know, Rob. What did the press release say?

Legeros - 05/27/11 - 14:35

I remembered reading about the ARRA grant stuff somewhere, so I researched a little bit and found this on the COR website. See the link listed below and look at Page 2, section 8. The fire station electrical up fits are part of the "Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy" block grant and brief details are highlighted in the document. <http://www.raleighnc.gov/content/CityMgr..>

A.C. RIch - 05/27/11 - 15:59

Unsure about the ARRA grants, but the AFG grants are reimbursement grants. Whereas, the COR foots the cost initially and is later reimbursed after the purchases have been made, less any required match percentage.

AP - 05/27/11 - 22:01

Looks like the city had to put up 3.8 million.

Rob Mitchell - 05/27/11 - 22:03

@AC...Amen brother... pay cut this year... that 25 mil spent on Lightner woud come in handy right now huh?

Chuck - 05/28/11 - 21:49

You can blame the Raleigh City Council for wasting the money spent on Lightner. Several of them changed their vote during the eleventh hour despite supporting the project previously. I think the project became a policial issue and more about City Council members getting re-elected rather than the true needs of public safety in Raleigh. So now without Lightner, those needs are still present and getting worse. The City Council will most likely address them later, but at a higher cost to the citizens.

Raleigh resident - 05/29/11 - 08:41

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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This Morning's Brush Fire / Raleigh Boulevard

05/26/11 151 W, 1 I - + 2 - 3

Photographer Lee Wilson has posted aftermath photos and incident details of a large brush fire this morning at [1500 Raleigh Boulevard](#). Those are the apartments beside the shopping center. Engine 7 received the call about 12:08 a.m., which was upgraded to a structure fire response about a minute later. The engine was quickly on scene and reported a working fire, and then upgrading to a major working fire. They had a large woods fire behind a two-story apartment building, including burning debris from the April 16 tornado. Engine 3 laid a supply line to Engine 7, which had pulled two lines through the building into the backyard. Foam operations were used, and the fire was quickly knocked down. The second alarm companies were canceled en route. [Read more details and see his photos](#). Have there been many brush fires in those areas with debris to date?



Lee Wilson photo

question should be .. why is the debris still there? Its been a month & half now. It looked as if the tornado had just come through there. or maybe thats the way its supposed to be over there.

lee - 05/26/11 - 23:14

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Charlotte Motor Speedway / New Engine & Special Offer

05/27/11 199 W, 5 I - + 6 - 5

This weekend the [Charlotte Motor Speedway](#) will debut the first fire truck owned by the speedway safety team, a Rosenbauer Custom Centurion ST pumper. The unit will be staff by speedway employees during the race weekends, and will protect the NASCAR garages and the new Sunoco Fuel Island. The apparatus is named Engine 343, which is the number of firefighters who died at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Also this weekend, the speedway has a special offer for emergency services personnel. Call the Charlotte Motor Speedway ticket office at 1-800-455-FANS (3267) and tell them your department and station. You'll receive a 25% discount on all ticket purchases, or you can purchase two tickets and get one free in the Upper Ford grandstand for the Coca-Cola 600.

Below are some pictures of the new engine. Might have to get a close view one of these months, having never been to a race. Need to learn more about the safety team and their equipment. Sounds interesting. Wonder what sort of equipment other race tracks operate as well? Readers, got information or pictures?? Thanks for passing along, Rob. Click to enlarge:



Charlotte Motor Speedway photos

A little late to the blog (been traveling for work a lot lately), but a couple of the guys up here on Mocksville are ACT (NASCAR Accident Care Team) certified, and work a LOT of the events at the speedway (and the drag strip, and the dirt track). I'll ask one of them the next time I see them about the new truck.

Barrett - 06/01/11 - 23:33

At Dover Speedway, we have one truck per turn (4). We've been using Toyota Tundra's with a skid unit in the back. This is typically a deal worked out every few years between the track and local car dealers, the trucks previous were Fords. The skid has two rear facing seats for the firemen in the back, with extinguishers and tools mounted as well. Typically, the crew is the Boss (Driver), a medic in the passenger seat, and two firemen in the back. They deploy almost like a Task Force, with an ambulance and a wrecker during an incident, and they "block" too!!

We also have a Rescue Truck, known as the "tool truck", which is a Chevrolet heavy duty with utility body staffed with four. It has a full extrication compliment, and is staffed with the most experienced guys within our agency.

Each pit has a fireman assigned to it, and we also have a HazMat Gator and a Fire Gator in service during the race. Wilmington Manor Fire Company also provides an engine company that parks inside the track, and Dover brings a few rigs over to cover outside the track.

Silver - 06/05/11 - 13:50

Neat info, Jeff. Take some pics, some time!

Legeros - 06/05/11 - 22:23

FireNews has posted a story about this truck, which is equipped with a nifty bumper nozzle, no less!

<http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news...>

Legeros - 07/07/11 - 20:32

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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The Power of Embarrassment?

05/27/11 170 W - + 5 - 3

There's a training video making the rounds, showing live fire training using what looks like a shipping container. Accelerant is shown being used to simulate the volume of fire in a flashover. Viewers, readers, bloggers ([Statter911](#), [Fire Critic](#), etc.), and [Firefighter Close Calls](#) have expressed strong and concerned reactions to what's depicted. The clip was removed from YouTube, where it first appeared. It appears a second party has re-posted. Visit some of the above links to see the video, and read comments and commentary.

My question (and reason for posting) is a meta-question. The department(s) and firefighters involved-- they have not been identified nor yet identified themselves-- are likely experiencing some shame as a result. How do you feel about that? About the potential of embarrassment? Will the clip and the reactions ultimately serve a greater good? Are folks just shaking their heads or pointing fingers, or are teachable moments being carried forward? It's a good question to ask in this age of social media.

Interesting. It reminds me of some of the training burns I took part in back in the day. And those exercises were let be DOCC and DOI instructors. Well, sometimes they were. Sometimes we just did not know any better.

But anyway, these days there are safety measures and policies in place to prevent this sort of thing. But my question is this- and not trying to make any excuse for the way the exercise in the video was carried out, how has the NFPA guidelines for live burn training affected the availability of live burn training? Do firefighters (rookie and veteran) get the opportunities to take part in live burn exercises as much as they used to?

And from a Level II Instructor who has not taken part in any sort of live burn training exercise since 1988 (before the NFPA guidelines went into effect), what are those safety measures? I see lots of vacant houses all around and think "back in the day we would have burned that one for training". So, what goes into a live burn these days? What goes into the decision to select a structure, and what are the other measures in place to set up an exercise?

DJ - 05/27/11 - 10:37

Is that a Fayetteville FD shirt there at the end?

Grant Mishoe ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/27/11 - 11:20

A lot has changed DJ – too much to type. ...and it was definitely a Fayetteville shirt. OSFM Live Burn guidelines are at: <http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/FRTTraining/Doc..> Other information is located at: <http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/FireAndRescueC..>

A.C. Rich - 05/27/11 - 16:40

Oh, and to answer Mike's question... embarrassment is an extreme motivator to "do the right thing" – at least the next time. Unfortunately some folks may not get a "next time."

A.C. Rich - 05/27/11 - 16:43

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Here Comes The Flooding

05/27/11 35 W, 1 I - + 4 - 5

Viewer photo posted by WRAL of flooding in Chapel Hill on Franklin Street. Flash flood warning in effect until later this afternoon for nearby counties. [Read WRAL story.](#)



WRAL photo

Had 4.2" in my rain gauge in Chapel Hill after about 2 hours. Still raining...

Andrew ([Email](#)) - 05/27/11 - 16:35

Im guessing the drivers pictured didn't get the memo about not driving through deep water.

Jake T. - 05/27/11 - 18:50

Chapel Hill Ran a record 41 calls that day including 3 working fires.

Michael Crabtree ([Email](#)) - 06/01/11 - 17:46

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

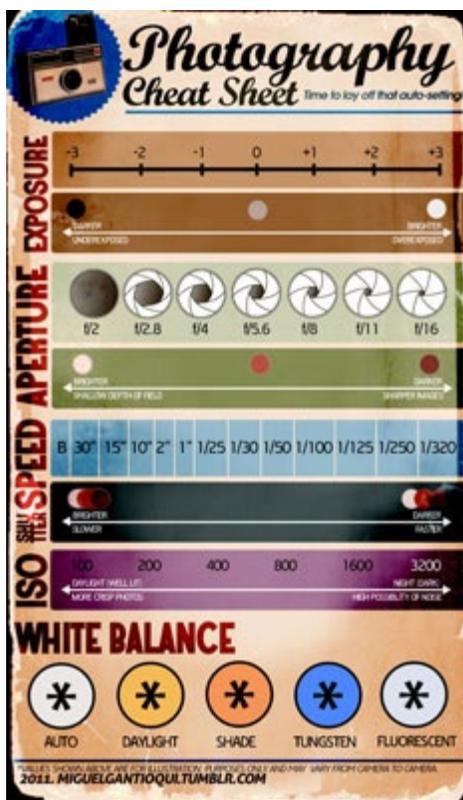
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Photography Cheat Sheet

05/27/11 30 W, 1 I - + 3 - 4

Superb visual explanation of camera settings and their effects, from someone named Miquel Gantioqui. [See larger version](#) in original posting.



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'?

Dam Water

05/27/11 46 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Engine 17 operating on Delta Lake Drive at a house fire dispatched some 30 minutes ago. Ladder 3 extended to the roof, for vertical ventilation. Supply line creating wading pool at pump panel. Photographer staying dry with comically large umbrella.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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How To Hold Your Camera by Joe McNally

05/28/11 73 W - + 4 - 5

From a friend, famous photographer Joe McNally demonstrates how he holds his camera. Note his demonstration of forward leaning (avoid), boxer stance (his preference), and bracing the body using his left shoulder. And for really still shots, he's double-champing his hands. And exhale. Good stuff. He also has a very big zoom lens. Much bigger than Mr. Blogger. What does that tell you?

Joes a great photog. He has also climbed to the very, very top of the Empire State Building and captured amazing shots:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cEAKQFddT..> (Not for those with a fear of extreme heights).

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/29/11 - 01:04

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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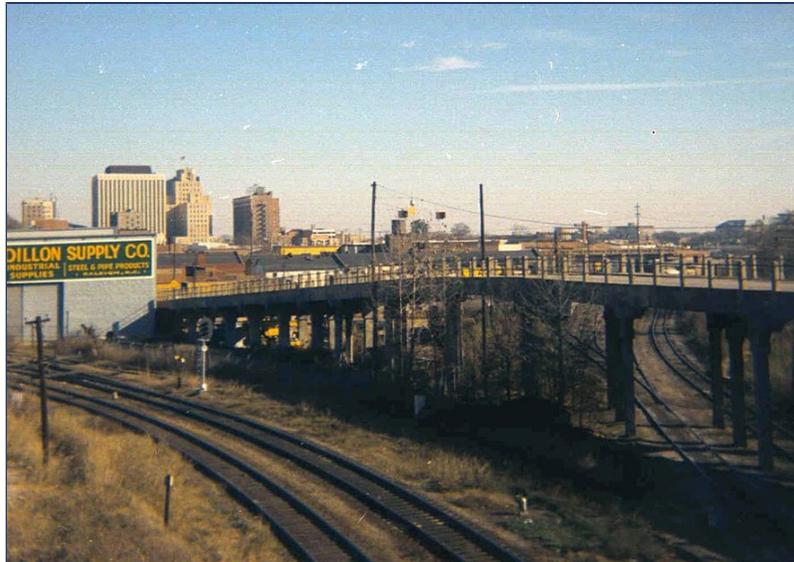
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

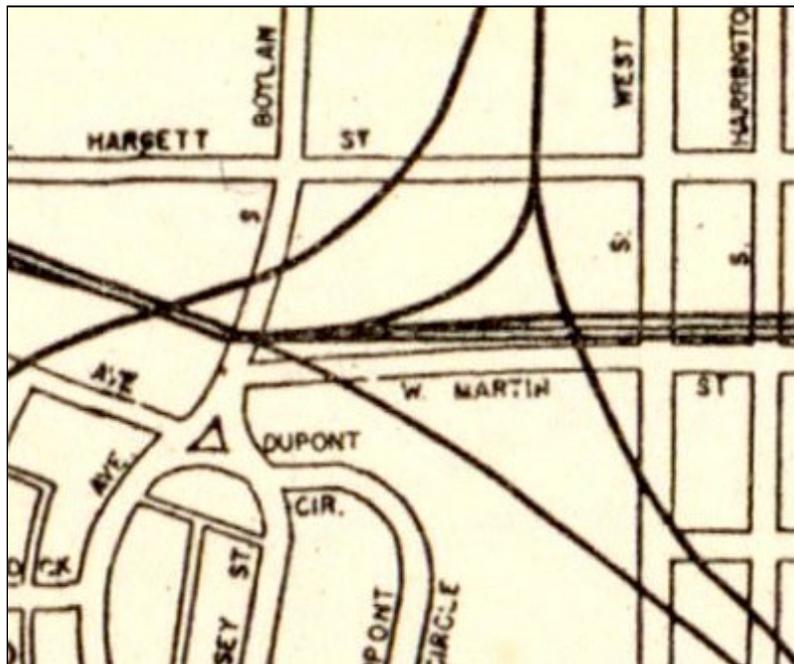
The Martin Street Bridge

05/28/11 113 W, 2 I - + 4 - 5

Back in 2008, [we posted a picture](#) of the old Boylan Heights bridge. We also talked about a second bridge that maps showed extending Martin Street from West Street to Boylan Avenue. Lee Wilson recently found a picture of that second structure on the [Goodnight Raleigh web site](#). It is shown below, along with a map from 1948, from [this digital Raleigh map](#). When was the bridge demolished? Don't know, though the construction of the new Boylan Heights bridge in 1982 was probably the perfect time for demolishing the nearby Martin Street Bridge. What do you think? [Here's an aerial view](#) of the location. Click to slightly enlarge:



Goodnight Raleigh photo



Back in the late 60s or early 70s, the city installed lane control light on Martin St from Dawson to Boylan. They were of the same type used around RBC center. As I recall, the idea was to provide a more direct route to the Boylan Heights area, Dorothea Dix Hospital, and Central Prison, from Fire Station #1. I remember there being a set at the intersection of Boylan and Martin, another set down around the railroad crossing on Martin, and another set around Harrington and Martin.

DJ - 05/28/11 - 15:05

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Colors of the Rainbow

05/28/11 121 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Colorful assortment of EMS vehicles at yesterday's house fire on Delta Lake Drive. The dark blue ambulance is a former Garner EMS unit, now part of the Wake County EMS fleet. White chevrons on that one. The blue 'n' white bigger rig is big ol' Truck 1, the special operations support unit also operated by Wake County EMS. That one's housed downtown at Station 1. Yellow-green chevrons there. The red 'n' white 'n' blue ambulance is an Eastern Wake unit, an organization formed some years ago with a merger of Knightdale, Wendell, and Zebulon EMS departments. Plus later Rolesville EMS. No chevrons on that one, but pretty cool "pulse" graphics.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mystery Apparatus and a Pretty Strange One at That

05/28/11 56 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Let's test our apparatus knowledge with this unusual vehicle, found while browsing something or another. 'Taint from North Carolina. Might even be from outside the United States! Details and photo credits forthcoming. And the click path that got me there.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Chemical Fire in Caldwell County

05/28/11 183 W, 1 I - + 5 - 1

[WSCO-TV has posted](#) a couple stunning photos of this afternoon's chemical fire in Caldwell County. They also have a number of video clips. The incident started about 3:00 p.m. with an explosion and large fire at a company called Chemical Coatings in Hudson (four square miles, population 3,116). They manufacture coatings, primers, and finishers.

[WSCO also reports](#) that evacuations were made in a two-mile radius of the plant, affecting some 750 residents. US 321, the major artery through there, was also closed. [The Charlotte Observer](#) is calling the fire a four-alarm. The fire was contained about 6:00 p.m. and the evacuation order was lifted at nightfall.

[The Hickory Record](#) reports that every department in Caldwell County came to the scene, as well as Asheville (74 miles away), Boone (38 miles), Charlotte (68 miles), and ~~Raleigh (190 miles)~~ (not sure on that one). They note staging was started at the Hudson Food Lion (0.4 miles away), and then moved due to smoke to the Caldwell County Fairgrounds (2.7 miles away). We'll probably hear and reader many additional details. Maybe someone will post the run card.



WSCO-TV photo

The northside tanker task force from Gaston County was called. T613 (Ag Center), T213 (high Shoals, T703 (Tryonata), T314 (Lucia-Riverbend), T725 (Hugh's Pond), T32 (Community). About 40-45 minutes away.

rocket33 - 05/28/11 - 23:44

Charlotte FOAM-1 E25 BC3 FC1

Andrew - 05/29/11 - 00:15

Legeros mentioned Raleigh was sent to this call in Caldwell county. what did Raleigh send to this fire? I am assuming that the regional hasmat team was dispatched.

Charlie ([Email](#)) - 05/29/11 - 00:56

Asheville sent RRT-6, the associated decon trailer, and a battalion chief.

Andrew - 05/29/11 - 01:09

Quote from Hickory Record: "Every fire department in Caldwell County was called to the scene, as were departments from to Asheville to Raleigh and from Boone to Charlotte, said Norman Staines, assistant chief of the Hudson Fire Department."

Morning news articles say 400 first responders were on scene. That count probably includes law enforcement.

Legeros - 05/29/11 - 08:24

WSCO-TV notes agencies also responded from Lincoln, Catawba, Alexander, Wilkes, and Burke counties.

Legeros - 05/29/11 - 08:30

Forgot T304 (East Gaston) and T184 (Spencer Mtn.) from gaston County.

rocket33 - 05/29/11 - 09:26

So.... What did Raleigh do there?

Curious - 05/29/11 - 10:34

If RFD had responded, it would have been in the capacity of their regional response haz-mat team, and probably for remote air monitoring (for starters). That was one of the functions they performed earlier this year in Warrenton, at a major fire with haz-mats.

Asking around this morning, it doesn't sound like RFD responded. The Hickory Record's quoted source is perhaps referencing a different agency or resource based Raleigh?

Wonder what a typical "multi-county" haz-mat fire response looks like, across all agencies? Fire, EMS, law enforcement, EPA, etc. (At least, as we might best attempt to ascribe the adjective "typical" to such events.)

Legeros - 05/29/11 - 10:52

There are two other RRTs closer than the Raleigh RRT that did not respond. I think the chief may have been exaggerating a bit or was referring to the EPA which did respond.

Andrew - 05/29/11 - 12:34

I would guess that DENR, EPA, and I wouldn't bet against OSHA responding from Raleigh

Chuck - 05/30/11 - 09:06

Raleigh Hazmat/RRT4 did not respond. In the hazmat response response tier, local resources are used first, next requests move forward to the State EOC. Per RRT procedures, the following entities may contact NCEM's EOC and request a RRT: the local IC, the local EM Coordinator, the NCEM Area Coordinator, or any other State agency on scene (e.g. NCSHP, DOT, DENR, etc.). Regardless, by NCGS, responses must be approved by the Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety (or his/her designee). An exception is if there is a local agreement for response between a jurisdiction that hosts a RRT and another jurisdiction (example Raleigh and Wake Co.), the RRT assets may then respond without NCEM approval, however the local jurisdiction holds all liability for the response.

A.C. Rich - 05/30/11 - 10:14

That would've been an enjoyably challenging experience for a scene photographer such as myself! Need to figure out how to get "statewide credentials" one of these days...

Legeros - 05/30/11 - 10:49

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

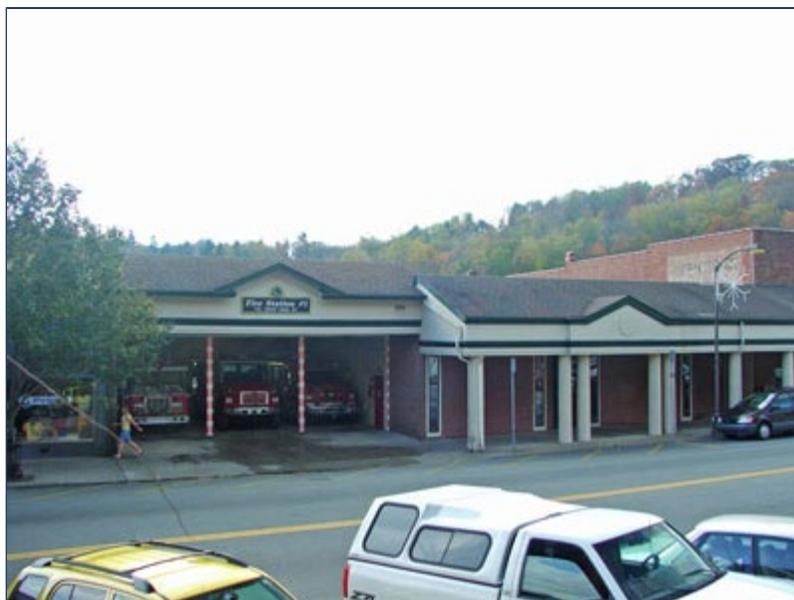
No

/ [Textile](#)

Unusual Fire Stations / Boone's New Aerial Ladder

05/29/11 341 W, 4 I - + 3 - 6

What are some of the more unusual fire stations around North Carolina? The town of Boone certainly qualifies. Their headquarters fire station is a two-story building in the heart of their business district. Built in 1967, the top floor is accessed from the town's main street (West King Street) and houses three pieces of apparatus in three bays. The bottom floor is accessed from an alley that run behind the buildings and includes an apparatus bay. Below are pictures from some years ago, from our annual fall trips to the mountains.



Somewhere in my files are interior shots of the lower-story apparatus bay, which is larger than the door space shows. Believe they use that area for vehicle maintenance and storage. During a visit some years ago, one of the firefighters said something about a tiller that the town had. The tractor-drawn aerial was stored on the lower level, and could negotiate the tighter access. Readers, what's known about that?



More recently, the Boone Fire Department operated a 1986 Mack/Baker Aerialscope and which was housed at Station 2. The 95-foot aerial platform was purchased in 1990, and with funds contributed from Appalachian State University. (The college has a number of high-rise structures.) Here's a picture from Lee Wilson, who is vacationing in the mountains this weekend. Thus why we have Boone on the brain. [See his trip photos](#), which are still in progress.



Lee Wilson photo

Either late last year or early this year, BFD received delivery of a Ferrara Intruder 77-foot aerial ladder, 1250/400/20. The \$552,000 apparatus was bought as a piggy-back to a Florida Sheriff's Association bid. (Why was a sheriff's association buying a fire truck? In Florida, some law enforcement agencies provide fire protection at city and county levels. Or so we've read.) The new aerial is named Ladder 1 and is housed at Station 1. What happened to the platform ladder? Don't know. Scroll down [this BFD news page](#) for more specs. Click to enlarge:



Boone Fire Department photo

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Brush 299

05/29/11 23 W, 1 I - + 1 - 4

Western Wake brush truck pulling trailer for their all-terrain vehicle, for medical call yesterday on Blue Ridge Road. 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'?

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

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.

Smoke Ejection

05/29/11 28 W, 1 I - + 1 - 2

Effects of positive-pressure ventilation at apartment fire this afternoon on Flint Ridge Place. Engine 9 first on scene. Fire in kitchen quickly extinguished. Click to enlarge:



noticed in your pictures, that Engine 4 was also on scene.

Charlie - 05/30/11 - 00:08

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Raleigh Fire Department Museum Grand Opening, June 14

05/29/11 268 W, 4 I - + 2 - 1

The [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#) is proud to announce the opening of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum. Located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center, the museum is a collection of artifacts and images representing over 150 years of firefighting in the Capitol City.

Items on display range from the 1870 alarm bell originally housed in Metropolitan Hall, to a collection of vintage nozzles and hose appliances, to a photo history of Raleigh's fire and rescue apparatus.

The grand opening of the museum is on Tuesday, June 14, at 10:00 a.m. Active and retired personnel are invited, along with the general public.



Raleigh Fire Department Museum Grand Opening

Keeter Training Center, [105 Keeter Center Drive](#)

Tuesday, June 14

10:00 a.m.

Beginning in June, the museum will be open on the second Saturday of each month. Hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Restrooms and parking will be available.

Raleigh Fire Department Museum Saturday Openings

Keeter Training Center, [105 Keeter Center Drive](#)

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 11 (preview date, before the grand opening)

Saturday, July 9

Saturday, August 13

Saturday, September 10

Please share this announcement with friends, family members, and other members of the fire service. These dates and times will be announced in various forums, including announcements to active and retired fire department personnel and on local fire department-related web sites.

Please note that the Raleigh Fire Department's collection of antique fire apparatus is housed in a separate location, at Fire Station 28 at 3500 Forestville Road. [See photos.](#)

For more information about the Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society, visit www.raleighfirehistory.org.

Much appreciated hard work, guys! Look forward to checking it out.

RescueRanger - 05/29/11 - 20:39

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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More Human Than Human

05/29/11 160 W - + 3 - 3

This weekend's news footage of [Atlanta airport firefighters in action](#) leads to a little YouTube searching, which finds this 2006 compilation from the [BWI Airport Fire Department](#) in Maryland. Some crash truck footage in the clip, along with a dash cam from their tower ladder and a host of still shots.

The soundtrack is one of the better choices we've heard of late, White Zombie's "More Human Than Human." Believe it's the remixed version, heard on "Supersexy Swingin' Sounds." That version is subtitled "Meet Bambi in the King's Harem Mix." What are some your favorite soundtrack songs for fire videos?

Their singer Rob Zombie continued onto a successful solo career, of course. Mr. Blogger has his tickets for [Mr. Zombie's latest tour](#), where he's double-billed with Slayer. See you in Reading, PA, for the first show of the tour in late July. Then to Baltimore for the Fire Expo. Yeah!

SLAYER!!!!

As for a good song, I think "Millionaire" by Queens of the Stone Age would be awesome.

Jake T. - 05/30/11 - 08:41

I disagree Jake. I think "Rock me Armadeaus" by Falco would be better suited. The mouth solo near the last chorus screams fire supression.

Martin Guitars - 05/30/11 - 11:10

And somewhere in Europe, the long-decomposed (ha!) remains of Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart (baptismal name, thanks Wikipedia) stir in their grave at the wonderful misspelling of his middle name Amadeus. Just a fun poke Martin, and beating the language police to the punch. Giving the quality of MY typing, at times, I might be well-assigned the title of "patron saint of mediocrity" myself! (As the composer's dramatized rival Antonio Salieri called himself in the famous play made famous movie.)

Legeros - 05/30/11 - 11:14

All,

Contained in this posting you will find the following:

1.) An immense, soul filling, infinite and immeasurable amount of pure, unadulterated hatred for Mr. Martin Guitars.

And

2.) Possibly the best song ever written for a Firefighting movie that is played over a classic masterpiece of cinema.

I give you..... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POxMp61Ks..>

You're welcome.

Jake T. - 05/30/11 - 20:55

Johnny number 5. Los Lobos kick your Butt. Los Lobos Kick your face

Marcus - 05/30/11 - 21:35

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Rehab on Coolridge Court

05/30/11 54 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Two alarms on Coolridge Court. Engine 19 Battalion 1 arriving with fire in second story apartment. Interior attack and contained with no extension. Second alarm companies released from staging. Aggressive rehab by Wake County EMS and Eastern Wake EMS. Photos from Mike Legeros forthcoming, after he also rehydrates. Click to enlarge:



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.

Zebulon Wins Federal Grant For New Firefighters

05/31/11 87 W, 1 I - + 3 - 4

The *Eastern Wake News* is reporting that the town of Zebulon received a \$276,074 federal grant in April, which will allowing the hiring of three additional full-time firefighters. U.S. Representative Brad Miller presented a check to the department on Friday. The grant covers the full cost of employing the three firefighters for two years. The department is currently in the process of hiring, and the positions become effective July 1.

[Read the entire story.](#)



Always good to hear about more guys getting hired.

Mike - 05/31/11 - 20:59

Congrats, good to see the manpower beefed up. How many full timers will Zebulon have after the grant?

Silver - 05/31/11 - 23:34

Congrats guys! Silver I think this will make 4 per shift plus an 8-5 Captain and Chief.

TTaylor - 06/01/11 - 00:38

so what happens after 2 years and the grant money is gone?

hmmm - 06/08/11 - 17:02

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Today's House Fire in Morrisville

06/01/11 167 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

There was a heck of a house fire in Morrisville this morning, and one that continued well into the afternoon. Reported about 9:20 a.m. at [414 Church Street](#). That's a one-story, wood-frame structure with 1,890 square-feet, say tax records. Built in 1910! Crews took two lines inside to start, but evacuated about 20 minutes later, due to heavy smoke conditions and difficulty with ventilation. That's around the time that Mr. Blogger was listening.

Defensive operations commenced. Later extensive and extended overhaul. Numerous relief companies also requested. High heat and humidity today, temperatures topping 97 degrees. [NBC17 reports](#) two Cary firefighters were transported to WakeMed for heat exhaustion. Here's a short [NBC17 aerial clip](#).

Fire departments included Morrisville, Western Wake, Apex, Cary, Parkwood, Durham, and Swift Creek, plus Bay Leaf and Durham Highway for coverage. Wake EMS (EMS 4, EMS 33, D3, T1) and Cary EMS. What other departments and units were on scene? Run card, anyone? Readers are welcome to add details. Stay cool.



NBC 17 photo



WTVD photo

N&O rehab photo: <http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/06/01/1..>

Code damn orange day.

Legeros - 06/01/11 - 18:44

Initial dispatch was Morrisville Engine 1, Ladder 2, Pumper 3, Western Wake Engine 191, Pumper 196, Rescue 295, and Apex Engine 1. Upon dispatch Cary Engine 7 Rescue 7 responded and with Pumper 3, and I believe Apex engine 3 responded. All units dispatched responded except WWE191 and WWR295, although 295 was picked up and responded about 30 min into call. Morrisville Engine 2 also responded with personnel that were in Cary at time of dispatch. Cary Ladder 1 and Parkwood were dispatched later into call. Relief companies included Cary Ladder 5, Rescue 4, Swift Creek, Durham City and another truck from Western Wake for manpower and relief. Bayleaf moved an engine up to Western Wake and Durham Highway moved an engine up to Morrisville.

listening - 06/01/11 - 20:50

The practice of leaving trucks in service that are not being staffed with people AT THE FIRE STATION is going to kill somebody one day!

Seriously - 06/01/11 - 21:18

Seriously – Although I'm not of big fan of it either I believe all of those trucks on the initial alarm were staff with career guys and all were enroute on dispatch minus WWR295. But if Cary rescue 7 responded then they weren't held back at all by WWR295 failing until later where they made it out. Sorry and WWE191

Mike - 06/01/11 - 21:55

no it's not, if it does you have DA officers..get real

seriously - 06/01/11 - 22:23

Mike- Your right in this instance. Overall though, I think It is a serious issue in this county that is not being addressed. I think Morrisville has worked this out with Cary for mutual aid from station seven for this very reason. If a truck is being dispatched it should be in route within a minute or two. I believe with the new dispatching from RWECC it will take into account the average turnout time and set run cards based on that turnout time (one factor at least). By the way, not quite sure what the gibberish the other "seriously" just spouted.

The real Seriously - 06/01/11 - 22:37

Parkwood E631 and Durham City E13

Andrew ([Email](#)) - 06/02/11 - 09:38

Don't forget Cary BAT2 (safety), and MFD Cars 1 and 3...and the one important member from Holly Springs FD: Mr. Port O. John
rookie - 06/02/11 - 13:11

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Vintage Greenville Aerial Platform

06/02/11 33 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Found for sale on eBay, here's a 35mm slide scan of a 1970 Ward LaFrance Hi-Ranger. The 85-foot platform was equipped with a 1250 GPM pump. Click to slightly enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Today's House Fire in Wake Forest

06/02/11 178 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Or rather, outside Wake Forest. Dispatched as a fire alarm to [6808 Moresham Way](#). Arriving units found fire already venting from a one-story, wood-frame dwelling with 2,314 square-feet. Built 1994. Falls Pumper 212 was the first engine on scene. Supply line down long driveway to Bay Leaf Stony Hill Pumper 261. Drop-tank at street, with water point at Wakefield Baptist Church. Interior attack until crews pulled out, say, 15 minutes later. Evacuation order also rebroadcast by Central. Command located in driveway, and rehab located beside driveway.

Dispatched about 5:25 p.m. Fire contained by time of Mr. Blogger's arrival at 6:40 p.m. Extended overhaul, with crews still on scene. Departments and units included Bay Leaf (P258, P252, P361, P121, P122, Air 12), Durham Highway (E1), Falls (P212, P211), Franklinton (Falls coverage), New Hope (E1, Tanker 10, C1), Rolesville (Tanker 158, C3), Stony Hill (P261, Tanker 268), Wake Forest (E1, E2, E3, C1), Youngsville (Tanker 44), and Wake County EMS (EMS 12, EMS 15, EMS 33, D3, M93, T1). Readers can add additional details and corrections therein. [See preliminary photos by Mike Legeros](#). Click to enlarge:



12 ENGINES AND 4 TANKERS FOR 2300 SQUARE FEET?

WOW - 06/02/11 - 23:41

Supply line was to Stony Hill 261. Stony Hill 395 responded too. Falls 212 and 211 were there. New Hope Engine 1 and Rolesville car 3 also. Bay Leaf with coverage at Stony Hill station 1 and I think at Falls as well eventually. Raleigh engine 27 at Wake Forest Station 2 and out of service Wake Forest engine 4 put back in service and staffed.

Lastly let this call be a lesson and a reminder to all who respond to fire alarms in a lackadaisical fashion, with no airpicks, no tools, and sometimes no turnout gear. Treat every fire alarm as a possible structure fire because you never know when you might roll up on this.

listening - 06/02/11 - 23:50

Majority of those engines were pumper tankers and were acting as tankers to help supply a large volume of water via tanker shuttle and drop tanks to a well involved structure. No hydrants in reasonable proximity here, how else do you suppose they get water to fight the fire?

WOW? - 06/02/11 - 23:55

@listening...Amen about fire alarm response.

Silver - 06/03/11 - 00:50

Preliminary photos posted, <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-0..>

Legeros - 06/03/11 - 08:04

Good job North Side. Another working BOX for Falls Fire.

JG - 06/03/11 - 12:27

JG is not the real JG of Falls

JG? - 06/03/11 - 12:30

Does Franklinton and Youngsville have paid day time guys or are they all volunteer 24/7?

Great to see those guys helping out. I know they are very much appreciated.

And did command have to call for additional resources by department or did dispatch have the automatic aid set up and did it include the Fraklin County Departments?

Just wondering - 06/03/11 - 14:22

I know Youngsville has day-time staff at all three stations but I can't speak for Franklinton.

911 - 06/03/11 - 15:42

Franklinton is 100% Vollie

F-655 - 06/03/11 - 15:47

Command had to call individual resources. There is no second alarm.

Answer - 06/03/11 - 15:48

So much for closest-unit response. Previously I posted how the county departments were getting screwed by the City by putting the city residents before the county residents by only implementing closest-unit response when it brings the county into the city limits and this call is a prime example. The only time I hear the city going into the county is when there are plans of annexation of certain areas. E10, 12, 26, Garner and Eastern Wake are prime examples. However, in this case the city will never annex the watershed so why send a unit?

According to Google maps E25 is 3.4 miles to this location. Falls is 3.8 miles. Stony Hill #1 is 5.0 miles.

Just an observation.

RescueRanger - 06/04/11 - 20:40

RR thats a great point, there is a lot of issue with closest unit response. Another factor to look at is that since closest unit was initially implemented, the people who created it have never updated it. They havent gone back to look and see if new neighborhoods have been built or if some areas need revising because a "closest unit" really isnt closest. It is a flawed system with so much potential that will never work right.

On another point, even if E25 was not on initial, why not have them respond along with E22 once additional full assignments were requested, I understand they only have 500 gallons of water and are not vital to the water supply issue and have to be special called but they could have been used for manpower and at least help get lines into place and make some additional attacks while water supply was being fully established. Not only could they have been there faster then many other units but it could have helped to ease the massive depletion of the departments on the north side. Including coverage bayleaf had 6 of 8 engines out there, falls, stony hill and wake forest completely depleted, durham highway down to 1 engine, new hope down to one engine. I know its after the fact and its been harped on enough but maybe when the contract with Motorola ends in about a year, a new system can help to ease our problems

agreed - 06/04/11 - 21:17

RR and Agreed you are correct! The system is flawed! We run with WNHD station 1 all the time, they send us and them to fire and ems call off of n new hope but the other day when we had the apartment fire on coolridge which is about 2 city blocks from n new hope rd they were not even on the run card 1st or 2nd alarm! that make no sense they are a heck of alot closer than 15, 11, 27 and 21! We train with them, break bread with them and run calls on one street but not the next! Anyway be safe brothers!J

Jason Lane - 06/04/11 - 21:35

They run with Garner because they were asked to so that we have a 3rd eng on fires which will potentially be assigned RIT unless they arrive 2nd due and not 3rd due. In other areas they truly are the closest unit ie the Gatewood subdivision.

Mi - 06/04/11 - 22:19

OK here's the dirt. You all know that county-city stuff is crazy. Closest unit response from RFD into the county is based upon RFDs willingness to allow when they are asked. It is simple and has nothing to do with watershed, annexation or citizens. In this case it has simply never been asked of RFD to respond into this area. The system is not flawed but the orchestration if it is and we all know that. Let's flip the coin now. Response into the city by the county is another story. For example – County department says – "Raleigh can I PLEEEEAASSEEE run calls in the city because I am closer and I will do it for FREE". City says – "Sure, county fire department. Knock you socks off. You can respond into the city especially if it is free, does not cost Raleigh anything, all expenses are paid by the county and RFD gets extra personnel". So the county department says – "Oh that is so cool. I can now justify keeping my station open due to the number of incidents I can post from this station and show just how valuable I am to the city". Sounds silly doesn't it?

Closest unit blah blah - 06/05/11 - 01:37

What an idiot. No one asked to run closest unit you DA! It was simply implemented as the right thing to do for the citizens we serve. If my loved one needs help I don't care what it says on the door of the truck and neither should you. We are out there to save lives and property, in case you forgot. Go back under that rock you're living under.

blah blah - 06/05/11 - 11:05

I know the county and ECC are preparing to re-evaluate the current CAD recommendations for closest station/unit response (in the county) over the next few months. For example, the existing response areas will be adjusted based on new road construction, traffic patterns, etc. I hope there is better consistency between city and county on this one too. Maybe we will see an improved collective response that is more appropriate and hopefully with less duplication of assets. We'll keep our fingers crossed!

A.C. Rich - 06/05/11 - 13:01

Also, Justin, ...you did a great job as command at this fire. Don't forget: (1) we did not start the fire, (2) it typically has a head start on us in a rural area, and (3) ain't nothing going to be perfect at a fire scene! Good calls for safety were made from evacuation as collapse ensued, to water supply needs, to additional personnel. Yep, as RR listed above, E25 would have been a definite asset, but oh well... maybe next time. Again, good job sir!

A.C. Rich - 06/05/11 - 13:09

one can only hope it will improve... but ill hold my breath on that one

agreed - 06/05/11 - 13:09

This particular fire was interesting in particular, as a chief (?) officer came on the radio very early into the incident, to suggest that additional resources be pulled from areas a bit farther away. Don't recall hearing that before, though it is probably or certainly done on occasion.

Legeros - 06/05/11 - 13:10

That's true, I believe it was a Wake Forests chief that suggested that in dispatching additional assignments, not to pull them all from same station or same area in an early attempt to avoid depleting the north side. It's a good suggestion that should be done in every large scale fire without having to be requested

listening - 06/05/11 - 16:05

or maybe it was a falls chief, I know Wake Forest did ask central to have a Raleigh Battalion chief contact him so he could pull a Raleigh engine into coverage

listening - 06/05/11 - 18:12

While I see the logic, and think it's great for long, drawn out incidents, it shouldn't be the case for every big job. RFD used to do that on anything over a 2nd alarm. Great if the fire is contained (in this case it was), but on a true "snot slinger", when there's still an active fight, bring in the closest. That's why you have a move-up plan.....

RFD is working on this, I believe the Communication Committee, which is good to see.

On this one, seemed to work out perfectly, just one of those stubborn fires with a water supply issue and extreme weather conditions. Hydrate yourselves Brothers and Sisters, and that means before your tour!!!

Silver - 06/05/11 - 22:30

running automatic aid into another district does NOTHING to help keep a station open. Those runs are thrown out during the analyzation process. The only runs they look at are runs in YOUR district, and that, is a fact. As for closest unit it only counts for the county going into the city, when the county unit is 30 seconds or more quicker than the FIRST due RFD Station, not unit, but station. Once you start delving into second and third due, the county units are completely excluded from the equation.

and a lot of these things are "closest unit" based on countless meetings between the respective departments figuring things out, not at a higher level such as within RWECC. Couple that with a CAD system that is still based on police beats and geopoints and you can easily figure out why CAD is so dang screwy...

fact check - 06/05/11 - 23:49

@Fact check; Just out of curiosity is there a way to look up how many calls a department actually runs excluding the auto/mutual aid calls?

RescueRanger - 06/06/11 - 23:32

All these units... All the risk to responders..citizens.. All the money spent on this response... and the house still burned up... When are we gonna quit all this overkill on burning up houses... If it is gone.. turn everyone around.. keep it from spreading.. and lets try again another day.. thank God someone did not get hurt in this futile and overzealous fiasco...

Chuck - 06/07/11 - 22:43

Overzealous fiasco? Interesting... If you are an emergency responder, your opinion is very odd. If a citizen, I can understand to a degree. Please explain your perception more.

A.C. Rich - 06/08/11 - 00:18

I would have to agree somewhat on chuck's point...way overkill for this call, I sat there and couldnt believe there was 16 trucks responding... what was the manpower total on scene???.i can understand the need for tankers but damn!..some units took 20+ mins to get there ..by the time the house is a smoking hulk and will be gutted anyway...protect the exposures, lessen the chance for a responder to get injured and insurance will cover the house...just my opinion

got a point - 06/08/11 - 16:47

Good points. Tankers are needed but personnel are too (it's a 95 degree day). Maybe some of the resources could have been returned earlier, but that is a decision of the IC and his resource management approach. Maybe this can be educational to some extent... Here's my perspective as a fire chief in a rural area. I agree... it really does seem like a lot of resources, but rural water supply requirements are very different than what most associate with a typical municipal fire. Yeah... we all know that. Here's one traditional gap in understanding... a rural firefighting reality is to plan for (auto-aid) or request assistance (mutual-aid) based on the potential and return the assets if not needed. Therefore many rural fire departments have established larger run orders for rural structural fires so an adequate initial attack may be established with the "dispatched" resources. Strategy aside, water is a premium. Also, time of day and the availability of responders is also a factor. Even still, after the fire is out, overhaul is a large undertaking where personnel resources will be stressed.

As for mutual aid and tankers: an accurate rule of thumb for rural water supply is 1ea. 1000 gallon tanker per 100 gpm flow needed (or expected), per mile one way to the water point. So if 500gpm is required or expected and it is 2 miles (one way) to the water point, the total minimal tankers required would be 10. If we apply the IFSTA recommendation of "+1", 11 tankers would be recommended. Those tankers are required on the road and do not include the other pumping apparatus and personnel needed. Granted the tankers will drop their personnel on the scene. If we truly speak of the safety of responders, risk is minimized if enough resources are on the scene and rehab is rotated. Overkill is a gauged statement based on the value an agency leader places on their personnel. Sorry... I'm sounding like Mr. Blah Blah above by going "blah, blah, blah" and preaching to the choir! As for Stony Hill, we appreciate your auto-aid response and we'll have water if you will come!

A.C. Rich - 06/08/11 - 18:02

One thing I have seen as a potential problem(libality/image) in my past vollie experience is the need for the water supply office to cut the mutual aid back to non emergency traffic once the fire is under control and the overhaul is started. No need for 10-4 on the floor back and forth from the water point!!! And no I am not talking about this call.

Rob Mitchell - 06/08/11 - 20:35

I think we can minimize the traffic and danger of all the pumper/ tankers if we go with the idea of the tractor drawn tankers that Chief Swift had! Ha Ha Ha!! All joking aside. How many gallons of water was used on this fire and how many tankers were in the shuttle that had 1500 gallons or more?

Tanker - 06/08/11 - 21:10

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.

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

Franklinton at Falls

06/02/11 30 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Coverage at the Falls Fire Department during today's house fire. [See prior post](#). Driving distance between fire stations is 15.3 miles, says Google Maps. Click to enlarge:



Decided Franklinton was closer than Fuquay this time.

Marcus - 06/04/11 - 18:02

Wonder why they did not send their new engine?

wonder - 06/04/11 - 18:44

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Stony Hill Wet-Down, Sunday, June 5

06/03/11 86 W, 1 I - + 9 - 1

Stony Hill Pumper 392 will be placed in service on Sunday, June 5, after a wet-down ceremony at 2:00 p.m. The location is Stony Hill Station 2 at [15633 New Light Road](#), Wake Forest. The traditional ceremony consists of neighboring fire departments spraying water on the new truck, to anoint its entry into service. The new apparatus, a 2011 Pierce Saber pumper, was delivered on March 25. Below is a photo from Lee Wilson of the engine, taken the day after delivery.



Lee Wilson photo

Hey AC; beer tents?

Silver - 06/03/11 - 23:01

Nah, but it is a good idea!!

A.C. Rich - 06/04/11 - 19:09

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

Hello Twitter

06/04/11 57 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Mr. Blogger is now tweeting. Meaning what, birds in a nest on his flowered shirts? Try Twitter, the social media and microblogging service at twitter.com. Follow Mike Legeros at twitter.com/legeros. Links to blog posts, links to posted fire photos, and some exclusive content, such as links to news stories of interest.



Oh No! I have to now be worried that Mike will catch up to, and surpass my 10,332 Tweets. :)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/06/11 - 13:06

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'?

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

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

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Warren County Junior Firefighter Competition, June 11 | Updated

06/12/11 123 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

[Warren County Fire Explorer Post 672](#) passes along this flyer announcing the First Annual Junior Firefighter Competition on Saturday, June 11, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Warrenton Lion's Den, [429 W. Ridgeway Street](#), Warrenton. Teams of junior firefighters from across the state will be attending and competing. Hope to see you there! Click to view the PDF flyer:



June 12 update. Four Wake County fire department explorer posts participated in yesterday's games: Fairview (two teams), Knightdale, Raleigh, and Stony Hill. The latter brought back a mess of trophies. There were also photos taken by Mr. Lee Wilson. More information forthcoming, as we've requested a run-down of everyone who participated and the results therein. Congratulations to all.

It was a great day for all and Wake County was WELL REPRESENTED! Warren County hosted a great event – very fun and competitive. One cannot emphasize how important our junior programs are and I for one appreciate each young person that participated. Stony Hill was awarded: Best Sportsmanship, Tug-of-War 2nd place, Knowledge-Based Oral 2nd place, "Relay Event" 3rd place, "Drink Break" 3rd place, Participant Award. Congrats to all!

A.C. Rich - 06/12/11 - 09:38

Pics from Lee posted at <http://www.legeros.com/firepics>

Legeros - 06/13/11 - 08:20

Here's a Warren Record story about the event, [http://vancnews.com/articles/2011/06/15/..](http://vancnews.com/articles/2011/06/15/)

Legeros - 06/16/11 - 07:57

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

TinyURL Generator For Firefox Browser

06/04/11 137 W - + 7 - 3

[TinyURL](#) is the exceptionally useful web site that turns long web site addresses into short web site address. The shorter addresses (or URLs) are great for pasting into Facebook or Twitter postings. Such as this: <http://tinyurl.com/yf8pvco> instead of this: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/index.php>. There's a [TinyURL Generator add-on](#) for the Firefox web browser that reduces the number of steps to generate a TinyURL. Try it out!

Old way:

1. Copy long URL onto clipboard.
2. Visit TinyURL web site.
3. Paste long URL into web site form field.
4. Click button to generate short URL.
5. Copy short URL onto clipboard, for pasting elsewhere.

New way:

1. Right-click on page or link and select option for generating TinyURL.
2. Short URL both generated and copied onto clipboard, for pasting elsewhere.

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.

Today's Trench Rescue in Apex, Updated

06/04/11 247 W, 2 I - + 9 - 3

Let's see if we craft a quick narrative here. Apex Fire & EMS, Cary Fire, and Wake County EMS treated and removed a construction worker injured at a construction site earlier this afternoon. Apex Ladder 3 and EMS 41 were the first units on scene, dispatched as a medical call about 11:20 a.m. Patient found approximately a quarter-mile off the road, at the Highway 540 construction site off Old Holly Springs Apex Road.

Personnel transported to accident site by four-wheel vehicles on site. Found male patient in 20-foot metal trench box, pinned under a large rock. Additional units responded/requested, including Apex Battalion 1 (Incident Command on roadway), Car 1 (Operations Command at accident site), Rescue 4, and USAR 1 (tractor-drawn).

Patient subsequently self-extricated from underneath rock, but still required treatment and removal. Second alarm for manpower requested from Cary Fire Department. They responded with Engine 4, Rescue 4, Engine 6, Battalion 1, and their tractor-drawn collapse rescue unit. Additional EMS resources for rehab requested, with Truck 1 dispatched. Other EMS units on scene included EMS 1, EMS __, and District 5.

Patient treated and packaged in trench box. Tracked excavator used as rigging tripod for raising patient using stokes basket. Removed from trench about 1:15 p.m. Transported by EMS 1 to nearby air ambulance, WakeMed Air Mobile 1. Landing zone was dirt access road just off the paved off. Maybe a few more details forthcoming. Good job all around. Now time to clean those camera sensors of mine! [See photos by Mike Legeros](#). Click to enlarge:



Where is the helicopter from?

Marcus - 06/04/11 - 17:52

“Transported by EMS 1 to nearby air ambulance, WakeMed Air Mobile 1.”

Legeros - 06/04/11 - 17:53

Guess my reading comprehension needs a little work.

Marcus - 06/04/11 - 20:14

Air Mobile 1 has been quite busy lately. This incident plus the transport of the 1 critical patient that was part of the Fatal MVA up towards Wake Forest last night and other recent incidents I can't recall at the moment. But good to see them being used.

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/06/11 - 13:09

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](#))

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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.

Western Wake's Chevrons

06/05/11 33 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

As photographed yesterday by Lee Wilson, and recently added to apparatus. Left to right are Engine 191, Rescue 295, Pumper 196, and Brush 299. [See more rear-view photos from Lee.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

FireNews story about same, [http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news ...](http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news...)

Legeros - 06/06/11 - 18:24

Hat's off to WW firefighter Matt Cross for putting in the hours. It turned out fantastic.

Kermit - 06/06/11 - 18:40

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

Walnut Terrace Demolished

06/05/11 39 W, 3 I - + 7 - 7

Three views from South Wilmington Street. That's the Keeter Training Center smokehouse in the distance in the third shot. [See pre-demolition explorations](#) of the 300-unit public housing facility, which was built in 1959. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

- Yes
- No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Station 3 in 1943

06/05/11 106 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Random Raleigh Fire Department historical photo from 1943. Fire Station 3 in its original location at 135 E. Hargett Street. Left to right are William J. "Bill" Lindsey (1933 to ?), Lawson H. "Foots" Glenn (1926 to ?), Capt. W. Leonard Choplin (1914 to 1949), James A. "Jimmy" Poole (1926 to 1967), Bernard C. "B.C." Dowd (1933 to 1945), Dempsie D. Collins (1929 to 1964), and William "Bill" Kelly (1943? to ?). The shape in the lower-left corner looks to be a dog that declined to stand still during what was likely a longer camera exposure. The photo comes courtesy of Poole's daughter, Betty Poole Brinkley. Click to enlarge:



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'?

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

UPDATED - Remembering the Raleigh Speedway

11/06/14 148 W, 3 I - + 15 - 5

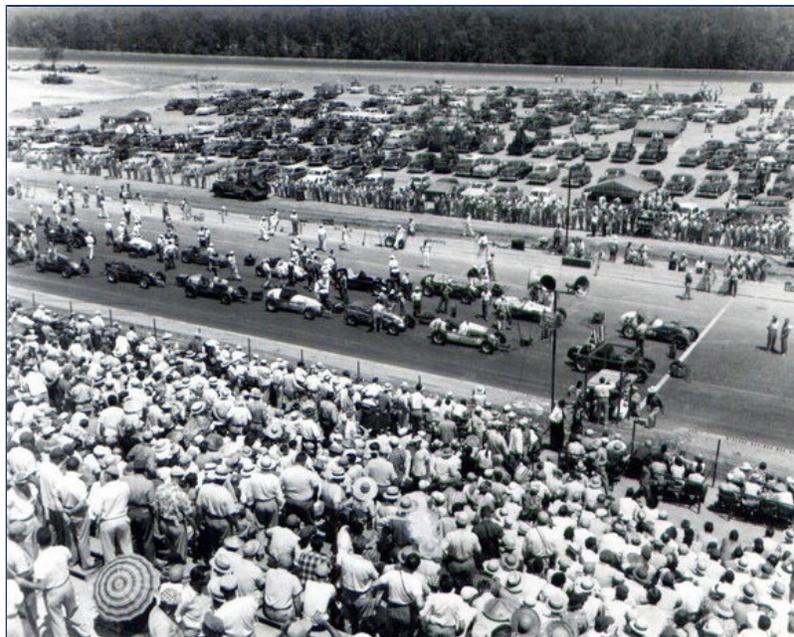
November 5, 2014

Found a couple aerial photographs of the old speedway, via this [blog posting from Mark Turner](#). Top is a picture of a picture from 1960. Bottom is from 1965, from courtesy of the North Carolina Geological Survey. Click to slightly enlarge:



June 5, 2011

Today's *News & Observer* features a nifty retrospective by researcher Teresa Leonard (read her [Past Times blog](#)) about the Southland Speedway, renamed the Raleigh Speedway in 1953 when it hosted its first NASCAR race. Alas, the track closed five years later. Reasons included a city-county ban on Sunday racing and neighbors grumbling about the noise. [We've blogged about the race track before](#), about a double-fatality crash in 1953. [And here's an old map](#) excerpt showing the track location. [Read today's article](#), which includes this splendid photo of the track in action. Click to slightly enlarge:



News & Observer photo

And here's a really neat web page, with more information and map showing the old location superimposed over the current landscape:

<http://www.uthd.com/raleigh-speedway.htm>.

Legeros - 06/05/11 - 13:11

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 - *Caption This Photo / Sewage Truck* « Station 3 in 1943 » Apex USAR 1 Overturns

Caption This Photo / Sewage Truck Overturns

06/06/11 38 W, 1 I - + 12 - 3

[As posted by WRAL](#), as happened on Highway 64 just before noon. The driver wasn't injured. The amount of sewage spilled was minimal. Unknown if the accident caused skid marks.



WRAL photo

"Oh Sh...."-Truck Driver

Beach - 06/06/11 - 23:34

Sounds like a crappy call to have to take if you ask me....And it looks like this occurred in the Number 2 lane ;)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/07/11 - 00:03

The guys back at the shop will probably give this Driver a bunch of crap about this one!!

Silver - 06/07/11 - 01:37

He got the runs

Rb Mitchell - 06/07/11 - 11:44

What a load of crap!

Mrs. Blogger - 06/08/11 - 20:34

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Apex USAR 1

06/07/11 148 W, 4 I - + 8 - 6

Did you know that the Apex Fire Department is a member of North Carolina USAR Task Force 4, based out of Troutman in Iredell County? The task force is comprised of Apex, Mooresville, Morrisville (also here in Wake County), and Troutman fire departments. [See a map of all USAR teams statewide.](#)

Task Force 4 has a complete compliment of equipment and tractor-drawn rigs, including this one operated by AFD. Designated USAR 1, it's a 1995 Freightliner tractor pulling an extended trailer. 'Twas a former racing transporter.

The cab seats five and has a rear seat that can be used for sleeping. The unit is housed at Station 3 and was placed in service some months ago. The rig cost about \$42,000, which was donated by the [Apex Community Auxiliary](#), a group that supports Apex EMS. Here are a couple photos as taken at the [trench rescue on Saturday](#). Click to enlarge:



Can someone run down what comprises a Type 1, 2, 3 and 4 team?

harkey - 06/07/11 - 08:15

From the above web site, though the pages appear dated to 2008...

Type I Teams – These teams are equivalent to a FEMA Type I USAR Task Force. NC USAR Type I teams teams have technical search and rescue capability for any type of structure, from light to heavy, as well as swift water rescue and land search capability and are fully self-supporting for a minimum of 3 days. A Type I Team is capable of 24 hour operations and will respond with 70 personnel.

Type II Teams – NC USAR Type II teams teams have technical search and rescue capability for any type of structure, from light to heavy, as well as swift water rescue and land search capability and are fully self-supporting for a minimum of 3 days. A Type II Team is capable of 12 hour operations and will respond with 35 personnel. Two Type II teams can be combined for a Type I response. Note: TF-10 has 1 canine with handler that is structural collapse certified

Type III Teams – NC USAR Type III teams teams have technical search and rescue capability for any type of structure, from light to heavy, as well as swift water rescue and land search capability and are fully self-supporting for a minimum of 3 days. A Type III Team is capable of 24 hour operations and will respond with 32 persons.

Type IV Teams – NC USAR Type IV teams have technical search and rescue capability for light to medium structures, as well as swift water rescue and land search capability and are fully self-supporting for a minimum of 3 days. A Type IV Team is capable of 12 hour operations and will respond with 16 persons. Two Type IV teams can be combined for a Type III response.

Legeros - 06/07/11 - 08:25

On a related USAR note, here's a local blog posting about Task Force 8 and their pCom unit, that Google Alerts found for me:

<http://www.markturner.net/2011/06/03/eme..>

Legeros - 06/07/11 - 08:28

This may be a simple question with a complicated answer, but...got somebody trapped, what is the guidance for who you call to help get 'em out? Is it proximity, severity of entrapment, or what?

Chris - 06/07/11 - 08:46

Mooresville makes sense, but is anyone else confused as to why Morrisville and Apex are associated with a USAR team on the other side of the state with several USAR teams in between and a USAR team headquartered in their own county?

confused - 06/07/11 - 10:01

Yes I have wondered the same thing, seems to be a waste of money.

Yes - 06/07/11 - 10:54

I'm confused even more by what we do, where we go or why do we go, closest unit or lack there of, who does what, when are they staffed or who's on first alarm, why no second alarm. Agreed Confused and Yes....it's crazy

I don't know. I just go where they send me.

Buckwheat - 06/07/11 - 12:01

Chris, I wonder if the answer to your question is as simple as this: if you have the ability to make the rescue, you execute. If you do not, you call for assistance through the usual channels. If you're an engine, you call for the rescue. If they don't have the ability to make the rescue, they know to call the technical rescue team. Or, say, mutual aid resources that can help. Or, say, they contact a chief officer or the big chief, who knows of neighboring departments with resources. Or knows to contact NC EM, to request a USAR resource. etc. etc.

Legeros - 06/08/11 - 07:27

Is the Cary FD collapse tractor-trailer part of Task Force 8?

Andrew ([Email](#)) - 06/08/11 - 20:04

No, the truck transports the Town of Cary FD technical rescue equipment and is not associated with NCTF-8.

KDM - 06/08/11 - 20:12

Huge WASTE of funding!!! Why are these smaller teams still funded and why were they created in the beginning?? During hard budget times, fund the Type I teams. Sorry, just makes good business sense. Apex is 10 minutes away from Task Force 8. Who makes those plans of team assest locations?

Many questions? - 06/09/11 - 08:51

My guess would be someone with N.C. Dept. of Crime Control and Public Safety.

Silver - 06/09/11 - 09:04

The smaller teams appear to be funded for incidents such as, oh lets say a tornado tears through the state and Charlotte and Raleigh are too busy cleaning up their own mess to go anywhere. That would seem like a good use for the smaller teams.

Answer to the question - 06/09/11 - 10:00

Or... an incident does not require the capabilities of a full blown Type I response, or initial activities can't wait for a team to show up from Raleigh or Charlotte. Now you have a team in your backyard to start the process and evaluate the need for a larger scale response. Some of the smaller teams responded to the flooding down east a few months ago, handling it without having to wait for a team to come in from Raleigh.

Also, I know in times of economic turmoil it's easy to see anything as a waste of money if it's not being used every day. But let's remember that most of the equipment has been long since bought and paid for for all these teams. And a significant amount of the money came from Federal Grants after 9/11. Now the only money used is for training, maintenance and upgrades to equipment.

Let's not forget that we are also in Hurricane ally, and with one good size storm both of the Type I teams can be completely deployed while there's still the need for additional support until a FEMA team(s) could arrive. Our US&R program in this state is one to be very proud of, and should make all citizens feel reassured in case of any disaster.

more answers - 06/09/11 - 10:44

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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Raleigh Fire Department Museum Opening Flier

06/07/11 62 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

Here's a flier further promoting this month's opening of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum at the Keeter Training Center. The grand opening is next Tuesday, June 14. The museum will also open on the second Saturday of each month, beginning this month. More to tell, show, and share later. Click to view the PDF format flier:

The Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society is proud to announce...

Raleigh Fire Department Museum Grand Opening
Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive
Tuesday, June 14 - 10:00 a.m.

Beginning in June, the museum opens one day each month:

Raleigh Fire Department Museum Saturday Openings
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

- June 11 (preview)
- July 9
- August 13
- September 10

Please note that the department's collection of antique apparatus is housed at a separate location, at Fire Station 28, 3500 Forestville Road.

The Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization - Learn more or donate online at www.raleighfirehistory.org



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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John Peckham's American LaFrance Database

06/08/11 534 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

The database of American LaFrance apparatus compiled by the late great John Peckham is available on the [SPAAMFAA web site](#). Click the **Resources** link to get started. There are presently 17,800+ records of what looks like motorized apparatus only, with shipping dates from 1910 to 1959. Plus a couple from 1960.

Society for the Preservation & Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America

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FIRETRUCK DATABASE - American LaFrance

Search Database

Registration No.
 Type/Style
 Order No.
 Shipment Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
 City, State
 Country
 All text fields

Resources

- [Introduction](#) by John Peckham (pdf)
- [Abbreviations](#) referenced by J. Peckham (pdf)
- [Comments](#) (pdf)
- [Numbers](#) (pdf)
- [Types & Specifications](#) (pdf)

Hard copies of truck data (J. Peckham's volumes) are available from [Lutz Lee](#).
 Contact [Cindy Bennett](#) or [Alan Socolinski](#) for additions or corrections to the database.

Additional note for Commercial Chassis:
 Brochure/ALF build sheets and production records are on microfilm and on file at the MACK Truck Museum in Allentown, PA. Mack Truck Museum will copy build sheet, if available, for a nominal donation.

Don't know much about Mr. Peckham. He was an author and apparatus buff, and his name has been long-associated with American LaFrance research. In his introduction to the data, he cites his diverse sources and those that helped him. Talk about a labor of love, both from Peckham and those who have augmented, assisted with, and continued his research.

The database is still being maintained, and the site welcomes additions or corrections to the database. **How many other apparatus databases are out there, on the Internet?** Next question, how many LaFrances were recorded as serving in North Carolina? Below is a simple count based on city names, with such local data as Cary (1), Chapel Hill (3), Durham (4), Raleigh (17), Wake Forest (1), Zebulon (1):

Aberdeen - 2
 Ahoskie - 1
 Albemarle - 1
 Albermarle - 2
 Andrews - 2
 Asheboro - 2
 Asheville - 9
 Ashville - 1
 Ayden - 2

Azalea - 1
Beaufort - 1
Belhaven - 1
Belmont - 3
Bessemer City - 1
Biltmore Forest - 1
Black Mountain - 1
Blowing Rock - 2
Boone - 1
Brevard - 4
Bryson City - 2
Burgaw - 1
Burlington - 6
Burnsville - 1
Butner - 1

Canton - 2
Carolinabeach - 1
Carthage - 3
Cary - 1
Chadbourne - 1
Chadburn - 1
Champaign - 1
Chapel Hill - 3
Charlotte - 21
Cherryville - 2
China Grove - 2
Clinton - 2
Concord - 2
Conover - 1
Dallas - 1
Dunn - 2
Durham - 4
East Rochester - 1
Edenton - 2
Elizabeth City - 6
Elkin - 1
Enka - 2
Falson - 1
Farmville - 2
Fayetteville - 6
Franklin - 1
Franklinton - 2
Ft.Bragg - 1
Gastonia - 4
Goldsboro - 6
Granite Falls - 1
Greensboro - 16
Greenville - 1
Hamlet - 1
Hawthorne - 1
Henderson - 5
Hendersonville - 3
Hertford - 1

Hickory - 9
High Point - 10
Holdredge - 1
Huntersville - 1
Jacksonville - 3
Kernersville - 2
Kings Mountain - 2
Kinston - 4
Landis - 1
Laurinburg - 2
Leaksville - 3
Lenoir - 4
Lexington - 5
Lillington - 1
Lincolnton - 3
Littleton - 2
Louisberg - 1
Louisburg - 2
Lumberton - 5
Madison - 2
Maiden - 1
Marion - 1
Marshall - 1
Marshville - 1
Maxton - 1
Mccoll - 1
Mebane - 2
Monroe - 2
Mooresville - 1
Morehead City - 3
Morganton - 2
Morgantown - 1
Mount Holly - 1
Mount Olive - 3
Mountairy - 3
Murfreesboro - 1
Murphy - 2
Nashville - 1
Newbern - 4
Newton - 2
Norlina - 1
North Carolina (State) - 1
North Wilkesboro - 1
North Wilksboro - 1
Oxford - 3
Pinehurst - 1
Plymouth - 1
Raeford - 1
Raleigh - 15
Raliegh - 2
Red Springs - 2
Reidsville - 4
Roanoke Rapids - 2
Robbins - 1

Robersonville - 1
Rockingham - 3
Rocky Mount - 8
Rowland - 1
Roxboro - 2
Rutherfordton - 1
S.F. Hayward Nyc - 1
Salisbury - 7
Sanford - 3
Shaw Hill - 1
Shelby - 5
Snow Hill - 1
Southern Pines - 3
Spindale - 1
Spray - 1
Spruce Pine - 2
Statesville - 3
Stateville - 1
Sylva - 1
Tabor City - 1
Tarboro - 4
Taylorsville - 1
Thomasville - 1
Town Of Morgantown - 1
Troy - 1
Tryon - 1
USA Ft. Bragg - 2
Valdese - 2
Wadesboro - 3
Wake Forest - 1
Wallace - 1
Washington - 5
Waynesville - 2
Weldon - 2
Whiteville - 3
Williamston - 1
Williamstown - 1
Wilmington - 9
Wilson - 8
Winston Salem - 6
Winston-Salem - 4
Zebulon - 1
Total- 403

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Vintage Kill Devil Hills and Skyland Apparatus

06/08/11 86 W, 3 I - + 12 - 8

Found for sale on eBay, still more 35mm scans of vintage apparatus from both sides of the state. Photo credit not known. Top to bottom is a 1969 American LaFrance pumper (1000/500) and a 1980 American LaFrance telesquirt (1500/500/50') from Kill Devil Hills, and a beautiful low-profile 1976 Oshkosh/Howe/LTI aerial ladder (1250/85') from Skyland. How many of those served in the Carolinas? That's also the type of ladder truck that Matchbox once made as a die-cast model. Remember that one?





I used to have one of those old Matchbox aerials... it was fun to play with.

CJS ([Email](#)) - 06/08/11 - 12:38

I had the opportunity to drive that Skyland ladder back in the late 80's. It was a cool experience, but I felt like I was sitting in a Yugo rather than a fire apparatus.

Olson - 06/08/11 - 22:19

I remember visiting Skyland when I went to WCU, I was taller than the cab of the truck. Sure was a strange looking truck.

charlie3 - 06/09/11 - 17:01

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.

Outside Fire | Emergency Fire Dispatch Debuts

06/08/11 245 W - + 12 - 2

If you've been listening to city or county fire dispatch for the last 36 hours, you've probably heard a couple new call types. Such as Outside Fire. Or what Raleigh units were dispatched to this afternoon, Extinguished Structure Fire. Starting yesterday, the Raleigh/Wake County Communication Center began dispatching fire calls using a new protocol called Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD).

The system works like Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), which the Wake County EMS System has been using for 13 years now. Call takers ask more questions and more targeted questions, and classify calls with a wider and thus more accurate range of call types. And more accurate priorities therein. (Sound good as a layman's description? [Here's a Google-found document](#) that tells about this trademarked system of priority dispatch.)

Anyway, what we'll be hearing on the radio are some new call types, and accompanying numeric descriptors. Such as 69 delta 9, which is a structure fire involving a mobile home, house trailer, or portable office. Here's an example of [EFD codes as used in Guiford County](#). Watch for the codes for Raleigh and Wake County, as soon as your favorite scanner nuts and fire buffs (myself included) get their data together.

Readers and radio users can and certainly will expand this information and discussion as needed. And then in another week, get ready for radio changes on city fire channels. No more major working fire. More information on those changes in a later posting.

Plain text? 16-20

Rob Mitchell - 06/08/11 - 20:11

Will translate EFD codes for food.

Legeros - 06/08/11 - 20:17

And those that wish to contribute info (even anonymously) to assist us in making sure the codes are accurate are welcome to email me or Mike. I have started a Radioreference.com Wiki article about this topic: <http://bit.ly/WakeEFD>

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/08/11 - 21:31

lets go back to coding calls out when clearing – Victor One, Sam Two, Adam Paul Three, etc.

lee - 06/08/11 - 23:11

“Multiple Residence Structure Fire” was dispatched in Raleigh Tuesday night (late). Translation = “Apartment Fire” (which I think is a 69-D-7). Anyway, the county units have their field guides already and Raleigh FD will receive theirs in a few days. The EFD determinant codes are not really that hard to understand and I believe we will soon memorize the primary codes by virtue of exposure.

Also, I understand ECC is in the process of transitioning into the program completely so there will naturally be bumps in the road (they may wish to comment in detail). Currently on Locution you may hear the incident type (ex. “Outside Fire”), but may not hear the determinant code. In contrast you may only see the determinant code on the alpha, but no incident type. These discrepancies should alleviate soon as the program is fully operational.

I for one am an advocate for the new system as it provides the call-taker critical tools to assess the nature of the problem when speaking to the 911 caller, thus making the caller safer and providing us with additional information. My only concern is if there is too much reliance in the EFD information collection, it may not be readily transmitted verbally to responding units (unless you have a MDT and comments are added by ECC. In addition, we as responders will need to adapt our apparatus responses to meet the determinant code given (many of these changes are in process now). Finally, don't forget... the ECC telecommunicators are still learning too. This is new to them as well! Hang in there everyone!!

A.C. Rich - 06/09/11 - 01:00

Good Comments A.C. – its too easy to get into bellyaching because something is new. It may be aggravating but as said-we are still in transition. Give it a little time to smooth out and work with it. We are a remarkably resilient and capable species-we can make it work!

Goose - 06/09/11 - 11:59

As A.C. stated this is a VERY new program and there are bound to be growing pains, but it is a very close cousin to EMD which we have used successfully for years. So, we are hoping that the bumps will be minor. However, we are also realistic enough to know that there will be problems along the way, and are ready to address these issues in a controlled and reasonable manner. Locution should catch up shortly, so that, as indicated, the codes will be broadcast, as well. In the interim our folks are self policing and kicking themselves in the head each time they enter a call "the old way". This will work itself out in time, as old habits are often hard to break. One thing of note to the fire service is that this system was not developed in a vacuum. It is in service internationally, and elsewhere in NC. An informational meeting was held several months back, and the protocols were developed and fine tuned by representatives of both the city and county fire services. So, what you're hearing has been programmed specifically for Raleigh and Wake County. Fire services personnel also serve in ongoing advisory and QA capacities similar to the medical oversight required under EMD. The bulk of the effort was funded through RWECC 9-1-1 monies, with little to no impact upon local general funds.

RWECC – 06/09/11 – 15:21

RWECC - 06/09/11 - 15:23

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.

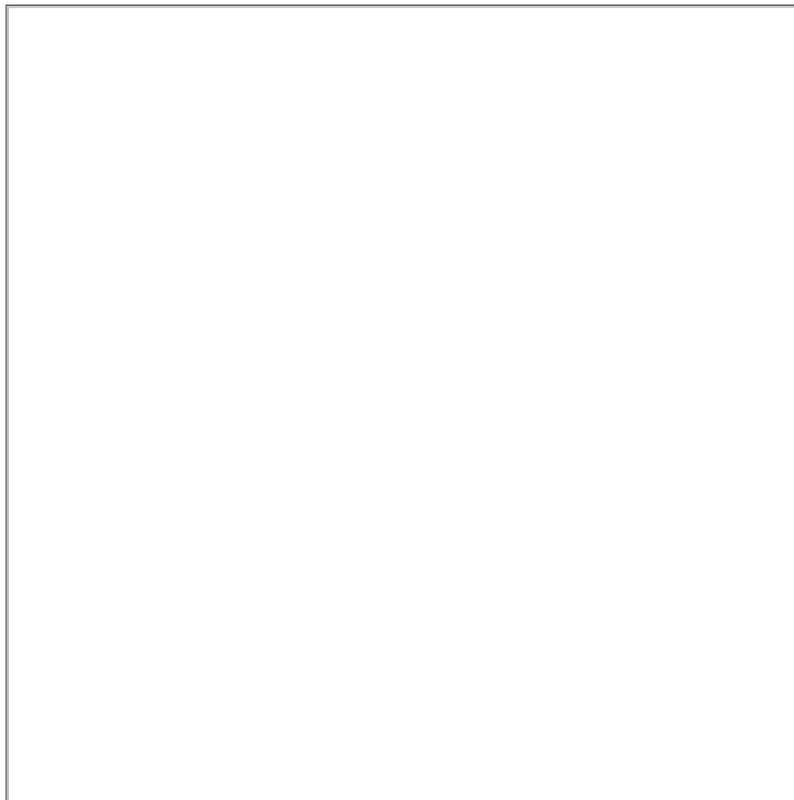
Moline Second Alarmers / Rochester Fire Protectives / Volunteer Auxiliaries

06/10/11 391 W, 3 I - + 9 - 3

Let's take a trip to the Midwest, where Mr. Blogger attended a family wedding in May. This beautiful engine house in Moline, IL, served as Station 4 from 1910 to 1989. The building is presently a training facility and also home to the **Moline Second Alarmers**. They're a volunteer auxiliary to the Moline Fire Department, formed in 1952 with a purpose of "assisting the Fire Chief in any manner by promoting, creating, and maintaining the best interests of [the department]." Notably, this included helping at any second-alarm fire. Not fighting fire, but as runners for tools, picking up and rolling hose, helping with traffic control, and washing and hanging hose back at the station.



[As their history](#) notes, their membership began to wane in the 1970s, as the numbers of multi-alarm fires began dropping. About that time, they acquired their first vehicle for use as a mobile air unit. That was a Chevy Suburban. With their fourth generation unit, they currently provide fire scene services including breathing air support, scene lighting, and refreshments and rehab. Interestingly, they also have an ex-Quad Cities rig, a 1955 American LaFrance 700 Series pumper that served Rock Island, IL. It's used for promotions and parades.



Moline Second Alarmers Photo

Speaking of auxiliaries, a reader recently passed along the web site for the [Rochester Protectives](#), a volunteer group that assists the Rochester Fire Department in New York. They date to the 1858, formed as a salvage company during a fire department reorganization that year, and are the oldest volunteer fire department to serve the city. With a command structure including a Chief, Deputy Chief, Captain, and five lieutenants, they perform salvage duties at fire scenes along with smoke-ejection and scene lighting. Their other activities include pumping water from flooded buildings and securing broken windows and doors.



What volunteer auxiliaries are serving around our state? There are a wealth of ladies auxiliaries, of course. And Explorer Posts provide services on scene including helping collecting equipment and rolling hose. Locally, there's Barry's Cafe, that provides food service to firefighters and responders. Are any salvage corps still operating in these parts, or in the south in general? Here in the Capitol City, volunteer groups have assisted the Raleigh Fire Department for decades. [Read this history of modern volunteers.](#)

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?
Yes

Tweeting The Night Away

06/10/11 516 W - + 5 - 2

Mr. Blogger has commenced a-tweeting. His hashtag is #legeros. His tweets are the same stuff of this blog. Local, regional, and even national firefighting. How does this relate to Twitter, that social media service that's been in the national news lately? You know, something about a hot dog vendor sending pictures of his product? Tweets are the messages sent using [Twitter](#). Tweets equals Twitter.

Why have we meaning me started tweeting? Aren't there enough of my pontifications and creepy third-person style of writing already being posted onto the Big Bad Internet? Simply, it seems like a good idea. Learning about micro-blogging through doing micro-blogging. And it's a popular digital channel. Good skill set to learn. Anyway, here's a sample of recent Tweets:

- Moline! Rochester! Raleigh! Volunteer auxiliaries, present and past. Those who help firefighters do their jobs. <http://tinyurl.com/3kv75hb>
- Fabulous Firehouse Homes, what I am reading, Yahoo story sent by reader. How cool is that? <http://tinyurl.com/3odc2ny>
- My what a big lens you have, action photo of Mike as taken by Lee. That clear plastic thing is a tip jar. <http://tinyurl.com/3zmrlel>
- Adventures in white balance and correction therein, subtitle of my graduation photos from yesterday, <http://tinyurl.com/3v5pv3s>
- Wake County EMS Recruit Graduation photos from Mike and Lee posted to <http://www.legeros.com/firepics>
- Outside Fire, blog post about Emergency Fire Dispatch, now being used in city and county fire call dispatches, <http://tinyurl.com/4yhon7z>
- Vintage Kill Devil Hills and Skyland Apparatus, blog post from 35mm slides for sale on eBay, <http://tinyurl.com/3b5zvrf>
- What nine alarms looks like, browsing morning news, AP photo via Firehouse.com, wow, <http://tinyurl.com/3nuhkju>
- Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD), day two in Raleigh and Wake County. New call types being heard. Call codes should be coming soon.
- Dave Statter and readers discuss firefighter images problems, and the nature of service calls, what I am reading, <http://tinyurl.com/42stoqt>
- John Peckham's American LaFrance Database, blog post about this great data on the SPAFAAA web site, <http://tinyurl.com/3rg57mu>
- Raleigh Fire Department Museum Opening Flier, blog post with PDF format flier, grand opening next Tuesday, <http://tinyurl.com/3dpajpf>
- Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD) starts today at 0800. Gentlemen, start your listening. More later.
- Task Force 8's pCom unit, found via Google Alerts in a blog post by Raleighite Mark Turner, <http://tinyurl.com/63qnx5f>
- Brooklyn apartment building burns quickly, what I am watching this morning via Statter911, <http://tinyurl.com/3rrzhqo>
- Apex USAR 1, blog post about the rig and Task Force 4, and a couple photos from Saturday's trench rescue: <http://tinyurl.com/3zcxyrh>
- RV rolls and starts grass fire in Selma. Driver departs. Officials scratch heads. N&O article I am reading, <http://tinyurl.com/62c58dx>
- Caption This Photo / Sewage Truck Overturms, blog post from WRAL photo. Doo doo occurs. <http://tinyurl.com/6anonvp>
- Rolesville's extended extrication last night, WRAL has photo of vehicle involved, what I am reading this morning, <http://tinyurl.com/3qcuhg6>

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Top Ten Links For Raleigh Fire History

06/11/11 202 W, 3 I - + 8 - 3

In honor of the [opening of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum](#), which has a preview date today from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., here are ten of my favorite links about the history of the fire department. Man, somebody's been a busy beaver, building all this web content!

- [Photo galleries from the historical society](#) - Hundreds of images here, with sources including the state archives, the N&O, the ECC, and the city itself.
- [Film footage](#) - About 30 minutes of silent color footage from about 1950. With annotations, of course.
- [Newspaper articles as e-books](#) - Four volumes of articles in PDF format, from 1867 to 1912.
- [The Night the Inmates Howled](#) - Narrative of the 1926 fire at the insane asylum.
- [Apparatus register](#) - Every known piece of apparatus that served the city.
- [Birth of a Fire Department](#) - Monograph about the formation of the paid department in 1912. 
- [Fire stations](#) - Histories and photos of every fire station.
- [The 1880s and 1890s](#) - Detailed history about two decades of the volunteer department. 
- [History chart](#) - Visualization of the department's history before 1912. 
- [Faces from the past](#) - The people. The department.

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'?

Mallard Creek and Newell Fire Departments Closing in Meck County

06/11/11 314 W - + 5 - 5

Found by way of Facebook, pointing to a Firehouse.com story, is [this WSOC story](#) on two Mecklenburg County fire departments closing at the end of the month. The story cites shrinking territories as one of the reasons.

Mallard Creek Fire Department, incorporated in 1953, has a station at 10702 Mallard Creek Road. They'll donate their assets to the Huntersville Fire Department, including two engines, a tanker, a brush truck, and a small medical vehicle.

Newell Fire Department, chartered in 1949, has a station at 9007 Newell Baptist Church Road. They'll donate its four pieces of apparatus to a local department, and are accepting applications from local departments to help make that decision. [This Charlotte Observer story from November](#) talks about NFD and their closure plans. Declining revenue, higher costs, and annexations cutting into their territory were cited as reasons for planned closure.

Rural departments in Mecklenburg County have been long-affected by municipal expansion. Here's a short history of the former departments, from my [database of former fire departments](#). There was also a fire department at the Charlotte Quartermaster Depot in the 1940s, which we'll omit from this list. Apples to oranges:

- Carmel FD - Renamed from Sharon FD around 1980, merged with Carolina FD in 1994 or 1995.
- Derita FD - Formed 1950, continued as rescue squad in 1994 or 1995, disbanded 1997.
- Hickory Grove FD - Formed 1953, renamed Robinson FD 1988.
- Moores Chapel FD - Formed 1954, merged into West Mecklenburg FD in 1984.
- Mallard Creek FD - Formed 1953, disbanded 2011.
- Newell FD - Formed 1949, disbanded 2011.
- Oakhurst FD - Formed 1952, reorganized as Idlewild FD in 1974.
- Pinoca FD - Formed 1949, merged with West Mecklenburg FD in 1994 or 1995.
- Route No. 10 FD - Operated between at least 1955 to 1957.
- Sharon FD - Formed 1959, renamed Carmel FD around 1980.
- Statesville Road FD - Formed 1957, disbanded 1989.
- Wilkinson Boulevard FD - Formed 1943, merged into West Mecklenburg FD in 1984.
- Woodlawn FD - Formed by 1950, disbanded 1974.

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

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Yongnuo LED Photo Light

06/12/11 213 W, 3 I - + 6 - 3

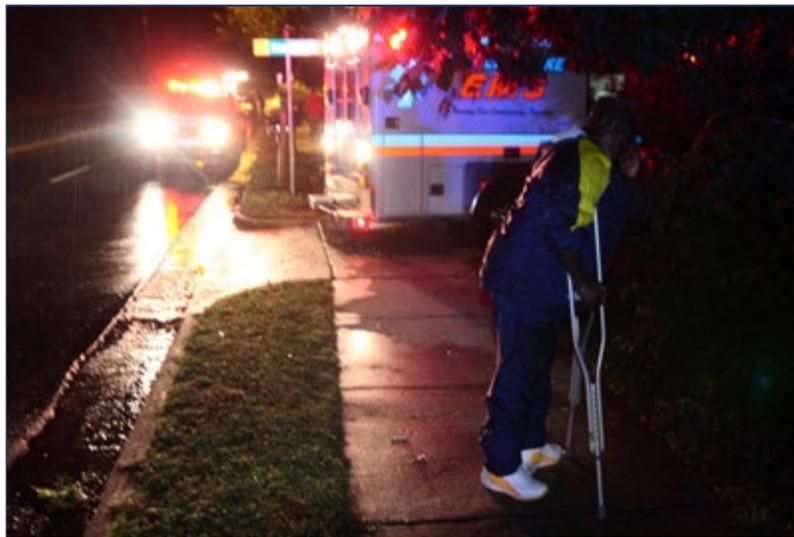
Trying a new camera light. Bought on eBay, paid about \$25 including shipping. Shipped from Japan. Made in Japan, by a company called Yongnuo Digital. The product is named LED SYD-0808 and/or LED Photo Light. The thing has an array of 64 LED lights, which can be switched into "low" mode with just 32 LED lights lighting.

Mounts on a camera's flash shoe, or using a screw-attached bracket . There's no electronic connection, however. The thing is manually activated. The power switch is a push-button, which is problematic. Seems like it could easily be activated if carried in a pocket, or even in a camera bag. For now, mine'll be stored with one of the four AA batteries removed as a precaution.



Test drove the light last night on Poole Road, at the scene of a motor-vehicle accident. [See those photos](#), which include comments about the lighting and other technical details. The results? As expected, the light lit all the reflect surfaces. Vests and gear glowed as if radioactive. Ditto for the lettering on the trucks. Hopefully it'll work better at a fire scene, and when there's a very dark building with very bright fire. We'll see. Below are a couple examples from last night. 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.

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

Long Lay on Rock View

06/12/11 100 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

That's Durham Highway Engine 1 in the foreground and halfway down [Rock View Drive](#), where Engine 23 is parked before an unoccupied single-family dwelling that caught fire earlier this morning. Bay Leaf, Morrisville, and Western Wake fire units were also on scene, which was located off Ebenezer Church Road. Just how far is the location from the respective department's stations? Google maps says driving distances were Raleigh Station 23 (2.6 miles), Durham Highway (4.5 miles), Western Wake (6.4 miles), Morrisville Station 2 (9.3 miles), and Bay Leaf Station 3 (10.3 miles).



Mike, do you have anymore pics? Does anyone have any information?

911 - 06/12/11 - 16:30

I will be posting the series of pictures a bit later today or tonight. I will include additional incident details.

Legeros - 06/12/11 - 16:33

Pics and description: <http://tinyurl.com/3p7jqfv>

Legeros - 06/12/11 - 18:34

Bay Leaf Sta 3 is 5.33 miles via the Lynn Rd to Glenwood route according to Map Quest. Sta 2 is most likely about 10.3 miles.

BE ([Email](#)) - 06/12/11 - 22:30

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Yes

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Comment:

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Kernersville Fatal* « Long Lay on Rock View... » [Caption This Photo / ...](#)
Apparatus Accident

Kernersville Fatal Apparatus Accident

06/12/11 115 W, 2 I - + 10 - 3

[WGHP is reporting](#) that Kernersville Engine 41 was involved in a fatal vehicle accident early this afternoon. The engine was responding to a call with lights and sirens activated when an automobile reportedly pulled out from a parking lot and into the path of the apparatus. The 80-year-old driver was killed, and a passenger in the car was transported to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries. The firefighters were also injured, and treated for minor injuries at Kernersville Medical Center. [WGHP has also posted several photos](#) from the scene, taken as the apparatus was being prepared for towing. Other coverage: [Greensboro News-Record](#), [WFMY](#).



WGHP photo



WFMY photo

I know that it isn't really in your area; but there's a currently-burning two-alarm warehouse/business fire that earlier shut down Hwy 52 (the main N/S highway through Winston-Salem.) It's on the same news websites that you got the Kernersville story from. I could see the smoke 10 miles away returning to the station in Walkertown. Two major incidents in this county in a day is pretty rare. Anyway, just thought you'd like to

know. (There's some pretty impressive fire pics on the sites as well.)

Joffre ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/12/11 - 22:05

Ten four, I was looking at the photos earlier. Then there was another big commercial fire earlier yesterday,

[http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news ..](http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news..)

Legeros - 06/13/11 - 08:41

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Caption This Photo / Your Historical Society in Action

06/12/11 112 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

These members of the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#) were caught on camera last week, at their monthly meeting slash work session at the museum trailer at the Keeter Training Center. They were putting the finishing touches on the museum, in preparation for this past Saturday's preview opening, and this coming Tuesday's grand opening. [Read more about that.](#)

Who's who? Left to right are Battalion Chief Alan Walters, Capt. David Barefoot, Lt. Tim Wall (retired), Capt. Jan Chamblee, Deputy Fire Marshal and Fire Protection Engineer Tim Hensaw, and department Historian (and long-ago former member) Mike Legeros. They're even almost color-coordinated! Click to enlarge:



I Always love casual Fridays at the Firehouse

Jason Nienow ([Email](#)) - 06/13/11 - 20:17

I always loved tube socks with low tops.

Jake T. - 06/14/11 - 15:51

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Mystery Spurs

06/12/11 31 W, 3 I - + 7 - 3

Exploration from last weekend. That's your clue. And a piece of advice: You can't tell which way the train went by looking at its tracks. Click to enlarge:



Picture #1 was taken here:

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=pz4ddc8..>

Picture #2 was taken here:

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=pz43438..>

Picture #3 was taken here:

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=pz4p9w8..>

RescueRanger - 06/12/11 - 22:47

Exactamundo. This crowd remains un-stump-able, it seems.

Legeros - 06/13/11 - 08:41

Whitaker mill at Atlantic

Christopher Young ([Email](#)) - 06/13/11 - 14:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Tunnels to Towers 5K Race in Wake Forest - Request For Participation

06/13/11 785 W - + 8 - 7

The Wake Forest Fire Department is requesting participation in this year's [Tunnel to Towers 5K race](#), an event to honor firefighters on the tenth anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001. Below is a message from Lt. David Collins about the event and how your fire department can participate:

To: All North Carolina Fire Departments

Re: The Tunnel to Towers 5K race: The run to honor us as firefighters in honor of the 10th anniversary of 9-11-

The Tunnel to Towers Story: The Tunnel to Towers is a 3.1 mile run to honor the legacy of Stephen Siller, FDNY, who laid down his life on 9/11, by "doing good" in his name. The mission of the run is to follow Stephen's footsteps.

On September 11th, firefighter Stephen Siller had just gotten off the late shift at Squad 1, Park Slope, Brooklyn. He was on his way to play golf with his brothers on that bright clear day when his scanner told of the first plane hitting the Twin Towers. When he heard the news, he called his wife Sally to tell her he would be late because he had to help those in need.

He returned to Squad 1 to get his gear, then took his final heroic steps to the World Trade Center. When Stephen drove his truck to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, it was already closed to traffic. With sixty pounds of gear strapped to his back, he ran through the Tunnel, hoping to meet up with his own company, Squad 1. SEP11 Stephen's life and his heroic death serve as reminder to us all to live life to the fullest and to spend our time here on earth doing good - this is his legacy.

For the past two years, Wake Forest has hosted our own Tunnel to Towers 5K race to honor Stephen and follow in his footsteps.

In honor of the 10th anniversary this year of 9/11, we would like as many firefighters from as many local fire departments to join us this year, as well as help with the request below.

Can you please help? In honor of Stephen and all of the 343 firefighters that we lost that horrible day, we would like to make this year's run special. I am asking for at least one pair of fire boots (can be worn and used) to be donated from each fire department in honor of the 343 men who gave the ultimate sacrifice. If you can donate more, it is greatly appreciated.

For each pair of boots that we receive, we are planning to line the 5K course with them and an American flag standing in the boots to represent each firefighter. In addition to the American flag, each pair of boots will be labeled with the fire department's name on it stating, "This pair of boots was donated by XXXXX Fire Department in honor of the 343 firefighters that paid the ultimate sacrifice on 9-11-01."

Each fire department will also receive a photo to display in your station. Following the race, we are partnering with "The Engines for Hope Foundation" and donating the fire boots to fire departments outside of the United States that are less fortunate than us and can use the boots. The Engines of Hope Foundation was started to provide fire and rescue apparatus and equipment to rural communities, both foreign and domestic, at an affordable price, allowing them to provide services for their citizens. (<http://enginesofhope.org>)

The boots can be shipped to the address below:

Wake Forest Fire Department
Attn: Lt. David Collins
420 East Elm Street
Wake Forest, NC 27587

I also invite any firefighter to join us on Saturday, September 10, 2011 in Wake Forest, NC. Please note that the firefighters do run (at a slow pace) in our gear (turnout pants, turnout coat, helmet and gloves) to follow in the steps of Stephen as he made the run from the Tunnel to Towers in his gear. These are just a few small ways that we, as brothers and sisters, can pay tribute to our brothers that we unfortunately lost on that tragic day.

I look forward to receiving a pair of boots from each local department to line the course in honor of one of the 343, as well as seeing you all out there with us in Wake Forest on September 10.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at all or need further information.

I appreciate your help.

Thank you,
Lt. David Collins
Wake Forest Fire Department
Station 1, Ladder 1
Work: 919-556-1966
Cell: 919-426-8085
dcollins@wakeforestfire.com

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Raleigh Fire Department Museum Opens June 14

06/13/11 150 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

[Here's a press release from the city of Raleigh](#), further announcing the grand opening of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum on Tuesday, June 14. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. The public is invited to attend, along with active and retired fire department personnel. The museum is located at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#).

The museum houses a collection of artifacts and images representing more than 150 years of firefighting in the Capital City. Items on display range from the 1870 alarm bell originally housed in Metropolitan Hall, to a collection of vintage nozzles and hose appliances, to a photo history of Raleigh's fire and rescue apparatus.

Yours Truly will be attending and there to help talk about both the history of the department and the mission of the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#). See you there!



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Weekend House Fires

06/14/11 89 W, 3 I - + 7 - 4

Two houses and one mobile home, actually. Rock View Drive in Raleigh on Saturday, June 11, with Durham Highway, Raleigh, Western Wake, Morrisville, and Bay Leaf fire departments. [See those photos](#). Timber Lane in Apex/Cary on Sunday, June 12, with Swift Creek and Fairview fire departments. [See photos from Lee Wilson](#). Vesta Drive in Garner also on Sunday, June 12, with Garner and Raleigh fire departments. [See photos from Lee Wilson](#).



Rock View Drive / Mike Legeros photo



Timber Lane / Lee Wilson photo



Vesta Drive / Lee Wilson photo

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

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

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Firefighter Fatality Reports

06/14/11 91 W, 2 I - + 7 - 2

[Firefighter Close Calls](#) yesterday passed along a pair of firefighter fatality reports. They're from the NFPA and USFA, and provide details and statistics about the on-duty firefighter deaths in 2010. Each agency also has differing criteria for classifying a firefighter fatality as on-duty, thus the difference between the totals. The NFPA lists 72, the USFA lists 85. As Chief Goldfeder notes in his latest posting to the [Secret List](#), both of their processes for analysis are relatively close to each other.

[Read the NFPA report](#) 

[Read the USFA Report](#)  | [Related Database](#)

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Quick Poll: Who Wears Shorts?

06/14/11 35 W - + 4 - 5

By reader request, here's a quick poll. Which Wake County fire departments wear shorts during the summer? Raleigh and Western Wake come readily to mind. Who else?

Thanks for participating.

Starting this year, we are allowed to wear them at Apex. We can wear them if it is 85 and above, and the entire company must wear them. We are also required to wear turnout pants over the shorts for anything that could involve blood-borne pathogen exposure.

Bob P. - 06/14/11 - 08:12

Just a question. Do you have to wear a turnout coat to protect your arms if you're wearing short sleeved shirts too? (just a jab)

Ryan - 06/14/11 - 09:28

We wear them in Garner

Mike - 06/14/11 - 09:50

We wear them at Falls.

Marcus - 06/14/11 - 11:00

And EMS bike teams don't wear anything over their legs on "messy" calls. It has been proven that skin is a very good barrier to blood borne pathogens as long as prompt irrigation is performed. I don't really understand the turnout pants on EMS calls things. I think they impose a greater risk of spreading germs: they are bulkier, you might not realize they got into anything, and they aren't washed after most EMS calls.

John - 06/14/11 - 11:12

Moville wears them. 80 degrees or higher. Whole company has to wear them or nobody wears them.

Spanky - 06/14/11 - 11:25

WNHFD wears them. Must have black shoes and socks.

AB - 06/14/11 - 11:55

We wear them at the Airport. Usually, you can wear them anytime you choose between March and November. Must have black shoes and socks. No boots. They are department issued black BDU shorts.

RDU CFR - 06/14/11 - 13:50

We wear them in Cary, the only draw back for us is that ours are allowed on a time table rather than a certain temperature. We can wear them beginning June 1 and ending on October 1. It gets hot enough to wear them in March and continues through November so therefore we are in the process of changing over to a temperature related guideline. We also have to wear bunker pants if we go on a run and Ryan is so right when he said "do we wear long sleeved shirts to cover our arms....."

Jacot - 06/14/11 - 14:17

@John

Yea. I just wanted to pose that question as to some's logic. We can finally wear them down here in Wilmington. (For three years now.) I have heard some people say that turnout pants are a must with the shorts for protection, but my argument would be that if it is necessary to cover the legs then it must be necessary to cover the arms as well.

We technically cannot wear our turnouts into our stations so that combustion products are not spread throughout the building(not a bad idea.) Yet we allow ourselves to don our gear for kids who tour our stations and come up and "touch the firefighter" or better yet, take our gear into

a classrom with the children and do the same.

Food for thought- and sorry to hijack a thread Mike.

Ryan - 06/14/11 - 14:24

Thanks Mike! Ryan, very good point. Ive always wondered the same thing. Wearing shorts and having to put gear on for EMS calls...Really? You hit the nail on the head about T-shirts. We carry Personal Protective kits on the trucks if its a "messy" call. Ive never used one of them nor have i put my arm down in someones blood or poo. Just sayin...

We dont wear shorts at my Dept. Maybe its in the works but not sure. What about the research? Has anybody seen or developed any data on the effects of wearing shorts in the hot months as opposed to wearing pants. Ray Charles could see that it makes the body cooler but what about numbers/degrees etc..?

TTaylor - 06/14/11 - 15:07

[removed by user request]

Brass Bait - 06/14/11 - 16:48

Thanks Brass. Im in the process now of doing the research, I just didnt know if Raleigh or Cary or Wake EMS had already had something put together on this topic.

TTaylor - 06/14/11 - 17:29

[removed by user request]

Brass Bait - 06/14/11 - 18:15

We don't wear shorts at our department. Reasoning was there are people with visible tattoos on their legs, as well as some rather large members who the brass think would look unprofessional (disgusting I think was used too) in shorts. I don't buy the whole shorts are an exposure risk (or unprofessional), as our duty pants don't have any kind of BBP barrier in them, as well as our arms being exposed too. If you know it's going to be a messy call (Bad trauma, CPR, OB, etc ;) use some common sense and wear your bunker pants and/or gown to protect yourself.

I'd love to wear shorts when it's hot outside. I'd love to have my t-shirt back too for the same reason, as well as the fact that they get dirty & stained so easily and from a budget standpoint (\$2.50 for a t-shirt, \$35 for a polo). I'm all for looking good, but this is still a blue collar, down & dirty job. We're firemen, not desk jockeys.

Drives a Ladder - 06/14/11 - 19:40

T shirts are no longer 2.50 I just placed a large order and they were around 10.00. The price of cotten has rocketed and madr prices increase. As far as shorts I am not a fan of them. Our guys do wear them as Bob said. They do look better with golf shirt vs a t shirt. As for the turnout gear goes, I was told it was so of you kneel down as most folks do you are somewhat protected. You rarely if ever put your elbows on the floor while doing CPR, you do put your knees or legs down

Scooter - 06/14/11 - 20:00

see paramedics do it all the time...in a golf shirt. Ive kneeled down on the floor several times and have still never put my knees in the nasty because of the common sense thing. So the bunker pants and shorts thing is ridiculous!

TTaylor - 06/14/11 - 21:44

We wear them in BLVFD, and am thank full for them.

Dove - 06/14/11 - 21:47

Cary was allowed to wear shorts because the suggestion to the Fire Chief was from a health and safety standpoint. Our pants in the summer retain body heat which in turn cause reduced work time and fatigue. The end result is that the retention of body heat causes undue stress on the cardiovascular system resulting in the increase of heart disease and the possibility of heart attacks. FDNY has done a study on pants vs shorts and related work times. This is the study that most departments use when attempting the change.

Jacot - 06/14/11 - 22:35

as stated already Western Wake members are allowed to wear shorts year round. It is left to the individual to determine when they feel more comfortable wearing shorts versus pants. Black shoes, or ankle high boots, black socks.

We are not 'required' to wear bunkers on EMS runs while in shorts, as it is left to the individual (or company officer) to make the determination on if they need them.

I personally cannot concur more with the earlier statements about exposure to possible pathogens on the knees or legs while wearing shorts. It has been stated time and time again the intact non-broken skin is one of the most effective barriers against BBP. And it is even more true that our 100% cotton (NFPA approved) work pants do nothing to protect us from BBP, as a matter of fact they absorb and retain them in their fabric. So now versus a quick wipe down you have to properly wash the pants, waiting until you return to the firehouse to do so. I've been doing this for a little while now, and have only gotten my gear contaminated a couple times, mostly on TCs and other trauma calls, not your breathing difficulty, or cardiac or 'manpower' calls. Common sense goes a long way here.

I enjoy being able to wear shorts at both the departments I work for and am happy to have such a privilege.

shevais - 06/14/11 - 22:51

@Jacot, you're spot on with the studies relating to core temperature. I think one was done by some folks in Canada (of all places) as well. I think last year there were two exposures in the city; one to the eyes and the other to the ARMS!!! Unbroken skin is the best barrier guys....

I'm thankful for my shorts, and thankful that Admin treats us like big boys and girls when it comes to uniforms. Today I'm working at Engine 7, wearing my third t-shirt of the day, thankful for them as well. This is a dirty job, blue collar as stated above. When someone finds themselves to be a bit chilly and need a sweatshirt, I may be sweating my "you know whats" off. With the crazy weather we have in NC, it may be 80 in February. My personal rule, if it's above 40 degrees when I'm getting ready in the morning, shorts it is along with a job shirt.

I've heard the stories of certain places having to stop what they were doing and put pants on because the temperature dropped below the magical number!!! Are you kidding me?!?  We should have way bigger things to worry about than that....big city mindset versus small town mindset I guess (rolls eyes)...

Silver - 06/14/11 - 23:00

When I was riding the rigs two decades ago, I discovered the cooling properties of pant-less summer firefighting. When the buzzer hit, I hid behind the engine and left my trousers in the back of the station. This worked pretty well, except in rehab situations. Bunker pants stayed on!

Legeros - 06/14/11 - 23:08

All in All nobody cares what you look like on a run they just want your services

Debbie Downer - 06/14/11 - 23:43

Stony Hill personnel may wear uniform shorts year round. The same uniform aspects apply as others (BDU style, belts, color, etc.)

A.C. Rich - 06/15/11 - 00:54

Downer,

I wish that were the case. Public image is one of the command staff's priorities and they want to insure that we look our best at all times. Don't be caught without your polo shirt, tucked in, at any time unless you have your bunker coat on. I feel when you're out in public at the store, out to eat, community service, building tours or running errands, that the polo looks good, but for around the house (only trains and buses have stations) and day to day business like clean up, truck check off, hydrant maintenance, and yard work, the t-shirt is a much better option. It's cooler and still much cheaper than a polo. I've ruined several polo's from checking off my rig by being underneath it, topping off fluids with the cab raised, operating the saws & hydraulic equipment and wiping our compartments. Why not ruin a t-shirt that costs much less to replace?

As far as shorts, I don't think there is much more that can be said about the benefits of shorts that hasn't already been said above, and we can still look professional with shorts. Another reason given for no shorts was the command staff wanted everybody to look the same and there are folks that would be wearing shorts in the middle of winter (I have no problem with that), and people who are cold natured that want a sweatshirt in the middle of July and no consensus among crews as to who was wearing what uniform that day.

Drives A Ladder - 06/15/11 - 10:40

Dear Chief Officers,

Here is an idea, We all agree at the firehouse that the department shall not have to pay for the uniform change. Lets do this, keep ordering the same amount of pants, shirts, etc. and change nothing with the uniform budget. Out of our own (employees) pocket, we will agree to buy the pair of choice that you will allow, the socks and even our own duty shoes that "go" with the shorts. This means that everyone will have the

same shorts(ie. uniform department). Example: you, the Chief, suggest that the shorts can only be purchased from Century Uniform and they must be BDU style, brand X. I am sure everyone will agree to make this purchase their selves. Another thing is I am sure of is that you will have plenty of career guys that will volunteer to make a new SOG that also includes something about the entire crew "must wear shorts at the same time," so there will not be a Captain that has pants on while the rest of the crew has shorts. This would be a HUGE morale booster for the department. Thank You for your thoughtful consideration.

p.s. nobody said that the Chief had to wear shorts too.

Wears pants proudly!!! and loves his/her job. - 06/17/11 - 00:11

Im sure everyone understands what a "uniform" and "uniform policy" is. Here is the definition of "uniform" 1- Identical, consistent. 2- without variations to detail 3- constant, unvarying, undeviating. Does this sound like any local departments "uniform policy"? Does any department actuall look uniformed when out in public. By definition, very few do. We need to stop calling them uniforms and maybe start calling it work attire.

justforfun - 06/17/11 - 10:50

And the "noun" definition is; "1) A distinctive outfit intended to identify those who wear it as members of a specific group". So pants, shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, polos, and job shirts all accomplish this...

Silver - 06/17/11 - 16:49

Ok some of our leaders worry about our professional appearance with shorts if they are on husky "larger" sized firefighters, but do not think that when our big boys are out in public with a golf shirt, uniform shirt with the buttons are under extreme stress with pants look better please! I am no poster boy for the fire service but I hate it when they worry about tattoos, t shirt versus uniform shirt or golf shirt, when you have ppl that make a class a uniform look unprofessional because they cant see that their fly is open or they are wearing one black sock and one blue because it's under their large equator! Just saying!

Jason Lane - 06/17/11 - 20:13

When I say our leaders that is a general statement and is directed at other fire departments!

Jason Lane - 06/17/11 - 20:15

Well said Jason, well said! I am fortunate in that my department allows us to wear shorts without much restriction. I personally like wearing the shorts and see it as no more unprofessional than the same scenarios that Jason was talking about.

For all of you out there talking about shorts are not professional looking and what "uniform" looks appropriate and everyone HAS to wear the same "uniform", I'm here to tell ya, professionalism and looking professional are FAR MORE about the way you carry yourself than what you wear or that everyone "matches". Not to hijack this blog, but I'd like to ask this...how many of you out there work EVERY DAY to make sure that you,your crew,shift, department are THE BEST at their job that they can be and are prepared for whatever comes???? I mean it's nice to debate back and forth about things (I'm guilty too!) and worry about shorts vs pants, t-shirts vs golf shirts, BUT...looking at pics/videos and listening to radio traffic from around the city/county there are folks who CAN'T perform basic firefighter skills effectively and efficiently! Engine company guys, when was the last time you trained on stretching lines, securing a water supply, walked through buildings under construction to see what it's made out of? Ladder/truck/rescue guys, when was the last time you trained on throwing ladders? securing utilities? search techniques? played with ventilation? Guys...these are all things that can be done around your houses, just get out and do it!

Again Mike, sorry to hijack the blog, but as Silver said earlier and even Jason hinted at...there are FAR more important issues facing us today than debating over whether shorts are professional or unprofessional looking and whether the entire crew looks the same! Make sure that the folks are healthy, trained, and safe and go home in that manner!!

Off my soapbox, STAY SAFE!

Wayne - 06/17/11 - 20:59

Thanks Wayne! 12 years ago when were starting to make that transition to golf shirts, we still wore the blue and white uniform shirts and wash and wear pants. Some of our staff young and old did not like the idea of wearing golf shirts saying it "didn't look professional"! However, I worked with a captain on the ladder that everyone hated to work with, he was so embarrassing! Not just his job skills, knowledge but his appearance. He would get his white shirt from the bottom of his locker and put his gold on it and did not mind at all how he looked and the chiefs did not mind either because he was a captain! Anyway, be safe brothers.

Jason Lane - 06/17/11 - 22:45

"Ummm, uh, where's Jason... uh, ummm,... are you Morzella?" :-)

A.C. Rich - 06/18/11 - 00:58

I think the interest and enthusiasm for our shows an obvious need for a local fire-service rendition of "Short Shorts," the novelty song from the

1950s. Whose game for a sing-along at the next county firefighter's association meeting Or maybe we need another attempt at a blog lunch, to facilitate such a historic event!

Lyrics easily found on Google. Think of the all-star line-up we could offer on group vocals. Silver, Shev, DJ, AC, Wayne, Jason, Bob, Marcus, Spanky, (who'd I forget?) and then the backing vocals with a bunch of folks wearing paper bags over their heads. Not 'cause they're ugly (well, they might be), but because they're... anonymous!

Recorded by the Royal Teens, 1957: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcvjXAtza..>

Legeros - 06/18/11 - 09:21

I will still require a paper bag!

A.C. Rich - 06/18/11 - 09:41

But we need a name, AC. Mikey and Blog-Tones? The Blog-Ettes? The Hoser Downs? The Amazing, All-Star, Anonymous Traveling Musical Show and Revue?

Legeros - 06/18/11 - 10:40

Geez, Mike...I got a little vomit in my mouth at the visual...and the potential audio

DJ - 06/18/11 - 12:17

Grow a pair! I haven't even suggested the stage costumes yet! Visualize... sequins.

Legeros - 06/18/11 - 12:19

Sign me up!

Spanky - 06/18/11 - 14:02

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UPDATED: Historic and Former Firehouses of Indianapolis

01/24/12 612 W, 1 I - + 21 - 8

January 23

For your hysterical historical enjoyment, and in preparation for a possible first-time trip to FDIC in a couple more months, here's an armchair tour of [historic and former firehouse of Indianapolis](#). Twenty-two active and former firehouses dating to 1872. Photos from Google and IFD. Data from IFD, as previously posted below. Can't wait to see the things in person.

Next question, what other major metropolitan fire departments have historical fire station information readily available? Will virtually visit fire stations for food. Meanwhile, [see this history page](#) more old stations including Baltimore, Charleston, Detroit, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, and St. Louis. Those were all real visits.



June 11

Random browsing found this [station history page](#) on the [Indianapolis Fire Department web site](#). Parsing the data for those buildings still standing and over 50 years old results in these results. Sounds like a place to visit some time! Especially since Yours Truly has never yet attended FDIC. Next step, do some Google Streets browsing!

- 1002 West Udell Street - Old Station 23 / Old Station 9, opened February 8, 1897. Two story-single bay. Closed January 10, 1961. Still standing. Also known as Station 9, February 8, 1897 to June 1st, 1901; Station 23 June 1st, 1901 to Closing.
- 1030 East Washington Street, Old Station 11 / Old Station 15, opened 1896. Two story-two bays. Closed April 27, 1971. Still standing. Also known as Station 15 1896 to May 17, 1903; Station 11, May 17, 1903 to closing.
- 1136 East Prospect Street, Station 3, opened October 20, 1959. One story-two bays, with basement. Closed. Still in use.
- 1147 Madison Avenue, Old Station 17, opened October 17, 1941. One story-three bays, basement. Closed February 17, 1984. Still standing, Arson Squad.
- 1201 East 46 Street, Old Station 31, opened October 15, 1952. One story-two bays, basement. Closed March 29, 1995. Still standing.
- 1452 North Emerson Avenue, Station 20, opened September 18, 1952. One story-two bays, basement. Still in use.
- 1602 North Carrolton Avenue, Old Station 9 / Old Station 16, opened January, 1881. Two story-single bay. Closed December 16, 1937. Still standing. Also known as Station 16, February 8 1897 to April 21 1932; Temp Station 2, August 1935 to Closing.
- 17 South Sheridan Avenue, Station 25, opened November 9, 1958. One story-two bays, basement. Still in use.
- 1761 South West Street, Old Station 4, opened December 22nd, 1960. One story-two bays. Closed March 31, 1992. Still standing, City Street Garage.

- 2302 South Shelby Street, Old Station 29, opened December 3rd, 1915. Two story-two bays. Closed April 17, 1991. Still standing.
- 2357 North Carrollton Avenue, Old Station 22, opened February 15, 1902. Two story-two bays. Closed August 31, 1972. Still standing.
- 2440 North Tibbs Avenue, Station 30, opened October 9, 1958. Two story-two bays, basement. Still in use.
- 301 East New York Street, Old Station 7, opened February, 1914. Three story-four bays. Closed June 1st, 1979. Still standing.
- 3130 West Washington Street, Old Station 18, opened December 31st, 1936. One story-two bays. Closed December 20, 1994. Still standing.
- 332 South New Jersey Street, Old Station 12 / Old Station 30, opened February 5, 1912. Two story-three bays. Closed April 21st, 1954. Still standing. Also known as Station 30, December 1915 to closing.
- 339 Sherman Drive, Old Station 12, opened December, 1915. Two story-two bays. Closed March 12, 1996. Still standing, used by Fire Buffs.
- 3460 Glenn Drive, Old Station 21, opened November 11, 1960. One story-two bays. Closed February 7, 1997. Still standing, used by Black Firefighters Association.
- 3809 East 34 Street, Old Station 10, opened August 25, 1958. One story-two bays with basement. Closed February 7, 1997. Still standing.
- 512 East Maple Road (38 Street), Old Station 28, opened 1912. One story-single bay. Closed March 29, 1995. Still standing.
- 5555 North Illinois Street, Station 16, opened April 21st, 1932. One story-two bays, attic and basement. Still in use.
- 6330 Guilford Avenue, Station 32, opened 1922. Two story-single bay. Still in use. Also known as Broad Ripple Town Hall and Fire Station, 1922; Station 32, October 4, 1922.
- 636 East 11 Street, Old Station 8, opened February 27, 1932. One story-two bays, with attic and basement. Closed July 25, 1973. Still standing.
- 748 Massachusetts Avenue, Old Station 2 / Old Station 8, opened January 4, 1872. One story-single bay. Closed February 27, 1932. Still standing, Local 416 Offices. Also known as Station 8, October 14, 1895 to closing.

Name: (real name preferred)
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This Morning's House Fire / Slippery Elm Drive

06/14/11 162 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

[Photographer Lee Wilson](#) arrived early at this morning's major house fire on Slippery Elm Drive. He was already in south Raleigh for the occasion of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum opening. More later about that event.

Engine 10 was first on scene at [3037 Slippery Elm Drive](#). One-story, split-level, wood-frame house with 1,522 square-feet. Built 1998. Heavy fire showing in the rear of the residence, with fire venting through the roof.

Interior attack, until crews pulled out about 20 minutes into the incident. Defensive operations started, heavy fire in the structure, and aerial operations soon started. Two engines and an additional ladder requested. Dispatched 10:31 a.m. Controlled 11:15 a.m. Three people displaced, no injuries. Cause under investigation.

Units on scene included E10, E26, E2, L8, R3, B2, E12, A1, C10, C20, E3, E7, L4, B3. Watch for more incident details from Mr. Wilson, when he posts his pictures. Here are two preview photos, click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photos

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Grand Opening of « This Morning's House ... » Origin of Code 2, Con... Raleigh Fire Museum

Grand Opening of Raleigh Fire Museum

06/15/11 247 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

Yesterday was the big day. The Raleigh Fire Department Museum held its grand opening at 10:00 a.m. at the Keeter Training Center. That's the location of the museum, which is housed in a classroom trailer. There are about 200 items on display, ranging from photographs (of course) to hand equipment to very old log books to a very, very old alarm bell. The giant 1870 bell that once hung inside Metropolitan Hall is the oldest item on display.



The museum is presented by the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#), a non-profit organization (and to which donations are tax-deductible. [Make a donation online.](#)) that has been working for a few years to preserve and present the department's past. There's 150 years of history on display, both of the career department (organized in 1912) and the volunteer department that preceded same. More commentary and observations to follow. Museum hours are initially limited. We'll be open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



Lee Wilson photo

Stories and photos of the event (and the museum) are below, at least as published so far. Lee's left early, for a working fire farther south. Mike

also set his camera down, for his remarks during the opening, and the many times he was answering questions and showing visitors around. Thanks for everyone's participation and support.

- [Lee Wilson photos](#)
- [Mike Legeros photos](#)
- [News & Observer](#)
- [WUNC radio](#)

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Origin of Code 2, Condition Red?

06/15/11 54 W - + 5 - 2

Old-timers or those in the know, what's the origin of the phrase "code 2, condition red" as formerly (and occasionally still) used by fire departments in these parts? Did it start with the Raleigh Fire Department? Was it imported from elsewhere? What's the earliest usage that people remember?

It was started by the county departments long ago. rfd came up with code 3. anyone remember that one or am i showing my age?

wcff - 06/15/11 - 12:35

It actually started in Raleigh and was adapted to the county, then re-adapted to RFD with the "Code 1,2,3"

The Wake County approach of old (and current in some departments):

"Condition Blue" = nothing showing.

"Code 1, condition red" = small working fire with a booster line or 1.5 inch lead off line, using booster tank water supply on truck or nurse feed.

"Code 2, condition red" = larger working fire with a 2.5" or larger lead-off line, water supply needed (hydrant or shuttle).

Raleigh's adaption of the county's system:

"Code 1" = nothing showing up to a booster line (and even 1.5") small fire (brush, dumpster, even structural, etc.)

"Code 2" = working fire with a 1.5" or 1.75 lead off, hydrant needed (forward lay). Generally used for structure fires

"Code 3" = Raleigh's adaptation of the county's "Code 2, condition red" to trigger (1) a 2nd alarm at a large fire (now MWF), and (2) reverse lay to the water supply (hydrant). The "Code 3" was adapted even more when the use of LDH came into play at RFD (forward lays used at the discretion of the IC). The original "Code 3" was a reverse of one 3" and one 2.5" line. Yes, we've come a long way!

Enjoy!

A.C. Rich - 06/15/11 - 13:38

I remember the county's "coding" system used in the late 70's (1978+) as I listened on my father's Plectron monitor at home. I do not remember when the coding began exactly, but it was definitely in effect when I "officially" joined Stony Hill in 1984 at the age of 18. I recall comments from SHFD members that the origin was from Raleigh FD (through the WCFE's Assoc.) so there would be standardization. Someone older may remember (like my buddy DJ!!)

A.C. Rich - 06/15/11 - 13:49

And as of today, "Major Working Fire" is no longer recognized. Yes indeed, we have come a long way!

Silver - 06/15/11 - 18:07

Silver are the alarm responses changing as well or just your terminology?

Mike - 06/15/11 - 19:03

The resources assigned to the alarm responses will stay the same in Raleigh. It is in some ways semantics, but previously after a MWF was called, there was only "send me another alarm." The updates streamline the decision-making at ECC and in CAD.

A.C. Rich - 06/15/11 - 20:23

As far as responses to different incidents, I believe ideas are being tossed around for different call classes; our Division Chief chairing this committee is handling it. As for what is sent to fires or on a second alarm, not currently.

Silver - 06/15/11 - 22:08

There will be some changes in the county as well – where depending on the incident type, the resources dispatched may be less or more. The individual departments will have to determine “what” they want to be dispatched for a specific determinant code. When???... I don't know. For example, a 69-C-1 (Appliance Fire -Extinguished) may only receive an Engine and a Ladder rather an entire structural response.

A.C. Rich - 06/15/11 - 23:15

A.C., I was told that we would be able to adjust run cards based on EFD at some point in the future, but it will be a little while.

Griggs - 06/16/11 - 08:54

@AC- When I was at DH and RDU in the late 70s, the 'condition blue' and 'condition red, code 1/2' was already in use. I can even remember listening to my Regency scanner in the early 70s and heard it in use then. Back when RFD did a radio check every morning at 0800.Yep, I remember than. Pass the Geritol.

DJ - 06/17/11 - 19:55

We've got an EFD Steering Committee meeting soon, so I'm sure there will be more on the horizon! DJ, you're still my hero!

A.C. Rich - 06/18/11 - 01:01

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Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society Postcard

06/15/11 113 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

Postcards of a sort were distributed at Tuesday's grand opening of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum as presented by the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#). The picture was made at Fire Station 28 earlier this year. That's where the city's collection of antique fire apparatus is stored. Shown left to right is a 1905 American LaFrance steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. [Read about that shoot](#), which includes links to photos by Legeros and Lee. Or even watch a [video shot by Jeff Harkey](#), Editor-in-Chief of FireNews. And while we're here, consider an [online donation](#). Click to see a larger of version:



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Radio Changes

06/15/11 446 W - + 3 - 4

Let's see if we can summarize the recent radio changes you have been or will be hearing on city and county fire channels. There are two pieces to the puzzle: Emergency Fire Dispatch, started on June 8 for all city and county fire calls. And new radio procedures for the Raleigh Fire Department, started June 15.

Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD) is an extension of Emergency Medical Dispatch, used for over a decade in the Wake County EMS system. Results in more information about each call, and more accurate assignment of priorities to calls. Wider range of call types, too, some of which have been helpfully descriptive, like "extinguished residential structure fire." And there's more post-dispatch information being related, as well.

There are also numeric codes for each call type, such as "67-Delta-2." Those are now being broadcast by Locution. There's a list of the codes on [this Radio Reference Wiki](#). (The site seems to be having bandwidth problems, however. The page is unavailable at present and gets that way from time to time.) Read earlier [blog post about EFD](#), and discussion there. Remember, it's new and being learned.

Raleigh's new radio procedures involve three pieces. First, the elimination of "major working fire" as a description during size-up. Until today, the big MWF resulted in the automatic dispatch of a second alarm. Now, second alarms will be requested as second alarms. Additional alarms will be requested in sequence. No change to the number of units dispatched. (Remember, there's an expanded number of units dispatched for high-rise structure fires.)

Also part of the new radio procedures six-point scene size-ups, and new radio designations for riding positions. Companies have been trying these for a few months already, so you've probably heard some of those changes already. With regard to riding positions, the old ones were numeric. Engine 19-01 as the Captain of Engine 19, for example. The new ones are descriptive:

- Engine Captain - Engine __ Officer
- Engine Lieutenant - Engine __ Driver
- Engine Firefighter - Engine __ Nozzle
- Engine Firefighter - Engine __ Irons
- Ladder Captain - Ladder __ Officer
- Ladder Lieutenant - Ladder __ Driver
- Ladder Firefighter - Ladder __ Irons
- Ladder Firefighter - Ladder __ Outside Vent
- Ladder Firefighter - Ladder __ Hook (when fifth person is present)
- Rescue Lieutenant - Rescue __ Officer
- Rescue Firefighter - Rescue __ Irons

Last month, the Raleigh Fire Department started new water supply procedures, so there's that new terminology as well. "Laying in wet" versus "laying in dry," for example. [See that blog post](#), if you missed it. Otherwise, happy listening. This concludes today's radio update. Tune in next week for further adventures of the Man with Too Much Free Time.

And IF we ever have a fifth member in the Ladder Company, it's the "Hook" position. Rare to happen, maybe in the winter months when vacations slow down....

Silver - 06/15/11 - 22:11

Also, isn't there a new (or rather, alternate) tone on county calls now, for fire dispatches? With the old tone for EMS calls, right?

Legeros - 06/15/11 - 22:14

I had a "Hook" for about an hour the other day! 5 was indeed short lived! ECC may clarify, but they are seemingly still programming and adjusting. I believe the different (EMS) tone on fire dispatch is short lived for now. The other day the different tones it seemed to associate with an EFD determinant code based fire dispatch, but not today. You'll probably hear something a little different each day until they get it "dialed in."

A.C. Rich - 06/15/11 - 23:00

And these should be the correct dispatch levels for city fires:

Regular Fire Dispatch

1st Alarm – 3E, 1L, 1R, 1BC

Working Fire – 1E, Air 1, Car 10, Investigator

2nd Alarm – 3E, 1L, 1R, 1BC

3rd Alarm – 3E, 1L

4th Alarm – 3E, 1L

5th Alarm – 3E, 1L

High-Rise Fire Dispatch

1st Alarm – 5E, 2L, 1R, 1BC, Car 10

Working Fire – Results in automatic dispatch of second alarm.

2nd Alarm – 5E, 2L, 1R, 2BC, Air 1, Investigator

3rd Alarm – 5E, 2L

4th Alarm – 5E, 2L

5th Alarm – 5E

Legeros - 06/15/11 - 23:34

Could someone run down a six point scene size up I would hear in Raleigh? Say for a single residential structure, a retail strip mall, and say a 9 story high rise office building? I don't get to hear the county or Raleigh that often on the radio.

Donaldson - 06/16/11 - 00:53

These changes in procedure are indeed works in progress, and you will likely hear some stranger-than-normal things on the air while we adjust. There is no such thing as a "simple" change in our business, as it relies upon our training of all floor personnel, plus the update of all associated technical systems. Despite countless hours of planning and testing, there are always bound to be some issues that pop up. Some of that is caused in no small way by the fact that we have utilized a number of "work-arounds" to trick our eight year old CAD system into doing things that it wasn't necessarily programmed to do. As a result, every upgrade or major change in the way we dispatch has to fully account for all of these. With regard to EFD, there are fire service peer reviews built into the process, and we will also see some fine tuning as time goes on. Sometimes things that seemed right on paper don't work the way we'd like them to in the real world. This review and update is an integral part of the EMD process after all these years, so we'd be foolish not to expect any protocol based system not to need some adjustments after the break-in period. All in all, we've been happy with the progress so far, (especially considering how much change is really happening at once) and look forward to the smoothing out of all the bumps.

RWECC - 06/16/11 - 10:47

@Matthew; 1)Situation (working fire, nothing showing, working fire/ 2nd alarm) 2)Incident Address 3)Building dimensions 4)Establish command 5)Condition details (heavy smoke from the roof, heavy fire from Side A) 6)Assign Resources IF NECESSARY...

Silver - 06/16/11 - 17:08

Thanks Jeff, a friend of mine e-mailed me the presentation. It is a very interesting concept, I can see that it would really help a lot to have a company officer who has been in their area a while and knows the district.

Donaldson - 06/16/11 - 17:57

@Matthew Don't even get me started!!!! Hahahaha...

Silver - 06/17/11 - 16:42

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Yes

No

Old Photos of Station 6

06/15/11 120 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

Let's hope in our time machine and head to the early 1970s, for a series of color (!) photos of Fire Station 6, from a then-youth named Matt White. He was a fixture at the station in those years, and took these photos that he recently posted to Facebook. He has kindly shared with Yours Truly, and already identified a number of the people shown. They were taken with his dad's Nikkormat camera and using Ektachrome slide film. We'll see about naming the rest of the crowd. That's the 1950 Mack pumper as Engine 6, and the 1964 GMC service truck as Truck 6. Way back in the day. What a treat. [View the photos.](#)



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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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They Came From a Far

06/16/11 416 W - + 3 - 4

Few jokes are as good as old jokes. Here's a reprint of a 2006 blog posting, which itself reprinted a column written for the Code 3 Collectibles web site. Presenting the world's worst firefighting jokes, as written by Yours Truly.

Q: Why did the fire apparatus operator have his blood drawn?

A: For a pump panel.

Q: Where does a nozzle sleep?

A: On a hose bed.

Q: What did the Dalmatian say at the airport fire station?

A: ARFF.

Q: What is the material inside a firefighter's parka?

A: Hoser down.

Q: What do you call a group of PIOs standing by at a fire scene?

A: Writ team.

Q: What do you call a fire-resistant gangster?

A: Nomex® hood.

Q: How do firefighting elephants communicate?

A: Trunked radios

Q: Why did the firefighter perform a lively Scottish Highland dance while pulling a one-inch line?

A: His captain asked for a booster reel.

Q: Did you hear Smokey Bear has been replaced by a female sheep?

A: Only ewe can prevent forest fires.

Q: Did you hear about the firefighter who was rejected from his department's talent show?

A: He was axed.

Q: Did you hear about the D.C. firefighters who answered a medical call at the office of the Senate Majority Leader?

A: They were *Frist* responders. [Yikes, that's one dated!]

There was a terrible fire at Tara, the plantation where Scarlett O'Hara lived. Though many items were destroyed, quite a few things were saved. Firefighters rescued several books, which they later helped carry back into the building. Ms. O'Hara wanted the salvaged books placed on a pile of items belonging to Mr. Butler. She told them to put the read stuff on the Rhett stuff.

So this firefighter had a Dalmatian that was always getting loose at the station and running into the street. This was only a problem during the day, as the station doors were closed at night. And as the station was the only building on the block, drivers always saw the dog in time. One morning, however, a heavy mist had settled across the area and the drivers didn't see the spotted dog when he darted out of the station. He died and the grieving firefighter forever remembered that day whenever the weather conditions repeated themselves. He even gave it a name. It was... wait for it... Sparky the dire fog.

That's it for me! Good night everybody!

Links to Lee's Photos

06/18/11 330 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

You may have noticed a new format for linking to the photos of Lee Wilson's as featured on our [incident photo site](#). The reason is the result of a change to the Flickr photo site, where Lee posts his photos. See, these photos are posted in two places.

Those by myself physically reside nearly always on legeros.com/firepics. Those by Lee always reside on flickr.com/leewilson. (And occasionally, Mike's photos get moved or archived on flickr.com/legeros.)

Yeah, you don't notice the difference. Plenty of people see Lee's photos on Flickr and think they're mine. Or vice-versa. The web page just seem too alike. Or maybe it's just that they remember the task (view photos) and not surroundings (web page).

Lee's or any person's posted to Flickr can be accessed a number of ways, including:

- [Their home page](#), also called their photostream.
- [Their archives](#) (of photos).
- [Their sets](#) (of photos).
- Their collections (of photos).

Now, to add a link to Lee's photos to www.legeros.com/firepics, a unique web address (or URL) is required. http://something.something. About a week ago, Flickr changed some of it's behind-the-scenes stuff. Archive pages are now much longer. They used to have, say, 16 photos per page. Now they have dozens.

Linking to Lee's archived photos was previously easier, because you could create a link to the URL of one of those shorter archive pages. That is no longer possible, and which is why we're seeming to "combine links" on the photo site. Like this:

ed	Incident/Event	Prev
18	Jun 17 - Raleigh FD, New Hope FD, Wake EMS - Various ^ Lazy River Drive (Woods Fire); Beverly Drive (MVA)	
18	Jun 16 - Raleigh FD & EMS - Various MVAs ^ Rock Quarry Road; New Hope Road; Poole Road;	
		

If that doesn't make sense, don't worry about. Just know that there are technical reasons for the change. If you can figure out a workaround, and a way for Mr. Blogger to derive unique URLs for those "combined links," then please share your information! For everyone else, this is how your sausage gets made. Hope it doesn't make you queasy.

Name: (real name)

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Ready with the Rakes

06/18/11 117 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Raleigh firefighter removes tools from Mini 2 on Thursday night, scene of a woods fire on [Lazy River Drive](#) off the southern section of Southhall Drive. Same burned for a number of hours. Both Raleigh and New Hope units were on scene. By about 9:00 p.m., the roll call included Raleigh Engine 21, Engine 12, Mini 1, Mini 2, Battalion 2, New Hope Engine 1, Tanker 9, Brush 7, and Car 1. Couple acres had burned behind homes and along a golf course. [See photos from Lee](#), early. This is a later photo from Mike. That land's near the Neuse River, and old Raleigh Beach. Isn't that also old plantation land, or is that farther east?



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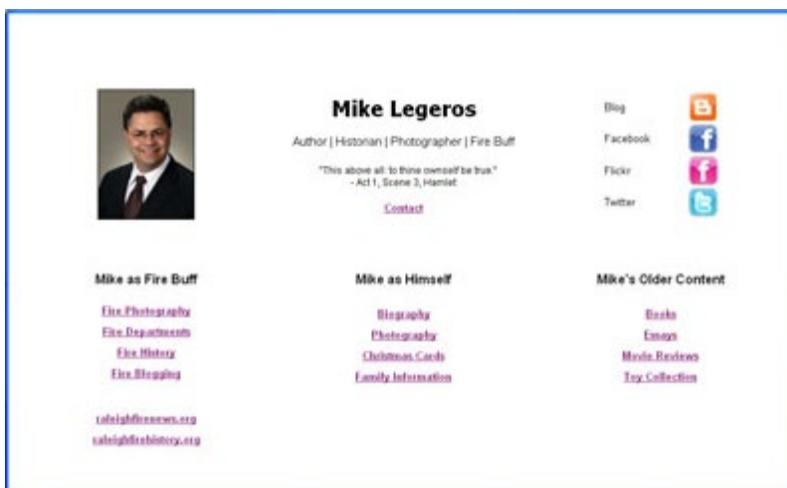
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

Facelift For Home Page

06/18/11 125 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Speaking of web sites, the home page of Legeros.com received a redesign last week. Simple facelift, with links moved around and reorganized. And social media channels added, to connect with Mike via blog (here), [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#), and [Twitter](#). Why is the web page still so bland, you ask? Partly it's a simple failure of imagination. More importantly, it's a failure of priority. Time's better spent in other areas. Plus, Yours Truly has no necessary need for complicated or flashy. Not with regard to web sites, that is. Tropical attire on one's person is another matter! Is the thing at least minimally stylish or even vaguely cool-looking? You be the judge on that one.



Like the new look, Mike. I know it's a lot of hard work, and you are doing a great job. Thanks for all you do!

J.A.F.O. - 06/18/11 - 10:20

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Oshkosh Stryker + Rogers Lowboy

06/18/11 122 W, 2 I - + 7 - 8

Speaking of myself, here's a bit of Saturday scale-model madness. These are recent additions to the man cave collection. That's a 1:50 scale, die-cast metal replica of an Oshkosh Striker 3000 airport crash truck lettered for Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Made by [TWH Collectibles](#) in a small quantity for the airport fire department's union. They took orders late last year.

The transport is a Kenworth T800W four-axle day-cab tractor pulling a Rogers lowboy with flip axle. That one's distributed by Sword Models, which is also made by TWH. Lots of features on both. Click to enlarge. Apologies for poor deep focus on top shot. Looks like that third axle needs lowering, as well! Boys and their toys...



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Eleven Ninety

06/18/11 96 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Crews are back behind Lazy River Drive again today, working to extinguish a stubborn woods fire first reported on Thursday. [See prior posting.](#) Raleigh and New Hope fire departments have returned, along with the North Carolina Forest Service. They've added foam to their operations today, as well as a deluge gun to saturate some of the burned areas. Wake County EMS and Eastern Wake EMS responded with rehab supplies, including big ol' Truck 1. Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros were both on scene, the latter taking this picture.



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Cisco Network Emergency Response Vehicle (NERV)

06/18/11 171 W, 2 I - + 9 - 7

One of the many specialized emergency response vehicles on display at [StormFest in downtown Raleigh](#) today was Cisco's Network Emergency Response Vehicle (NERV). The company, with an office in the RTP, has two of these babies, one of each coast. [As this PDF web document describes](#), the vehicle is a self-deployable command communications resource for first responders, critical infrastructure, and other organizations affected by catastrophe and requiring mission-critical networking services.

The unit and its staff can continuously operate for up to 72 hours. Once on scene, they can be fully operational within 15 minutes. Shut down for redeployment also within 15 minutes. The unit is self-powered by generator, or can use shore-power. It's equipped with a 1.8-meter satellite antenna that provides up to 5 Mbps of bandwidth for voice, video, and data. Said the team today, it can serve some 200 users simultaneously. Pretty cool, but needs a black helicopter to go with it. More photos later.



I wondered where those two Wolf Coaches ended up. I did the installation of the entire radio stack you see on the right side between the

monitors and the audio selector and related equipment underneath on both rigs. They have radio patch panels on the side between the front body access door and the door into the control center. The stack consists of two each M/A-Com VHF and UHF radios, three M/A-Com 800MHz radios, one Tri-band amateur radio, one Uniden trunking scanner, one Motorola CDM1250 lowband mobile, and an audio combiner/selector system. The speakers for the audio component live behind the Wolf Coach logos on either side of the wall in the upper corners. The M/A-Com radios (and I think the Ham and Moto later) are linked in to the satellite communications system.

They were a great deal of work for one guy, but I'm very proud of the outcome and have gotten positive feedback from Wolf and Cisco. I have pictures of the build-out if anyone is interested.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 06/20/11 - 12:51

Thanks Mike for posting the pics! If anyone would like more information about Cisco's Tactical Operations (TacOps) team and the Network Emergency Response Vehicle, come check out our web site at <http://www.cisco.com/go/tacops> . You can also follow us on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/cisco.tacops>) where there are plenty of photos of recent deployments – and on Twitter (http://twitter.com/RTP_NERV and http://twitter.com/SJ_NERV).

Sue-Lynn Hinson ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/20/11 - 14:12

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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.

Boat in the Water

06/19/11 61 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Raleigh Fire Department Rescue 3 launching their boat, as part of the start of search and recovery efforts at Lake Wheeler yesterday afternoon. The multi-agency incident included Raleigh, Fairview, Apex, and Holly Springs fire departments. Wake County EMS provided rehab. Numerous law enforcement agencies were also on scene. [See more photos by Lee Wilson.](#)

*Lee Wilson photo*

Can someone elaborate on what is the N.C. Canine Emergency Response team?

Where are they located and what K-9's are used etc....What department heads this program up?

Northside - 06/20/11 - 11:06

<http://www.nccert.org>

Mike - 06/20/11 - 13:09

I am looking feedback from the Raleigh folks here. Have you had any problems towing the smaller trailers behind your rescues like what is photoed above? We are currently building a large rescue vehicle that will have the ability to tow and I am looking at the pros and cons of such a set up. Can you see the trailer in the mirrors behind the truck? Has there been any problems or accidents? Do the Raleigh rescues have back up cameras?

Thanks.

Donaldson - 06/20/11 - 15:16

The small trailers and boats we use are extremely difficult to use with these large trucks. They are nearly invisible towing-tho so small you don't feel them back there-and miserable to back in. We try to modify them with stanchions to see out the sides but not much help. Really needed are pickup trucks assigned with the boats for deployment-not large rescue trucks.

Goose - 06/25/11 - 14:16

You'd think city surplus would have a few older trucks they could throw over to us for this purpose.

Silver - 06/25/11 - 14:58

Our department in Iowa has experienced the same problem with our boat as far as backing them in. Solved the problem by using our front mounted receiver(used for a winch normally) and driving the boat in. Driver can easily monitor the boat and personnel as it enters/leaves the

water. Adds 2-3 minutes to launch time.

Eugene Beard ([Email](#)) - 06/25/11 - 15:41

why not use the USAR water rescue truck to pull boat to emergencies

charlie - 06/25/11 - 16:34

We have tried a dozen times to get pick ups but we know where that ended! Goose is correct. Question about usar water rescue trucks we cannot because they are state trucks for task force 8 calls only! Anyway!

Jason Lane - 06/25/11 - 21:55

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preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

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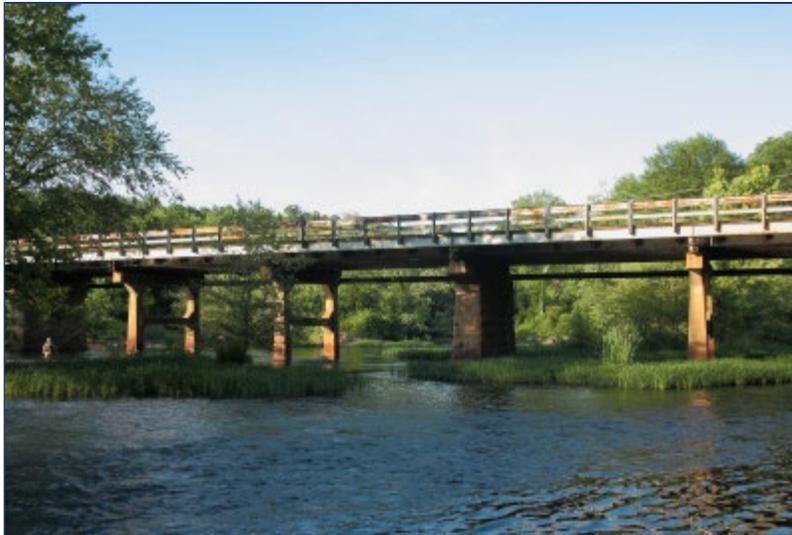
Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Bridges of Falls of Neuse

06/19/11 201 W, 3 I - + 7 - 6

One of the most exciting roadway projects in a while is near completion on Falls of Neuse Road in very north Raleigh. Work is finishing on a four-lane, two-span bridge over the Neuse River and which will connect Falls of Neuse Road with New Falls of Neuse Road. The bridge and road connection will also allow closure of the current bridge below Falls Lake Dam. That one was built in 1938 and is at the end of its life, um, span. (The bridge predates the dam and lake by decades. Those were completed in 1981.) Believe the plans are to replace the older bridge as well. Or maybe also.

Pictures of both bridges are below. There's quite a bit of bike traffic under the new one, which has what looks like the makings of a greenway passing under the thing. As for the excitement factor, once the bridge and roadways open, Engine 25 coming south and Engine 22 / Ladder 5 going north will have considerably faster run times. Ditto for the Falls Fire Department. Looks like a solid mile is shaved going into Wakefield the new way, versus via Falls of Neuse Road to Wakefield Pines Drive. Click to enlarge:





Too bad Falls won't be running with 25 after July 1st.....

Bitter - 06/20/11 - 11:06

Why not?

Why - 06/20/11 - 11:29

City of Raleigh decided not to renew the contract for Wakefield, 25 will be alone up there. Falls will still go to the county side but none of the city north of the river

Bitter - 06/20/11 - 11:36

Seriously? That's pretty crazy because even with the new bridge help for 25 is still a loooooong ways away. Falls could be 2nd (and in many cases still 1st due) all day long to areas over there. Sad that monetary decisions (assuming that's why they chose to do it) overpower morals and doing what is right. Heck I bet they could have told Falls that they would pay them half what they currently are and Falls would still make the runs to help.

Wow - 06/20/11 - 13:10

From someone who has seen the budget I can tell you that Raleigh was getting an incredibly good deal working with Falls. The contract, had it been renewed, was going to cost the city less that \$20,000. I wish that they would realize that they need to keep the county units around instead of trying to isolate them. 25 is a station that is out of service often for training (seeing as they are a USAR station) and the next closest station is 22 which is a heck of a long ways away.

money man - 06/20/11 - 17:32

so now if I want to get to Hwy 98 going out Falls of Neuse, I'll have to go through Wakefield, and then either back to the North section of Falls of Neuse, or to Capital Blvd & then 98??

lee - 06/21/11 - 05:00

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

This Morning's Two Alarms / Groveland Avenue

06/20/11 132 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Two alarms at 211 Groveland Avenue, a two-story, wood-frame, residential structure with 3,910 square-feet. Built 1917, say tax records. Built 1912, says the [NBC 17 story](#). See also this [WRAL story](#). Operated as a bed and breakfast called the Cameron Park Inn. Both guests evacuated safely. Cause determined as lightning. Fire damage to third floor, which was destroyed. First and second floors with smoke and water damage. Dispatched 1:45 a.m. First unit arriving three minutes later. Second alarm requested at 2:17 a.m. Controlled at 3:16 a.m. Units on scene: E5, E6, E13, L7, R3, B3, EMS 1 (first alarm), E1, A1, C10, C20, C40, EMS 8, EMS 2, D1, (working fire), E3, E8, E20, L2, R2, B2, EMS 7, M91, T1 (second alarm). We'll see if other details or photos present themselves.



WRAL photo

Of all the pictures why did NBC 17 decide to post that one?

Thank the lord our guy's know photography lol!

Buckwheat - 06/20/11 - 10:44

Buck, there numerous differences between an image-from-the-news and an image-from-Lee-and-Mike. For starters, the news sites often use still images captured via video recording. They are usually grainier and not as sharp as still-camera images. Next, the position of their camera is often different or very different from what we'll use. They operate outside a wider perimeter than we do. They also choose their pictures for posting differently than we might. They may have different response times, too. Some times they're Johnny-on-the-spot, and some times they arrive much later. But that applies to us, as well. Really, apples to oranges.

Legeros - 06/20/11 - 13:37

That's why and Lee are the MAN! Thanks to you guy's for capturing the story behind the spin that they will tell you.

Buckwheat - 06/20/11 - 17:57

Well, don't know how much spin is involved in your run of the mill incident coverage. But the media does operate from a different orientation than, say, your favorite fire photographers. They have their own job to do. And what they say and record about incidents probably isn't a gross distortion. But I welcome debate on this. Don't damn. But understand.

Legeros - 06/20/11 - 18:59

When it comes to police-related stories, there usually ARE gross distortions in the media. With EVERY single incident I had personal knowledge of, when I saw it on the news later, they completely made up some facts. Sometimes they were significant "facts", and sometimes not so significant. But always a distortion.

rfburns - 06/22/11 - 22:06

Burns, there might be a difference (or maybe just a fine line) between "making something up" versus "stating something that is not correct." The former implies a motivation. The latter is an action absent of motivation. In those instances with distortions of accuracy, did they willfully create those distortions? Or perhaps, and what I suspect is more likely, formed a perspective based on their available information plus assumed information. Of course, I might be splitting hairs here. The end result is still inaccuracy.

Legeros - 06/22/11 - 22:12

Next question, what's an acceptable "defect rate" in news coverage? Where defects might be measured as inaccuracies. All works of man are flawed. Everything we do isn't perfect. There are "defects" that happen / get produce in the performance of emergency services. Ditto for media coverage therein. What's acceptable for inaccuracies in news stories? What's a big deal versus a little deal? Maybe anecdotes would work here. What are some firsthand stories people can cite, of the effects of inaccuracies in news reporting?

Legeros - 06/22/11 - 22:36

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

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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.

Caption This Photo / Boy and Grill, 1989

06/20/11 104 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

Here's a young lad, fresh out of the fire academy and passing the time at the then-slow Station 19 on Spring Forest Road. That was about the 24 year-old version of myself and mugging for the camera. The shoot was staged for a *Firehouse* magazine submission. They had a photo feature back then, where they'd invite readers to caption curious photos. Might've been on the back page? Mine was selected and was published in a later issue. As for actual firefighting, six months passed and I didn't get my first worker until transferred to another station! Click to enlarge:



Heard of new guys being afraid of Fire before but thats ridiculous.

Jake T. - 06/21/11 - 11:16

In the 80's and 90's, NFPA experimented with more cost effective options for testing structural firefighting gear.

Silver - 06/21/11 - 11:22

"What's this Capt'n?"

A.C. Rich - 06/21/11 - 14:44

I love the ole mega radio pocket on the turnout coat!

JJ - 06/21/11 - 19:16

Let's see, what vital pocket items did I have as a probie? I recall having purchased a pair of pocket spanner wrenches. Might've used those all of twice. Length of rope that somebody told me was a good idea. Door chocks, yup, used those. Flashlight. Think the helmet-mounted mag light came a bit later.

Legeros - 06/21/11 - 19:22

Ah, the huge radio pocket! Used to be the location of the original "smoke cutter" flashlight for me!

A.C. Rich - 06/24/11 - 12:24

Is Somebody Burning Something?

06/21/11 116 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Do you like the smell of wood smoke, Timmy? There was haze and then some Triangle-wide today. Three fires from around the state. Pender County, Dare County, and Fort Bragg. Maybe more have been added to that list, since we last checked the news. Let's hear about some of the calls, either to the comms centers or actual dispatches. And what's the best smoke photo of the day? Below is a skyline shot by the *News & Observer's* Takaai Iwabu. Maybe we need a rousing rendition of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes." Let's get that Blog Boys Choir together, what do you say?



Takaai Iwabu/News & Observer 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'?

Toughest Firefighters Alive, 1997

06/21/11 204 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Random historical picture found during Sunday cleaning. Taken in front of City Hall, perhaps for a newspaper or maybe the city Public Affairs office. These were the winners of a Toughest Firefighter Alive competition in Charlotte in September 1997. The event was part of that year's North Carolina Fire and Police Olympics. Raleigh Team 1 took first place, and Raleigh Team 2 took second place. They'd continue to Las Vegas two months later, to compete in the World Fire Combat Challenge.

The *News & Observer* of September 25, 1997, provided details of the five-timed tasks: wearing full gear, climb five flights of stairs while carrying two 50-foot sections of hose; hoisting a 45-pound hose load up a five-story tower; driving a 165-pound metal beam five feet using a nine-pound shot mallet; carrying a full hose and nozzle 75-feet; and carrying a 175-pound dummy 100-feet while walking backward.

Pictured left to right in back are Clay Hicks, Shawn Moore, Leroy McCrae, Stephen Page, Mike Hayes. Left to right in front are Mickey Nixon, Andy Lane, Fire Chief Jonny Sandy, Kevin Coppage, Duffy Deyo, and Capt. Jimmy Parker. That's a handsome crew! What sort of combat challenges are held these days around the state? Click to enlarge:



These guys were/are top notch! As colleagues and friends, I for one am proud of their accomplishments then (and now)!

A.C. Rich - 06/24/11 - 12:37

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Constitution and* « **Toughest Firefighters...** » *Jackson Park Fire Dep...*
By-Laws of the Fire Fighters Association No. 548 of Raleigh, N.C., 1938

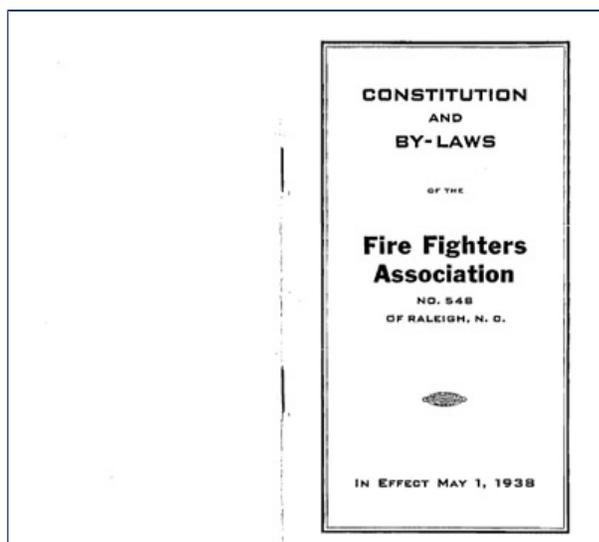
Constitution and By-Laws of the Fire Fighters Association No. 548 of Raleigh, N.C., 1938

06/21/11 193 W, 2 I - + 5 - 4

And a random artifact for your Monday enjoyment. This is the [constitution and by-laws of the original incarnation](#) of the Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association ([web site](#)). Same is scanned from a photocopy of the original booklet. The organization was chartered in 1938, as Chapter 548 of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). The original application was dated February 4 and listed 21 charter members. The Temporary President was K. J. Smith and the Temporary Secretary was R. G. Davis.

The association was re-chartered in 1969, with an application dated June 10 of that year. The Temporary President was Ned Perry, the Temporary Vice-President was B. T. Fowler, and the Temporary Secretary and Treasurer was Maylon Frazier. The application included the names of 173 charter members. They re-chartered a second time in 1986. The March 23 application listed Temporary President James Driver and Temporary Secretary and Treasurer Donnie Perry.

Yours Truly needs more research and documentation in this area, on the history of professional organizations in the Raleigh Fire Department. Memo to self: work on that some time. Meanwhile, click the cover to view the PDF document:



Name: (real name preferred)
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No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Jackson Park Fire Department in Cabarrus County Closing

06/21/11 215 W - + 8 - 5

[FireNews finds](#) this *Independent Tribute* article about the closing of the Jackson Park Fire Department in Cabarrus County. They close this month, having lost their contract with the county. The commissioners earlier this year decided to ask the Concord Fire Department to take over the Jackson Park fire district beginning July 1. The department is 57 years old. [Read the story on the Tribute site.](#)

What fire departments in Cabarrus County have previously come and gone? Quite a few, in fact, including the department's that formed the Kannapolis municipal fire department in 1987. That research required a visit to that town's library! And inspired a couple posts [about their history](#) and [some old photos](#). From [my database](#):

- Fieldcrest-Cannon FD - Formed 1984 from the Kannapolis village FD, protected the industrial plant. Renamed Pillowtex-Cannon FD in 1997.
- Kannapolis Sanitary District FD - Formed 1963. Merged 1987 with new Kannapolis municipal FD.
- Kannapolis village FD - Formed by 1920, protected Cannon Mills and the village surrounding. Renamed Fieldcrest-Cannon FD in 1987.
- Pillowtex-Cannon FD - Formed 1997, see above. Closed 2003, when the plant closed.
- Pitts FD - Formed 1971, closed 1991. Assets merged with Concord FD.
- Poplar Tent FD - Formed 1962, closed 2003.
- Royal Oaks FD - Formed 1957, merged 1987 with new Kannapolis municipal FD.
- Winecoff - Formed 1955, merged 1999 with Kannapolis FD.

No doubt the way of things around growing cities.

DJ - 06/21/11 - 22:10

We've held on pretty long in Wake County, I think. Compared to the closures experienced in, say, Mecklenburg, Cumberland, and New Hanover counties. Maybe those all are apples to oranges, though. Maybe every county and its territorial jurisdictional landscape is different. Plus, we have that big honkin' watershed to the north, which is impedes municipal growth in that direction.

Legeros - 06/21/11 - 22:19

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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'?

Growing Cities and Shrinking Districts

06/22/11 1058 W - + 6 - 2

How has municipal expansion in North Carolina impacted rural (or other small) fire departments in recent decades? We can perhaps draw some conclusions from my [database of former fire departments](#). Below are same in or around the largest of the state's cities. Couple disclaimers. There might be some apples to oranges in the mix, such as South Fork in Winston-Salem Were they impacted by the city coming south, or Clemmons coming north? Or neither?

This list also does not include industrial or institutional fire departments, such as Oteen Veteran's Hospital in Asheville, Camp Greene in Charlotte, and St Augustine's School (!) in Raleigh. Also omitted is Kannapolis, which has its [own unique history](#). Each municipality is also listed by population rank as found in [this Wikipedia article](#).

Asheville (#11 in population in 2009)

Listed by Name	Listed By End Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biltmore Village - 1910-1929 (assets to Asheville FD) • Biltmore Forest - 1923-1995 • Kenilworth - 1920s-1930s • Haw Creek - 1962-2009 (merged with Asheville FD) • West Asheville - 1914-1917 (merged with Asheville FD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Asheville - 1917 • Biltmore Village - 1929 • Kenilworth - 1930s • Biltmore Forest - 1995 • Haw Creek - 2009

Note: There are other examples around the state of early 20th Century municipal expansion and absorption of fire districts. The Chestnut Hill Fire Department outside Salisbury ceased operation in the early 1910s, and was perhaps merged with the Salisbury Fire Department.

Cary (#7)

- Yrac FD - 1961-1998 (formed Western Wake FD)

Note: The town of Cary for a time had a municipal and rural department, which was the case throughout Wake County. Probably throughout the state. In many cases, those two departments end up merging and functioning as a single municipal fire department. In Cary's case, they remained splintered, and the rural department renamed itself Yrac.

Charlotte (#1)

Listed by Name	Listed By End Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmel - 1980-1994/95 (merged with Carolina FD) • Derita - 1950-1994/95 (continued as rescue squad until 1997) • Hickory Grove - 1953-1988 (renamed Robinson FD, still operating) • Moores Chapel - 1954-1984 (formed West Mecklenburg FD) • Mallard Creek - 1953-2011 (assets to Huntersville FD) • Newell - 1949-2011 • Oakhurst - 1952-1974 (reorganized as Idlewild FD) • Pinoca - 1949-1994/95 (merged with West Mecklenburg FD) • Route No 10 - 1950s • Sharon - 1959-c1980 (renamed Carmel FD) • Statesville Road - 1957-1989 • Wilkinson Boulevard - 1943-1984 (formed West Mecklenburg FD) • Woodlawn - c1950-1974 (building to EMS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route No 10 - 1950s • Oakhurst - 1974 • Woodlawn - 1974 • Sharon - c1980 • Moores Chapel - 1984 • Wilkinson Boulevard - 1984 • Hickory Grove - 1988 • Statesville Road - 1989 • Carmel - 1994/95 • Derita - 1994/95 • Pinoca - 1994/95 • Mallard Creek - 2011 • Newell - 2011

Concord (#14)

- Pitts - 1971-1991 (assets to **Concord FD**)
- Poplar Tent - 1962-2003
- Winecoff - 1955-1999 (merged with another FD)

Durham (#5)

- No former fire departments in or around Durham. But the city did operate a county engine for a number of years, or maybe a decade or two, in the 1950s and/or 1960s.

Fayetteville (#6)

Listed by Name	Listed By End Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bonnie Doone - 1956-1996 (merged with Fayetteville FD) ● Cedar Creek - 1990s ● Lafayette Village - 1956-2004 (merged with Fayetteville FD) ● Lake Rim - 1974-2004 (merged with Fayetteville FD) ● Lake Upchurch - 1980-1988 (assets to Stoney Point FD) ● Lakeview - 1964-1968 (renamed Manchester FD) ● Manchester - 1963-1998 (merged with Spring Lake FD) ● Raeford Road - 1956-1997 ● Yadkin Road - 1970s-1980s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lakeview - 1968 ● Yadkin Road - 1980s ● Lake Upchurch - 1988 ● Cedar Creek - 1990s ● Raeford Road - 1997 ● Bonnie Doone - 1996 ● Manchester - 1998 ● Lafayette Village - 2004 ● Lake Rim - 2004

Note: Yadkin Road as a fire department name has been debated. Some records (and even old patches) suggest it was its own department Others recall it was the station or district name of Bonnie Doone Station 2.

Gastonia (#13)

- East Gastonia - 1970s
- Rhyne - 1974-1999
- South Gastonia - 1964-2000 (formed Crowders Mountain FD)

Greensboro (#3)

Listed by Name	Listed By End Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Battleground - 1954-2002 (merged with Summerfield FD) ● Bessemer - 1940s-1950s ● District 3 - 1970s ● District 5 - 1970s-1980s ● District 8 - 1970s-1980s ● District 14 - 1954-2005 (merged with Greensboro FD) ● Guilford College - 1946-2001 (merged with Greensboro FD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bessemer - 1950s ● District 3 - 1970s ● District 5 - 1980s ● District 8 - 1980s ● Guilford College - 2001 ● Battleground - 2002 ● District 14 - 2005

Note: There's scant information about District 3, District 5, and District 5 fire departments. We'll presume they were in/around Greensboro, at least for now.

Greenville (#10)

- No former fire departments in or around Greenville (?)

Hickory

- Bethlehem - 1970s-1980s
- Fairbrook - 1958-1988 (merged with **Hickory FD**)
- Viewmont - 1957-1988 (merged with **Hickory FD**)

High Point (#8)

- 10-A - 1955-1980 (reorganized as Hasty FD)
- Deep River - 1959-2005 (merged with **High Point FD**)

Note: The 10-A Fire Department moved their station after annexation in 1961. Many of the departments listed in this list have moved their stations once, or twice, and maybe even three times in some cases.

Jacksonville (#12)

- No former fire departments in or around Jacksonville (?)

Raleigh (#2)

- Fairgrounds - 1961-1998 (formed Western Wake FD)
- Six Forks - 1956-2002 (merged with Bay Leaf FD)
- Western Boulevard - 1957-1960 (reorganized as Fairgrounds FD)

Note: The Raleigh Fire Department responded to the annexation that impacted the Western Boulevard Fire Department by moving an engine into the territory at 12:01 a.m. on the day the annexation became law. The operated in a rented house for the first couple of years.

Rocky Mount (#15)

- Stony Creek FD - c1965-1990s (continued as rescue squad)

Wilmington (#9)

- North Wilmington - 1990-1993 (building to New Hanover FD)
- Seagate - 1940-2005
- South Wilmington - 1956-1990 (renamed North Wilmington FD)
- Winter Park - 1951-2005 (funds to community college, for public safety training center)

Note: North Wilmington Fire Department meets the criteria of this list, meaning it was (a.) a former fire department that (b.) was located in or around one of the major cities in the state. In their particular case, they ceased operation due to the county cancelling their contract. That was the result of official issues, such as illegal dumping by the department on their property.

Winston-Salem (#4)

Listed by Name	Listed By End Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Hill - 1953-c2008 (moved to Stokes County) • Mt Tabor - 1952-c1995 (merged with Vienna FD) • Sedge Garden - 1949-1953 (reorganized as Triangle FD) • South Fork - 1951-1990 (merged with Clemmons FD) • Triangle - 1953-2004 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sedge Garden - 1953 • South Fork - 1990 • Mt Tabor - c1995 • Triangle - 2004 • Forest Hill - c2008

Durham was operating the county engine and a county tanker into the 80s. I remember the engine was ENGINE 13 I believe. Don't remember

the tanker number. They ran out of the downtown station, I think.

DJ - 06/23/11 - 00:06

Durham ran the tanker into the 1990's and who ever was assigned the mobile air truck was responsible for driving the tanker to no hydrant areas of the city. I remember it being at station 1 when the mobile air truck was an used bread truck.

charlie - 06/23/11 - 04:59

To add to the column on shrinking fire departments, the Gilead FD merged with Huntersville FD late last year and became Huntersville Station 2 (in the Charlotte area).

Benjy - 06/23/11 - 08:05

Yadkin Rd fire dept in cumberland county was a small statuion located right on a side road next to Fort Bragg off Yadkin Rd. They had two trucks, a GMC pumper and a GI tanker. Orville Crites was the chief. Bonnie Doone had a station on the bypass, white trucks. They had a RR spur that crossed right in front of that station and one would wonder how the tank cars full of fuel never derailed, as the track was in bad shape. Also ran aong Bragg blvd. What a cool time in history. The gang did a heck f a job with limited resources.

Tom Parson - 10/16/11 - 15:33

Name: (real name 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.

Boat on the Road

06/23/11 108 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

That's Rescue 3 in the background, boat trailer in tow, and clearing the scene of an apartment fire this afternoon on Fort Sumter Road. They spent the morning at a search and recovery operation at Lake Wheeler, along with Engine 20, Battalion 2, and numerous other agencies include Fairview and Apex fire departments. Crews were searching for a missing fisherman, and who was later discovered drowned. By way of tragic coincidence, the incident repeated the events of Saturday's search and recovery at the lake. [See that prior blog posting](#). News reporting from today includes [WRAL](#) and the [News & Observer](#).



does anyone no if they responded emergency to this fire or ran routine due to the trailer in tow, just curious???

aaron - 06/24/11 - 21:56

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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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'?

Flowing Water Fast

06/23/11 53 W - + 4 - 1

Dave Statter found this [compelling pre-arrival video from Las Vegas](#). Commentary and quarterbacking courtesy of his readers. Statter911 is about the best place for such discussions. Line pulled and charged in about 25 seconds. How fast does your company do it?

[Las Vegas House Fire](#) from [Steve Reyes](#) on [Vimeo](#).

I'll assume that the officer did a walk-around after the video stopped to make sure that no one was hanging out the back needing to be rescued... Good speed on the initial line being pulled, although I would encourage a straight stream rather than that wide fog to get to the seat- no sense in just fighting the flames at the edge. I suppose we can all Monday-morning quarterback stuff without being there. The fan getting pulled at the get go was interesting... too bad we didn't have more video!

Bob P. - 06/23/11 - 19:09

Just from my perspective and basing my opinion on the fact that the officer literally fell out of the truck it seems as if the officer is young and inexperienced which carries over to the rest of the crew. A company officer sets the precedence and if he's out of control it makes for an ugly scene. Maybe I'm wrong on the officer but I expect to see more of these actions in Raleigh like shown in the video with the emphasis being placed merely on education and not experience.

RescueRanger - 06/23/11 - 19:39

What does being young have to do with anything? Maybe he lost his footing or slipped. I have been with Captains that have been in the fire service longer than I have been alive and they forget to release their SCBA from their seat and are hanging out of the truck. Remember there are smart young Captains and Chiefs in this county.

911 - 06/23/11 - 23:27

That's a Pierce Quantum, with slowly folding-out steps. Betcha dollars to donuts that was the cause of said stumble.

Legeros - 06/24/11 - 08:40

Are there no comments in regards to the LEO that was busy updating his Facebook status, in stead of perhaps trying to determine if the occupants were able to escape their burning home, or maybe alerting the neighbors, or perhaps controlling traffic? He's not a security guard,

he's got a side arm on his belt. He appears to be the initial First Responder on scene.

harkey ([Email](#)) - 06/24/11 - 09:42

It is not the Quantum's fault that the Captain did not get off the truck properly. If you look closely you will see that he jumped off and didn't use the steps. I have had the privilege to ride Quantum's for years with out any problems.

steps - 06/24/11 - 16:23

My opinion on the Officer BEGAN with his slip-up exiting the rig. I agree that I can't judge his age because he may very well be older and inexperienced but I stand behind my opinion of being inexperienced. Regarding the steps if you watch at 1:58 you can clearly see the front and rear steps deploy. From watching the video here are some signs of being inexperienced; belt straps dangling (2:09), no walk-around performed(2:20), a hook is the only tool grabbed (2:10), attempting to kick in the front door without even trying to see if it is unlocked (try before you pry)(2:26), never made entry to perform a primary search, attacked the fire from the outside, finally turns on the SCBA (3:08), and calls for a fan even though entry still has not been made (2:59). I did notice that 2 red hats got off the rig. Who knows what a red hat means in LVFD?

RescueRanger - 06/24/11 - 23:05

RescueRanger- I agree with you that experiance is important and not given enough weight these days. However, your assumption that the officer is "young and inexperienced" because he fell off the truck is way off base. I have seen LOTS of people, young and old, dismount apparatus in all kinds of ways for all kinds of reasons. Heck, i'm sure that i have made some not so graceful dismounts over the years. Does that mean that i'm not experienced?

Looks to me like the red truck puled up, and the fire went out. Could you have used different tactics and achieved the same results?

Absolutley.

firedriver - 06/24/11 - 23:08

I tried to watch the video again to pay close attention but it wouldn't play on Internet Explorer or Firefox, perhaps it was taken down? I'll try to remember points from the first time I watched it;

1. The cop is a douche bag for snapping pictures with his cell phone instead of doing something constructive to help the incident (controlling traffic perhaps, if anything).
2. Can't say the OIC is young and inexperienced; unfortunately we still have "vets" with waist straps unbuckled, on the wrong channels, racing to incidents to "beat" everyone (resulting in missed assignments), forgetting to perform walk-arounds, and the list goes on and on. It happens ALMOST EVERYWHERE, some places more than others, and I relate it to a skewed focus of why we/some (as firemen in the broad sense) are here, but I do think things are changing for the better. Some would rather make certain the rims are polished once a week (I tend to steer clear of them), versus cranking the saws daily and putting their hands on their assigned tools for the tour.
3. This fire seems like a good job where a blitz attack would work well. Not flowing water for five minutes from the outside, but hitting it hard and fast with big water for an initial knock, then stretching in and going inside. This also involves training on the blitz tactic, and knowing everyone has a job and has to do it quickly. I recall a job in '01 in RFD where a seasoned crew arrived with heavy fire, middle of the row townhouse. They laid in, one member stretched a line, and the driver blitzed it with the truck mounted deck gun. By the time we got there on the Truck, most of the smoke was gone!!! But they trained on blitzing, and did it how it was supposed to be done! Not applicable at every gig, but a tool for the box.
4. As far as tools going in; first arriving Engine crews do have to perform a stretch and be good at it. It sets the stage for the rest of the incident. But, a hook to check the overhead space is a must since they're pulling up solo (without immediate back-up) and at least a Halligan to force entry. I once had an Engine Boss that carried just a Halligan, and it's amazing when you train with just that one tool how effective a well placed baseball swing can get you into many single family dwellings. On the flip, I make it a point to tell the Engine guys in our firehouse, that if we pull up to a worker on each others heels first-in, to concentrate on the stretch (especially with just 3 members) and we'll be waiting at the door to let `em in. Communication and training works wonders!!
5. Kicking the door in? Don't get me started...
6. Primary searches MUST be done at EVERY job when possible, whether everyone is said to be out or not.

7. @RR, I agree, experience is "muy importante" when it comes to this job. While education does have its' place, you can keep throwing books at a fire and all it will do is burn hotter. But, on experience, time on the job doesn't necessarily mean experience; is that "experienced member" a fifteen year vet, or a one year member fifteen times in a row? Combine the two though (true experience and education) and wow, what an Officer that will be. The final component of this formula though; heart.....ya' gotta' have heart too.

Stay aggressive, but be safe...

Silver - 06/25/11 - 00:46

@Fire Driver: Yes, the fire went out and everyone went home. That is the logic we ALL have to get away from. The world has yet to burn down so every fire will eventually go out. It's OKAY to critique fires even our own. It's how WE learn. And it's OKAY to make mistakes. Mistakes help us ALL get better.

You stated, "Could you have used different tactics and achieved the same results? Absolutley.". Wrong. They could have used different tactics and achieved BETTER results.

RescueRanger - 06/25/11 - 09:17

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Durham Shootings

06/24/11 177 W - + 6 - 4

Just how many shootings have occurred in the Bull City lately? Here's a list as found via Google News. Omitting the drive-by shooting on I-540 (Raleigh) and the multiple fatality shooting on Highway 54 (RTP). Should be interesting to see how public perception and reaction develops. There's also no historical context to this information. Is this number of shootings unusual for comparable periods at other times of the year? And for that matter, how does a comparison look against such incidents in, say, Raleigh?

- June 23 - Two shot in parking lot near Mt. Moriah Road and McFarland Rive. One killed, one injured.
- June 23 - Multiple shots between two vehicles in shopping center parking lot on Highway 54 and Fayetteville Road. No injuries.
- June 20 - Vehicle shot on Durham Freeway between Briggs Avenue and Ellis Road. No injuries.
- June 18 - Vehicle shot and crashed on Durham Freeway near Fayetteville Street. One killed.
- June 13 - Crash on Angier Avenue transporting shooting victim from Driver Street. Two injured.
- June 12 - One shot in parking lot on Juniper Street. One killed.

Raleigh/Wake County I believe has an equal amount of shootings. Often they aren't published in the news.

Mike - 06/24/11 - 10:18

Yep. 3 Shootings in Raleigh/Wake County alone in the last day: Kid shot & killed off Poole Rd and Wake SO investigating double homicide near Willow Spring.

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/24/11 - 11:30

mike, be fair and include the "golden child" city of RALEIGH or take it off!

be fair - 06/24/11 - 14:56

that shooting in Willow Spring is WAAAAAY too close to home!

shevais - 06/24/11 - 16:35

Mikes blog, he can put what he wants. If you don't like it, go elsewhere.

Blog Po-Po - 06/24/11 - 16:58

Durham has twice the crime risk of Raleigh in most categories. http://www.clrsearch.com/Durham_Demograp..

facts - 06/24/11 - 17:25

Add this to the list; http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/sto..

Silver - 06/25/11 - 02:03

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

June Episode of FireWatch

06/25/11 125 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

The [June 2011 episode](#) of the Raleigh Fire Department's cable television series FireWatch has been made available online. In the latest episode, they attend the [grand opening of the Raleigh Fire Department Museum](#), talk about fire pit and grill safety, and learn a little more about fireworks. For the occasion of the museum opening, they interview several attendees, including current and retired personnel. The City Manager also appears on camera and interviewed by Mr. Blogger, no less! How some digital improvements for Yours Truly? Need to talk to the video producer about that one. FireWatch airs on the RTN-11 cable television channel on Monday (12:30 p.m.) Friday (11:00 a.m.), Saturday (11:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.) and Sunday (2:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m.).



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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See You in Baltimore

06/25/11 197 W - + 11 - 2

We're a month away from the annual [Firehouse Expo](#) in Baltimore, which is Maryland in case you're hopelessly geographically challenged. Great city to visit, great part of the country to explore. Three days of exhibit floor wandering are planned. Watch for the guy in the Hawaiian shirt that looks like me. He'll hanging around the [fire bloggers booth](#), or at least until he wears out his welcome. Or they wear out theirs!

Will be catching this conference session: Social Media: An Opportunity, a Curse, or Both? and with a panel including [Dave Statter](#). He's the man. Maybe a couple others as well. Knowledge is good. Below are my travel plans. Might have time to photograph historic firehouses in York and Reading on that first day. We'll see how the drive time plays out.

- Wed - Jul 20 - Arrive Reading, PA, for opening night of Rob Zombie/Slayer tour.
- Thu - Jul 21 - Arrive Baltimore, for Expo.
- Sat - Jul 23 - Leave town by way of Hanover, MD, for two-stepping at the great Cancun Cantana.
- Sun - Jul 24 - Day in or around DC.
- Mon - Jul 25 - Leave DC for home.

Name: (real name preferred)
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 Yes
 No

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Deer Versus Church

06/25/11 78 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Bet there were some interesting thought balloons on June 13, when two deer took a stroll inside the occupied Colonial Baptist Church in Cary. Oh dear! They entered through a plate-glass window and exiting through a second window (the first) and an open door (the second). And thus becoming deer-ly department. [The News & Observer](#) has that story. Hey, did you see that? Yeah, it ran pastor! Continue punning as desired...



News & Observer photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Mystery Road

06/25/11 32 W, 2 I - + 5 - 3

Where's this unused section of roadway? Some of you might pass the thing daily. That's a hint.



At first glance it looks like something out at RDU, but that would be too easy...

DJ - 06/25/11 - 18:30

Looks like a piece of Old 64 off New Bern Ave between the river bridge and Rogers Lane????

Mappy Map - 06/25/11 - 19:48

Is it that section of frontage road to the right side of southbound Capital, just south of Hodges St, as it goes up by the railroad tracks? I thought it was a private driveway, but Google Maps thinks it's part of Hodges St.

rfburns - 06/26/11 - 00:19

I was going to say some sort of entrance/ exit ramp from the Beltline possibly???????? I'm sure RF is all over it....

Silver - 06/26/11 - 12:47

Ehh... Mine was really just a wild-*** guess. I really have no idea. From his hint, I at first was thinking of something near Keeter, like a section of Fayetteville St near Wilmington St, but I couldn't think of anything that looked like the above.

rfburns - 06/26/11 - 13:00

Is it off NC55 near Carpenter?

DJ - 06/26/11 - 20:01

In the interest of continued participation and further puzzling, I neither confirm nor deny the current responses.

Legeros - 06/26/11 - 20:12

Ping!! :)

rfburns - 06/28/11 - 08:10

Time for a hint yet?

rfburns - 06/29/11 - 14:21

Outside I-440. Inside I-540.

Legeros - 06/29/11 - 14:25

Riverwalk (former) MHP?

rfburns - 06/29/11 - 21:43

Second view added.

Legeros - 06/30/11 - 07:28

Could you take a few steps to the left?

That sign makes me think of Umstead Park, but I'm not that familiar with the park. On the other hand, I'm thinking of some sort of road that was left orphaned by I-540 construction. I don't know. Thinking this early isn't good for anyone.

rfburns - 06/30/11 - 08:02

See this Google Maps street view: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=5000+New+B..>

Mappy Map - 06/30/11 - 11:51

Good job! You were right all along!

rfburns - 06/30/11 - 12:48

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

She's Rolling

06/25/11 75 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Here's your live burn photo of the day from a Rolesville Fire Department training event on Forestsville Road at Royal Coachman Drive. Two-story, wood-frame structure with a basement. Drills concluded after lunchtime. The big burn happened about 2:15 p.m. Here's one of Mr. Blogger's hotter pictures. Could benefit from a little retouching to correct a bit of barrel distortion. More later, plus a bevy of shots from Lee Wilson. Click to enlarge:



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

Comment:

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Another Big Burn

06/25/11 104 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Though my favorite burn-down photo might be this one, taken at a New Hope training event last year. See [part 1](#) and [part 2](#) of those photos. The lighting's a little different. That was in March and taken about 4:00 p.m. and with a spring sun that was probably pretty low in the sky. If memory serves, this shot was digitally retouched to remove barrel distortion. That's what happens with a wide lens, and causes, say, the straight lines of a building to seem curved. The red against the older-looking white wood is a visual winner here as well. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
 E-mail: (optional)
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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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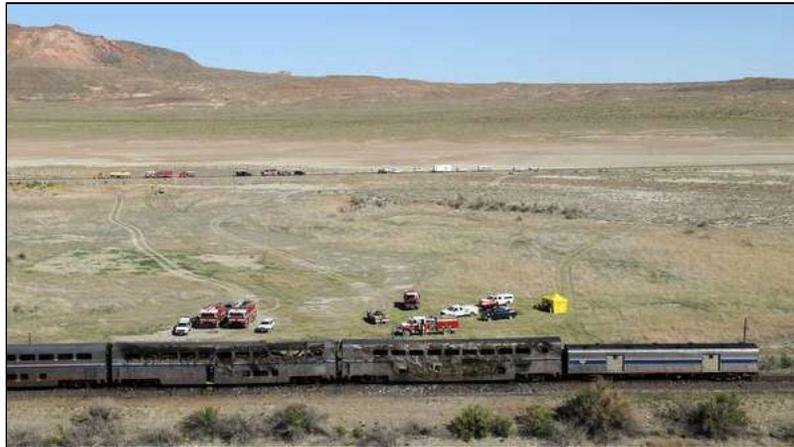
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Aerial Photos of Nevada Amtrak Accident

06/25/11 98 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

The [Reno Gazette-Journal](#) has posted aerial photos of Friday's railroad accident where a tractor-drawn gravel truck struck a moving passenger train some 70 miles east of Reno. The collision caused a fire that killed a number of people (the count is still undetermined) and injured about 20 others. From photos, it looks like two of the coach cars were heavily damaged by fire. Observe the airport apparatus also on scene. Or are those Air Force rigs? Probably a long run, either way. Middle of nowhere, it looks like.



Marilyn Newton/Reno Gazette-Journal photo

Looking at Google Earth, and based upon the news reports from Reno, this occurred several miles north of the town of Fallon, NV. The navy maintains a naval air station there, which probably accounts for the Oshkoshes. It looks to have been about a 25 mile or so run from NAS Fallon. Fallon itself does not look large enough to support a civilian airfield that would have twin Oshkoshes available to leave for a fire several miles to the north without compromising airfield safety. Also, looking at Google Earth, this took place way out in the middle of nowhere. It happened along US95, about 3 miles south of I-80, near the Humboldt State Wildlife Area.

DJ - 06/26/11 - 11:06

Thanks DJ. This one's a hearty reminder of the importance of MCI training no matter how remote you are! Wonder how common heavy fire is, with regard to passenger train incidents?

Legeros - 06/26/11 - 11:09

Those two Oshkosh trucks look like the kind that I have seen on Navy airfields, for that matter.

Legeros - 06/26/11 - 11:11

I was going to suggest NAS Fallon (Top Gun) too. One report I saw said some PTs were transported to Fallon. My dad said he read NAS Fallon responded. Also take a look at Fallon/Churchill Vol. FD. They are an impressive FD, and I think they have some specialized rigs on that kind of chassis.

jcollins ([Email](#)) - 06/26/11 - 11:19

<http://www.churchillcounty.org/fire/>

I have read about their rigs. Don't they have a pair of triple-axle monsters that are their first-due rigs? They made 'em big and packed, due to the long responses and needed for bringing everything-at-once? Something like that comes to mind...

Bet that was an interesting run card for that incident.

Legeros - 06/26/11 - 11:22

I think they have 4 that 3D/Darley made for them back in the mid 90s. Their old website was chock full of pics of them which you can still find on google archives.

"The department runs two matching compressed air foam pumper tankers and two pumper tanker aerials, three conventional engines, three 3500 gallon tankers, a dozen tenders, a tower ladder, a medium duty rescue, Haz Mat trailer, a dive van, and a rescue boat. "

"Standard issue Churchill County fire trucks consist of: 1995 Spartan 10 man long four door air conditioned cabs with seating for 10 with 9 guys in air packs. Officer's facepieces have amplifiers built in. On structure fires the rigs commonly run with a crew of 8 to 10. Detroit Series 60 470 horse power engine with an Allison transmission with retarder. Top speed @90 mph. Fuel capacity allows runs of 450 miles. Nine batteries allow for alternator or belt failure.

In cab pump panel with flood light switches in cab, remote control deck guns and side dump controls. Cairnes IRIS, portable and mobile cell phone combination. Rear vision TV, red cab lighting, swivel style map book holder. Rechargeable flashlites for all seats. Drivers side speedometer. Opticom emitter to insure a green traffic light the direction the fire truck is responding and red lights the other three directions. Four radio chargers are in each cab with a David Clark head set attached. That allows the engineer and others to do his job and always be in immediate radio contact. A 500 unit radio transmitting PASS receiving computer to automatically track all firefighters and apparatus onscene.

Body made by 3D Manufacturing with pump and build up by Darley. Rescue style high side compartments on both sides. Hydraulic ladder rack on both sides, each with one 35', 24' 14' and 10' ladder and two pikes poles.

Front bumper attack lines include one 150 foot one inch, one 50' one inch, two 150 2 inch lines, and one 50 foot dead line. Rear attack lines include one 400 feet 2 inch and two 250 foot 2 1/2 inch lines. Crosslays include four 150 foot 2 inch lines, two 400 foot 2 inch lines and one 400 foot 1 inch line.

Two 2000 gpm remote controlled monitors with 150 to 1250 and 300 to 2000 gpm TFT automatic nozzles and smooth bores to 2 1/2 inch. Controls in the cab, remote tethers at the tail board and sides of the rig with on/off and foam controls allow flexibility in use of the guns. One portable Akron Apollo. The supply bed consists of split lays of 5 inch hose with a capacity of 2600 feet for the trucks and 5200 feet for the engines with the hose being green. Water tank capacity is 2000 for the trucks and 2500 gallons for the engines. Each rig has a 3 inch direct fill connection with 1 1/2 inch, 2 1/2" and 5" storz reducers attached. All rigs have 10 inch side dumps. Foam compliment consists of four tanks with 60 gallons of Class A and 90 gallons of 1% AFFF. Dunnage area storage for 40 additional gallons of gel or foam. A 120 cubic foot compressor for compressed air foam streams. Foam is pre-set so it is always on. No driver intervention is required to make foam, simply engage the pump. 18' remote pickups tubes allow Class A and Class B to be drawn from another vehicles foam tank, can or drum. Water, foam and CAFS can be discharged simultaneously. Pump capacity is 1500 gpm 2 stage with pump and roll at any speed. Front rear and in cab pump panels. 6 water level lights. Large roof mounted hallogen lights in four colors to indicate water level. Each rig has 4 fixed and 2 portable tripods 1500 watt flood lights. Four 1500 watt floods on the light mast or aerial, for a total of 15,000 in fixed scene lighting. Five 500 watt portable flood lights attached to reels. 1750 feet of power cord on 9 reels. 12 salvage covers are carried, 14 spare air pack bottles, 8 hooks, Holmotro extrication gear, smoke ejector, 2 to 12 foot piercing nozzle, cellar nozzle, chain saw, gas and electric circular saws, air powered wizzer saw, and three corded and a cordless recip saws. 70 pieces of cribbing, gas powered Holomotro simo pump with dual 50 foot reels, rams, cutter and spreader, gas powered torch, port-a-power, extensive tool boxes, assorted air tools and two 60 minute bottles, air bag compliment, 40' of hard suction hose with 15 feet preconnected in a squirrel tail, a low lift and a floating strainer, trauma bags, wire down locatr, through the lock entry gear, and water transfer devices. Each rig has powder coat color coded fittings either red, orange, blue or green. All attack line hose is color coded to it's bed. All attack lines are attached to water thieves(a wye with a 2 1/2" and two 1 1/2" ports). A total of five water thieves and one wye surround the rig providing 12 - 1 1/2" and 5 - 2 1/2" gated discharges. All discharges are reduced in stages from 5" storz to 2 1/2" to 1 1/2" to 1" then capped. Two 5 inch dicharges and 4 large diameter gated suctions supply the pump. The aerials are 62 foot Nova Quintech ladders with 150 to 1250 gpm waterways. The tip of the ladder sports David Clark headset jack, four flood lights, one 200 foot cord reel with a 500 watt flood light attached, and axe and pike pole.

Cost: Engines \$380,000. Trucks \$460,000.

shevais - 06/27/11 - 00:52

Thanks Shev! Those are some old-school web pages, there!

<http://www.reocities.com/Baja/Trails/665..>

<http://www.reocities.com/Baja/Trails/665..>

<http://www.reocities.com/ecburtblue33//i..>

Legeros - 06/27/11 - 08:20

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preferred)

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No

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Video of Partial Roof Collapse

06/26/11 53 W, 1 I - + 4 - 5

A reader has suggested this close-call video as a topic for discussion. As shot by Carl Kern and posted to Firehouse.com, it captures the partial roof collapse during ventilation at a residential structure fire on June 11 in Washington Township, PA. [Watch the video](#). Discuss as desired.



Saw this video last week; KNOW YOUR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION! Modular homes/ mobile homes are SUPER- DUPER lightweight construction.

Silver - 06/26/11 - 12:44

Wow, so much can be said about this video. Why is it that something is burning in front of you and you have no desire to don an airpack? The majority of the spectators (I wouldn't call them firefighters) are walking around the yard clueless and not even ready to fight fire. That works great when your guy falls all the way through and you aren't even prepared to go get him! If you are going to vent a roof (which this is not one to be on) use a real saw! The job could have been done faster with hand tools... I halfway expected to see an extension cord plugged into that little thing! Get in there and pull some ceiling if you want this fire to go out. It's a mobile home and there is not exactly going to be all kinds of cut up voids to find- it's going to be a simple attic space throughout... Maybe they were looking for the attic access- I love hearing that one on the radio as you let the house burn down around you...

Bob P. - 06/27/11 - 12:56

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Old Winston-Salem Telesquirt For Sale

06/26/11 99 W, 1 I - + 6 - 9

Who wants to buy an old fire engine? Well, everyone, of course. But if a triple-axle telesquirt's on your radar, this sun-bleached beauty awaits your inspection outside Knightdale. Same is sitting outside Pooles Well Drilling. The thing is a 1984-85 Kenworth/Grumman with a 75-foot aerial. Readers can perhaps add additional specs. [We've blogged about](#) this baby before. The thing's now for sale. You know you want one, and at least to see the reaction of your wife when you drive the thing home. [See more photos.](#)



That is a old City of Winston-Salem aerial. It was a reserve housed at Station 16 prior to getting surplused, ran as Truck 2 (out of Station 5) prior to being a reserve. King Fire Department (Stokes Co.) bought the twin to this rig and ran it as Truck 30 for a while before it fail either ladder or pump test. Last time I saw that unit it was sitting at the city yard in King.

Christopher - 07/20/11 - 22:33

I was riding on the back of this rig at the exact time when the planes hit the twin towers in New York City. It was my first shift back on Truck 3 on September 11, 2001. Beside me was a rookie who had moved down here from New York City. He was riding his first shift after graduating recruit school. We were on our way to EMT Con Ed. Fought a lot of fire riding that truck including my first time riding in charge.

The sister of this truck has been stripped for scrap.

Joe Ramsey ([Email](#)) - 05/09/14 - 01:23

I was assigned to this rig and its twin back in the day. Seen alot of work

Clay Simmons - 05/25/14 - 20:21

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Meet The Embers

06/26/11 29 W, 1 I - + 11 - 2

Photographer close call? Source of sudden stinging sensation at Stony Hill's live burn this afternoon. Extinguished with bottled water.



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

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Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Today's Big Burn

06/26/11 75 W, 1 I - + 3 - 2

Here's the fully-involved photo from earlier this afternoon. Stony Hill, Creedmoor, Bay Leaf, and others were training on Old Weaver Trail at Creedmoor Road. Traffic was halted at this point. The radiant heat was a bit much. Watch for the full series from Lee Wilson. Yours Truly arrived at the time of this photo, and left maybe twenty minutes later. Wham, bam, thank you sirs.



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.

More Vintage Skyland Apparatus

06/26/11 52 W, 2 I - + 10 - 4

More 35mm slides for sale on eBay, this time with two more Skyland trucks. Top is a 1981 Peterbilt/House pumpwer-tanker, 1250 GPM. Bottom is a 1978 White/Hose pumper, 1250 GPM. [See prior posting](#) for a picture of their 1976 Oshkosh/Howe/LTI aerial ladder. Photo credit unknown. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
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Blocking at Bus Accident

06/27/11 77 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Engine 8 and Engine 20, foreground and background respectively, are shown on scene at this afternoon's bus accident on Interstate 40 at Chapel Hill Road. One reported fatality, the driver. No other passengers believed on bus. Units on scene included Engine 8, Engine 20, Ladder 7, Rescue 2, Battalion 3, District 5 (first on scene), District 1, and EMS 8. There's news coverage a-plenty, check your local news sites. Photos from Legeros (shown below) and Lee later.



Question for the on scene guys and or Mike and Lee, what was the extrication time if that can be provided.

Curious - 06/28/11 - 18:30

George, I observed the following during my time on scene: patient assessment, stabilization of vehicle, securing of perimeter, and stretching of a hand line. I did not observe extrication during the early period of the incident, nor know if it was required for the subsequent recovery.

Legeros - 06/28/11 - 19:47

Pun on the anonymous commenter's name, of course. George, as in Curious George. Signed, the man with the yellow shirt.

Legeros - 06/28/11 - 19:47

I do have to say, from the pics of this scene, we have come one hell of a distance when it comes to highway safety. While sometimes (very few) we may have too much space between vehicles, for the most part we create one hell of a safety zone (in a good way). Things really come together beautifully when RFD (and the few county agencies that respond to the highways with us), RPD, EMS, and IMAP work together like the above incident. Sure beats the old days of one unit sitting on the shoulder and cars whizzing by at 75 mph!!

Mike, I got the reference...

Silver - 06/28/11 - 22:30

Extrication took about 2 hours after the initial dispatch. Units on scene were waiting for CCBI to arrive and take pictures of the wreck. CCBI is now investigating all deaths inside city. Of course with RPD help.

ncems - 06/30/11 - 10:33

Thank you Lee. Sorry for the confusion

ncems - 06/30/11 - 20:59

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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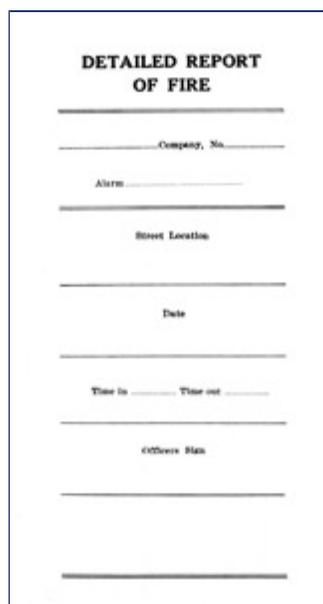
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Detailed Report of Fire

06/28/11 78 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

Random historical artifact. Raleigh Fire Department fire reporting form. Likely used between the mid-1950s (when radios were added) and the mid-1970s (when alarm boxes were removed). Probably originated in an earlier decade, as there's a field for recording the gallons of chemicals used. Though that might apply to hand extinguishers, as well. Designed as a tri-fold document, for ease of filing, it seems. Respectfully submitted. Click to view as PDF document:



I think we used these reports up until recently when we were blessed with a certain I.T. staff!!!! Hahahaha...

Silver - 06/28/11 - 22:32

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

Eastern Wake Firefighter Albert Best Retires After 23 years

06/29/11 99 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

For your morning reading, this week's *Eastern Wake News* has profiled Firefighter Albert Best, the first full-time member of Eastern Wake Fire & Rescue to retire. He was honored last week at a party at Station 1. Best began as a volunteer firefighter, and was hired as one of four full-time members of the then-named Knightdale Fire Department in 1994. The department was renamed in 2003, the same year Best was promoted to Engineer. Eastern Wake has also retired the 57 year-old member's number, 11. [Read the story.](#)



Paul A. Specht/Eastern Wake News photo

Congratulations and best wishes Albert!

A.C. Rich - 06/29/11 - 11:41

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.

Firefighter Memorial Stair Climb in Morrisville

06/29/11 401 W - + 9 - 5

Numerous firefighter memorial stair climbs are planned around the country on September 11, 2011, to honor the firefighters who perished on September 11, 2001. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has [information about the events](#). Three are currently scheduled in North Carolina, one of which will take place at the Concourse Building in Morrisville. Fire Chief Todd Wright pass along this event announcement:

June 28, 2011

The Morrisville Fire Department will be hosting a firefighter's memorial stair climb on Sunday September 11th, 2011, at 1 Copley Drive in Morrisville, NC. This event is to commemorate the tragic loss of 343 FDNY firefighters during the events of 9/11. The event will be open to firefighter's to participate and family and friends are welcomed to come and support their firefighters. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with different tasks during the event. Check-in for the event will begin at 7:00 am until 8:30 am on Sunday, 9/11. We will conduct a memorial ceremony at 9 a.m., with the event starting right afterward.

On the morning of Sunday September 11th 2011, fire service personnel gathered in Morrisville will be joining other events across the United States to climb or walk a distance equal to 110 stories as a tribute to their fallen brothers and sisters. The distance equal to 110 stories will simulate the climb within the twin towers during that day in 2001. Participants can be in full turn-outs including an air pack or carry hose in a highrise pack; in turn-out gear alone or just P/T clothes. Each climber carries the photograph and biographical sketch of a firefighter who was lost on September 11, 2001. The registration for each firefighter will be \$25. The money will go to the families of the fallen firefighters through the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Please follow the link provided below for more information on the history of these events and the registration for the Morrisville Memorial Stair Climb. Registration for the event opens on Friday, July 1st, 2011.

Volunteer help with set-up and clean-up is also greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate, but not participate in the climb, you may do so with a donation directly to NFFF or you may donate supplies such as snacks and water for our participants. Please contact Shandy with any further questions. Thank you.

<http://www.9-11stairclimb.com/events.html>

Shandy K. Padgett
 Deputy Fire Marshal
 260 Town Hall Drive, Suite C
 Morrisville, NC 27560
 Phone: (919) 463- 6122
 Fax:: (919) 380-6720
 Spadgett@townofmorrisville.org

Please send me more information about this event!

Ross Escobeco ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/19/11 - 11:59

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Big Dave's Family Seafood Burns in Forest City

06/29/11 182 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

The *Digital Courier* out of Forest City has posted this photo of yesterday's commercial structure fire at Big Dave's Family Seafood. Alas, the site requires a subscription, so no additional details or even photo credit can be gleaned. Perhaps our readers in Rutherford County (do they exist?) can add details. Or you can use the below image to extrapolate all manner of information or presumptions about the incident, the structure, the tactics, and the outcome. (Never done that before, right?)

Thus it appears that (a.) the fire occurred during daylight, (b.) the structure was at least one-story in height, (c.) at least two firefighters were on scene, (d.) at least two different departments were on scene, or at least what looks like two styles of turnout gear, (e.) at least one chief officer was on scene, as that appears to be a white helmet, (f.) the fire vented through the roof at some point, and (g.) vertical ventilation was ordered at some point, as that appears to be a chainsaw.



Digital Courier photo

It also appears that they were not ordered to wear SCBA's neither.

jt - 06/29/11 - 11:23

Either.

jt - 06/29/11 - 13:54

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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NC HART Training in Rocky Mount

06/29/11 75 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

From a reader, [here's a slideshow](#) from a couple weeks ago, showing members of the [North Carolina Helicopter and Aquatic Rescue Team \(HART\)](#) training with the Rocky Mount Fire Department. The NC HART team includes members of the Raleigh Fire Department, and some of whom participating in the pictured training. The *Rocky Mount Telegram* photos are by Bob Bartosz. [See the photos.](#)



Bob Bartosz/Rocky Mount Telegram photo

Firehouse.com photo story on this, <http://www.firehouse.com/showcase/photos..>

Legeros - 07/12/11 - 18:35

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'?

Blog > Facebook?

07/01/11 342 W - + 6 - 4

We meaning me has expanded our (my) digital channels lately, notably adding a Legeros twitter feed (www.twitter.com/legeros) to the mix. Blog posts are tweeted, along with most new incident photos (www.legeros.com/firepics). There's also a bit of exclusive content, tweets with, say, links to local, regional, or national news stories. Or other sites. Stuff that doesn't or hasn't yet made the blog. (For various reasons.) Remember, Twitter is it's own type of blog. A microblog.

Now, how can Facebook be added into the mix? Sure, there's already a Facebook profile page for Mike Legeros (www.facebook.com/legeros). But that baby's on high privacy alert. You have to be a Friend to see the wall postings. More complicatedly, those wall postings are not remotely equal to the content of this blog. They're all over place. Thus the question, how can Facebook presence be created, for Raleigh and Wake County firefighting? Or more specific, the Legeros-based perspective therein?

Over a year ago, a fan page was created called Legeros blog. That lasted a couple weeks, and was dropped due to duplication of effort. Two places for posting was too much at the time. Times have since changed, and it's time to offer (or try to offer) a Facebook entrance to this content. So how to get there from here?

That's the question of the morning. Best step is probably creating a Facebook fan page for this content. Public page, anyone can access. No friend-ing required. Craft an accurate name for same. Commence posting. And, on my personal Facebook profile page, redirect future fire-based wall postings to the new fan page.

Does that make sense? Does that sound good? And what should the fan page be called this time? Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting, the same as this blog? Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting Blog, with the word "blog" added? Some broader, bigger, wilder, crazier title? You tell me. If we build the thing before Monday, we'll "arrange" for fireworks afterward.

Add in the new Google+ (Google Plus) and Social Media is all over the place these days...I must say I like Google+ even though it is still in limited beta. :)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/01/11 - 10:21

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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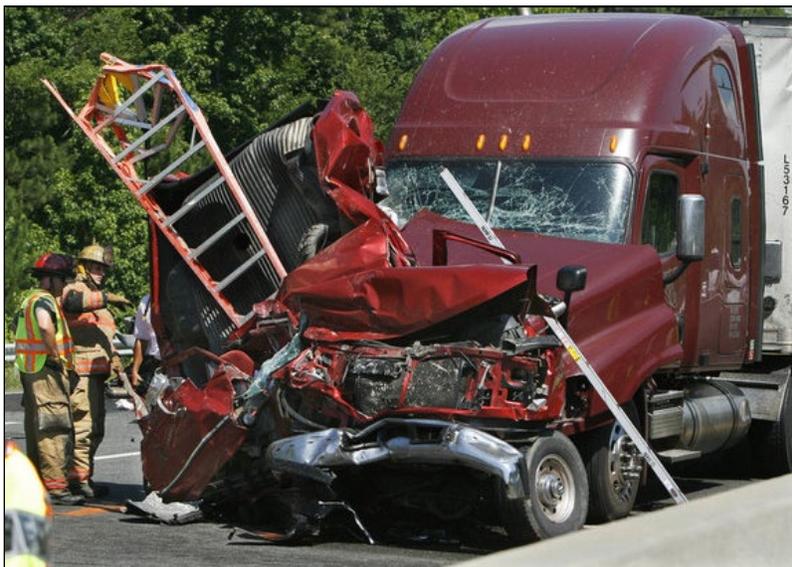
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Wrecks on Triangle Interstates Take Four Lives

07/01/11 269 W, 2 I - + 5 - 3

That's the headline from [today's News & Observer story](#) about a pair of fiery, fatal motor-vehicle accidents on Interstates 85 and 40 yesterday. Below is a picture from Harry Lynch of the second accident, involving a big rig, a box truck, and three passenger vehicles on I-40 just west of NC 15-501. One of the passenger vehicles caught fire. Three people (and perhaps more, say news reports) were killed. The accident occurred about 3:20 p.m. The roadway was closed for a number of hours. The response included New Hope FD, Chapel Hill FD (E34, C4), Hillsborough FD (Squad 268), Durham FD (E11, E16, L11, B3, Squad 1), Parkwood FD (R614, Medic 62). EMS and rescue assets included South Orange Rescue for rehab. Readers can add details. Media links include [WTVD](#) (includes aerials) and [WRAL](#) (includes, as always, amazing reader comments).



Harry Lynch/News & Observer photo

Earlier yesterday morning, a series of accidents involving three (!) tractor-drawn trucks closed both lanes of Interstate 85 near the NC 86 exit near Hillsborough. This incident occurred about 10:00 a.m. One person was killed, and seven people were transported to UNC (6) and Duke (1). The accidents involved three tractor-drawn trucks, one carrying cement mixers (!) that overturned. The others were a box truck (that caught fire) and a tanker truck. Water shuttle operations were established, with two water points. Responding fire departments included Hillsborough FD, Efland FD, Eno FD, Orange Grove FD, Cedar Grove FD, and Caldwell FD. Wonder how many EMS agencies participated? Readers can perhaps add information. Media links include [WTVD](#) (with aerials), [WRAL](#), and the [Herald-Sun](#).



WTVD photo

That appears to be a Ford truck that has been smashed by the semi in the first picture. Maybe more cars need to be built using a fiberglass frame with aluminum cross-members?

RescueRanger - 07/01/11 - 11:34

Great photo by Harry Lynch of a horrific crash. Since I work in Durham I kept having coworkers stop by my desk yesterday and want to borrow my scanner to listen to all of the radio traffic.

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/01/11 - 13:10

Also add New Hope, several units from Orange Co. EM and South Orange Res. Squad for rehab.

On Scene - 07/01/11 - 21:57

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.

Tone and Delicacy Therein

07/01/11 459 W - + 7 - 1

Vacation day today. Holiday weekend. Pontifications pending. We'll start with a discussion on tone. Have you ever heard the phrase "that was a good one" used by those in the business to describe an incident? Have you ever seen smiling faces at an incident scene? Like the seeming pleasure shown by crews having successfully extinguished a structure fire?

Speaking from long-ago (and relatively brief) experience, it was entirely exhilarating to fight fire. And afterward, you'd probably have seen me smiling on scene. Yet, at the same time, I was part of a very unpleasant experience for someone else. The proverbial worst day of their life.

How should we reconcile that disparity on this blog, in our incident photos, and through other social media channels? How should we square the interest, enthusiasm, and excitement for the actions and people of emergency services, with the pain, hardship, and tragedy that those situation also bring?

Part of the challenge is the diverse readership, both real or potential. The regular readers are probably members of the emergency services community, either current or former. Plus buffs and other citizens with interests along these lines. But it can just as easily be read by someone who, say, recently had a house fire. Heck, we've had a few homeowners find and post comments on this blog. (They've praised the work of the crews.)

Tone thus becomes crucial. The blog postings, for example, should be serious. Not self-serious, not deadly serious. But respectful of subject matter. Irreverence is included, however. Not flippancy, mind you. But a degree of levity. That reflects both the personality of the poster and the readers. (There's a whole posting there, the power and need for firehouse laughter.)

That's also the reason you don't see too many smiling faces in my scene photos. That's an intentional omission, and perhaps a too-conservative one. The fireground is more than just square-jawed, stone-faced heroes doing their work.

These are people happy because they love their work, they love their co-workers, and they've performed their work well. They display that each and every time on scene. Should that be thus shown in photos? Is it easily understood, by those looking from the outside in? Need to think on that more.¹

Thus concludes these musings on the subject of tone. And trying to get our (my) writings and pictures "just right," so they're interesting and readable and reasonably accurate in their representations. But also palatable and perhaps even pleasant for those visiting from "the outside."

¹ How does the lay person react to the presence and content of our incident photos, period? There's a whole 'nother post and discussion right there!

Version 1.1 - 12:08 p.m. First footnote added.

A lot of times folks on here respond to a picture (or a couple of pictures) and provide all sorts of 'insight' into how they would have handled it. Those are the anonymous posters, usually. Others do try to provide some thoughtful comments (Silver comes to mind) based upon what is shown in the snapshot in time on an emergency scene.

What the lay public sees, in that snapshot in time, totally ignores anything that went on before or after that snapshot was taken. Unfortunate but true. A crew can pull up on a room and contents fire, flames through the windows, make a good attack, get all of the necessary tasks done, and then that one picture taken after a superb suppression operation, showing a couple of firefighters smiling, maybe smoking, and many in the public arena see so-called professionals smiling and laughing and carrying on at someone else's misery. Sad but true. I am kind of glad Mike leaves those shots out.

DJ - 07/01/11 - 22:59

The "moment in time" effect also affects the quarterback factor, of course. I poked a bit of fun at that in this posting about a fire in Forest

City the other day, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we...>. Just two people on a roof with a fire. Minimal context, yet perhaps plenty to infer about, form opinions, or ask questions of.

Legeros - 07/02/11 - 07:14

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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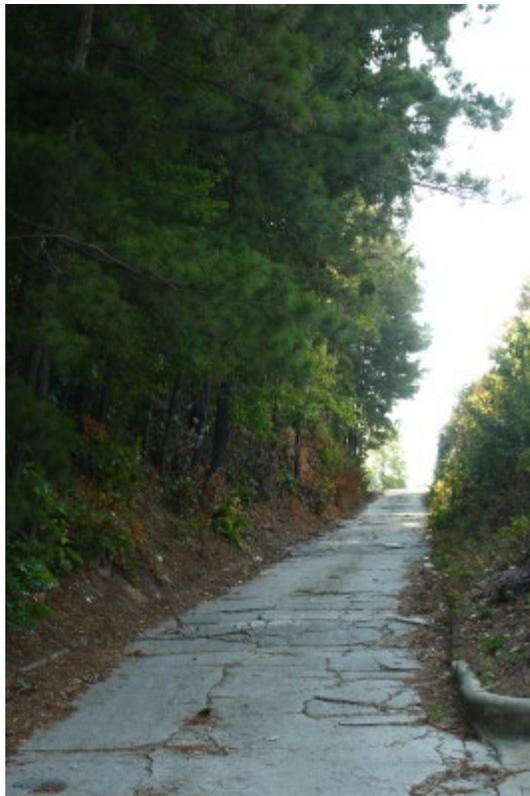
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Mystery Road

07/01/11 24 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

This one's for Burns. And it might take someone all of five seconds to recognize.



Uhhhhh.....

rfburns - 07/01/11 - 13:49

If you're INCLINED to take a guess, that is.

Legeros - 07/01/11 - 13:50

And here's a tip on how to solve these, that A.C. once observed. Ask: "where has Mike been lately."

Legeros - 07/01/11 - 13:51

Not sure of the exact name of the street, but is it in the parking lot of the hotels on Blue Ridge next to Crabtree near the Mcdonalds?

Watson - 07/01/11 - 14:02

Not a named "street" but that is a cut through from Arrow Dr by the old Motel 6 down to Blue Ridge Rd at the McDonalds. Drive VERY slowly... it's a bumpy ride for sure.

RPD - 07/01/11 - 16:48

I would never have guessed that on my own, but I must concur with the previous posters...

rfburns - 07/01/11 - 21:17

There are no roads that this crowd can't identify...

Legeros - 07/01/11 - 21:24

Rocky Hardcore and the Flying Fire Truck

07/01/11 38 W - + 4 - 3

Who knew fire apparatus would be subjected to such abuse? Telesquirt takes a flying leap (controlled) in Lebanon Valley, New York. Video found by [FireTruckBlog](#), also mentioned by [Dave Statter](#):

anti-climactic

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/01/11 - 14:56

"Hey y'all... watch this!"

A.C. Rich - 07/01/11 - 18:10

Was that all?

T-Roy - 07/01/11 - 18:41

Capt. I got an easy way to get into division A wanta hear it ?

Dove ([Email](#)) - 07/01/11 - 21:22

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Folly Beach Backs out of Consolidated Dispatch in Charleston County, SC

07/01/11 162 W - + 4 - 3

Here's an interesting *Post and Courier* story that comes by way of the [Carolinas Fire Page Yahoo group](#). The town of Folly Beach, in Charleston County, S.C., is backing back out of the county's [consolidated emergency dispatch system](#). They've been members since March, when they dispensed with their own telecommunicators. Now they're going back to their own operations.

The issue they say is that the centralized system's dispatchers are unfamiliar with local residents, landmarks, and issues. There have been citizen complaints to town officials, about such issues as responsiveness to out-of-town issued cell phones.

Read the story. And discuss as desired. Do you have centralized dispatch in your county? How well does it work? (Or is that an idiotic question? Aren't they pretty much a proven success?) Here in Wake County, only a couple agencies have their own communicators centers. Town of Cary. Town of Apex. The airport. Who else?

Best comment on the website, which is responding to the question, "What's so special about Folly Beach that a centralized dispatch can't handle them?"

— Begin quote —

And what's different about Folly? Turtle tracks, for one. Folly has a huge volunteer effort to find loggerhead nests and move them if needed, to protect an endangered species.

— End quote —

Really?! You have loggerhead turtles, so you need your own 911 dispatch?!

rfburns - 07/01/11 - 23:42

Since they didn't give it much time to succeed, the issue is probably "expectations."

When you have a large consolidated communications center, your expectations are that it answers 911 calls, dispatches the right resources to the right place in a timely manner, and that radio calls from field units are answered promptly and that the requested actions occur. Our big 911 center seems to do that quite well.

In a small town, the "911 center" which is often a single clerical person at the local law enforcement agency, does more – smaller "personal services" that are handled in another manner in a larger community. I know one town where the "police dispatcher" is also the walk-in clerk for the PD, handles parking tickets, and even does blood pressure checks.

It's all about expectations.

CH100 ([Email](#)) - 07/02/11 - 13:16

Chief 100, you hit the nail on the head. I have had the pleasure of teaching EMD for their new consolidated center. I've been there almost every other month for the last year doing classes. They have done a HUGE consolidation and they have had some hurdles, but overall they're doing a great job. They have a very structured training/academy program, very similar to RWECC which is most successful with their academies. The problem is just as you said. The people of Folly Beach call 911 and say, "Send officer Jim to my mama's house to fix her water heater" or "Send Jim Bob over here, Joe Bob is causing a fuss." When a professional telecommunicator begins using standardized protocols to triage their call – they get mad. It has been their expectation for many years that they're personally recognized and help is sent without question. Charleston utilizes all 3 NAED protocols (EPD, EFD and EMD) and everyone who calls 911 receives the same high standard of care. They don't realize that previously they could call Folly Beach and the police secretary could take their request for assistance without giving them any pre-arrival instructions, or without consideration for the caller's safety. No, a consolidated center isn't as personal as having your own

police dispatcher. I dispatched at Clayton PD for over 10 years part-time and loved every minute of it. But, as a citizen, I'm glad we now call 1 number for all resources, and get a standardized triage process and response. My grandfather had a syncopal episode last year and I am thankful that when my dad called 911 he received the highest standard of telephone interrogation and instructions that is available. 15 years ago that wouldn't have happened. "What's the problem, Ok, we're on the way" was the way we did it, no instructions, no consideration for caller safety, no information relayed to field units other than "sick call." You guys think of how many "sick call" patients we walked into and found in cardiac arrest 15 years ago. That doesn't happen as frequently now. I think if they are going to be separate, interoperability is KEY to it being workable. If they would utilize the same CAD, same radios, etc. it could work – unfortunately I don't see that being the case with Folly Beach. As Chief 100 stated, they didn't give it much time to prove effective.

Jason T ([Email](#)) - 07/02/11 - 16:08

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.

Super Fog

07/01/11 36 W, 1 I - + 3 - 6

Unusual visibility condition to the south as described in [this News & Observer story today](#). Contributing factors include smoke from 30,000 acre wildfire still burning in Pender County.



S. Rocco / News & Observer photo

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Beltline Brush Fire Parking Deck Protected

07/01/11 105 W, 2 I - + 7 - 0

Hot weather and dry weather equals fire weather. Here's a brush fire on the Beltline this afternoon just west of Six Forks Road with Engine 9 and Engine 16, plus Rescue 3 for rehab. Engine 9 found fire extending from the ground to the tree tops. Engine 16 was directed to the service road behind North Hills Mall, to protect the parking deck. They connected to a hydrant, and supplied Engine 9 with three-inch line through the woods and over the fence. The spectators got a good show, as did the rubber-neckers.



Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Juniper Road Wildfire in Pender Country

07/02/11 185 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Today's *News & Observer* [pays a visit to Pender County](#), where a wildfire in the Holly Shelter Game Lands has been burning since June 19. On Thursday, a significant change in wind direction gave crews an opportunity to light back fires along the northern border of the blaze. The Wilmington Star-News has also been following the fire. [Search their web site](#) for recent articles, as well as a couple slideshows linked therein. Mike Spencer took the below photo of a News 14 photographer on Bear Garden Road.

Says this [July 1 release from the national Incident Information System](#), the fire is approximately 30,593 acres in size with 68% containment. They also list the resources currently involved: 21 brush trucks/engines, 15 tractor/plow units, two helicopters, one scout plane, and 174 personnel. *That* is tough work. Wildland firefighting. [See the fire's InciWeb entry](#). Sounds a good destination for a day drive, say, on a holiday weekend! That said, dense smoke or a super-fog event are again predicted for this morning. The information release notes driving in said conditions is extremely dangerous.



Mike Spencer/Star-News photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Carolinas Fire Page

07/02/11 184 W - + 5 - 2

Have you not heard of [Carolinas Fire Page](#) (CFP), the Carolinas Emergency Incident Notification Network? It's a text message-based notification system about working fires, major incidents, and other notable fire and rescue news in North Carolina and South Carolina. Plus severe weather notifications.

You subscribe based on [one or more groups](#), which include alarm levels as well as couple geographic regions. Alerts look like this, which translates to a working fire in Charlotte, crews inside, three lines, units listed, using radio channel Echo:

CHARLOTTE, NC (MECKLENBURG) *WORKING FIRE* 1200 SHARON AMITY X -ST CASTLETON RD. 1-STY WD FRM DWELLING, HVY FIRE SHWG. OFFENSIVE MODE. 3-L/S/O. BC3-IC E3 E14 E8 E29 L29 R3. ON ECHO. [CFP*505] 90/300

[Subscription rates](#) are reasonable, \$5 per month (\$60/year) for twelve-month subscriptions. Or just \$36 yearly for weather alerts only. Or get CFP services for free by [becoming a dispatcher](#). Those are the folks who are scanner buffs, or close to radios, and handle the transmitting of alerts. They both create their own, and retransmit member-reported news.

[Visit the CFP web site](#) to learn more.

■ Twelve month subscriptions are \$5/month (\$60)

CFP1987 - 07/02/11 - 10:52

Thanks for catching the typo!

Legeros - 07/02/11 - 11:12

A couple of points for clarification:

CFP subscriptions are available in five (5) ways:

For firefighters, public safety officials, buffs, etc:

For fire/rescue alerts, you can pay monthly, which is only \$7 a month.

For fire/rescue alerts, you can pay for six months, which is \$30 (\$5/month), or you can pay annually for \$60 (again, \$5/month).

For subscribers who are not interested in the fire/rescue info, but just want to receive our direct NWS weather alerts, that service is available for \$36/year.

Those receiving fire/rescue alerts receive the weather information at no additional cost. Members choose which counties they wish to receive weather alerts on. We have 146 counties to choose from (100 in NC, 46 in SC).

The last option is for our commercial clients, such as reclamation contractors, adjusters, news media, etc. Those rates are negotiated individually according to the market served and services needed.

CFP has been in business since December of 1995, and proudly operates as one of the oldest continuously serving fire networks in the country.

Feel free to contact us if you are interested in participating or joining. It is an excellent format to exchange emergency incident information in a real-time format.

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/02/11 - 11:14

CFP is one of the best around. Yes, I am biased having been with CFP since the early days of paging with Alphamates (that was dial-up fun lemme tell ya!) :) but still Jeff runs a top notch service and if you work in or around the FD industry you would be foolish not to join. :) Thanks for continuing to provide quality service for so many years Jeff and thanks to all of the CFP Dispatchers & Members!

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR CFP[714] ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/03/11 - 22:20

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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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.

Pink Engine From Pink Hill

07/02/11 71 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Saw this sun-bleached beauty today outside Wallace, N.C. Specific location is Highway 41, maybe a mile east of I-40. What the heck was Blog Boy doing in that neck of the woods? Poking around Pender County, and the wildfire areas therein. That is, the approximate wildfire areas. Didn't get remotely close to any action. Smelled quite a bit of it, though. Click to enlarge:



There is another old GMC located outside of Hampstead on NC210. It is on the right as you head back to I-40. It looks to be late 40s early 50s. It is white with a good coating of rust. It has been there at least nine years.

DJ - 07/03/11 - 12:54

Saw that one as well. It's sitting with a mess of construction equipment on the left side of the road. Or, the right side of the road, if you're traveling the other way. Has an orange beacon.

Legeros - 07/03/11 - 13:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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

Tsunami Zone

07/03/11 49 W, 2 I - + 5 - 2

Seen in Surf City yesterday. How high is the tsunami risk for east-coast coasts? Here's a [New York Times article](#) from 2007 on that subject, as well as a [NOAA hazard assessment report](#) from 2008 found by Google. Relax, probability is low.



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

Pender Transport Service Sprinter

07/03/11 53 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Seen in Rocky Point yesterday, a Freightliner Sprinter serving Pender Transport Service, which is a division of [Pender EMS & Rescue](#). (Now there's your revenue stream! County-based convalescent service!) Are there many Sprinter ambulances serving around our state? How do folks like them?



If I recall correctly, MEDIC in Charlotte has a whole fleet of Sprinter ambulances for their convalescent service.

They seem to like them OK.....

CH100 - 07/03/11 - 09:54

WakeMed Mobile Critical Care Service BLS division just purchased Sprinter number 3. Crews love them and they get about 14-15 mpg. Better than the E-series.

Jeff - 07/04/11 - 09:12

Nash County uses Sprinters for ambulances. At, least I believe they are Sprinters...

Bob - 07/05/11 - 10:31

The sprinters at Pender have been in service for a little over three years now. There are a total of four, two that see use every day and two the see use periodically. They each have somewhere in the neighborhood of 70-80k miles on them. We have had very little issues with them also. The big problem is a service center. When we do have a problem the closest repair center is Myrtle Beach. Overall they have been good trucks. Would love to see how a type III sprinter would do.

AB - 07/07/11 - 10:30

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Hummer and Skimmer

07/03/11 54 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Didn't leave the car for any Surf City fire station photos (and didn't even make onto the island, traffic too slow), but shot this shot through the windshield of the blogmobile. Surf City Volunteer Fire Department brush truck and watercraft. The department has three of the latter. 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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

When Residents Smell Smoke

07/03/11 60 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Engine 18 yesterday evening on Eddystone Drive, after significant smoke seen and smelled by residents off Jeffreys Grove School Road. Reported as residential structure fire. Source discovered as subject burning leaves on property outside the city. Yup, we're pushing the envelope this morning with provocative blog content. Kids, don't try this at home. 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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Closed New Hanover County Fire Departments?

07/03/11 145 W - + 5 - 5

While we're digging through fire department histories to the south, what's the current status of these four New Hanover County fire departments? Did they cease operation and have thus disbanded as of October 1, 2010, when NHCDFD became the sole provider of "rural" fire protection in the county? Incorporation dates for each listed in parens:

- Castle Hayne FD (1957)
- Myrtle Grove FD (1957)
- Wrightsboro FD (1952)

Confirmed closed fire departments in New Hanover County, as well as those in prior years and decades are:

- Federal Point FD - Incorporated 1974. Dissolved 2010.
- Fort Fisher Air Station FD - Operated from 1944? until 1989.
- Figure Eight Island FD - Incorporated 1983. Dissolved 1988.
- North Wilmington FD - Renamed from South Wilmington FD in 1990. Dissolved 1993.
- Seagate FD - Organized 1940. Incorporated 1956. Dissolved 2005.
- South Wilmington FD - Incorporated 1956. Renamed North Wilmington FD in 1990.
- Winter Park FD - Organized 1951. Incorporated 1956. Dissolved 2005.

I'm intrigued by South Wilmington FD becoming North Wilmington FD. Did the common view of what was "North Wilmington" vs "South Wilmington" change? Did they physically move?

rfburns - 07/03/11 - 22:37

Disregard! I started Googling, to answer my own question, and I came across this post on some obscure fire-related blogging web site:

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog..>

rfburns - 07/03/11 - 22:51

These fire departments did cease operations when New Hanover County FD became the sole provider. NHCDFD contracted with each of these agencies to remain in their buildings and use/purchase their equipment. I believe that all three of these departments still exist as incorporated bodies, but none of them still provide fire services.

Ljohn - 07/04/11 - 01:24

Thanks LJ. Federal Point is already on record as dissolved. This clarifies the status of the other three.

Legeros - 07/04/11 - 09:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Guess I am really a researcher at heart, as exploring the [North Carolina Secretary of State's corporation records](#) has been endlessly fascinating to the last day or two. Now this is how to spend a holiday vacation! The topic is of course former fire departments, be they disbanded or merged or simply renamed. One more avenue of curiosity for Mr. Blogger, and as recorded in this [database of mine](#).

Last night, found a couple more to be added: Aulander VFD (1957-1988); Brinkleyville VFD (1992-2006); Cameron Rural FD (1958-2010, merged with Circle V FD); Harrisburg VFD (1954-2010), became municipal HFD; Stoneville VFD (1981-2006), likely became municipal SFD; Sunset Beach VFD (1972-1997), assets to form town FD.

Among the available electronic information are copies of the Articles of Dissolution. at least within the last 15 years or so. These are fascinating to read and detail some additional information beyond just the date the corporate ceased to exist. Disposing of assets is listed, and it's interesting to see how these private fire department transferred their monies and other assets. Expectedly, some departments donate their funds to other departments. Others pass them along to charitable organizations, such or religious groups or firefighter organizations.

They're easily downloaded and could be posted here, just for idle reading. But would people mind? Maybe those who were involved or close to those closings? Are such (public) documents actually closer to skeletons? For historians, history is history is history. Everything's good. But for the lay readers, even those in the fire service, maybe such details are more sensitive. I have thought the same thing about death certificates.

Over the years, I have copies of dozens of 1970s and earlier death certificates of North Carolina line of duty deaths (see that [database of mine](#)). They are fascinating and informative records.¹ They are also public records, as are above. Other fire historians (as well as history buffs) might jump at the chance to easily view these. But is that just too much? Is such information ultimately too sensitive or too morbid, perhaps?

Time is a factor. Death certificates from 100 years ago are going to feel different than those from 40 years ago. And certainly very different than those from fatalities in recent years or decades. (Don't know if those records are readily available. Haven't looked for them. Modern LODD reporting replaces the need to fill historical gaps.)

Your thoughts? The joy of research is thus saddled with the sensitivity of presentation. Not everything is ready to consumed by an audience other than yourself.

¹Data recorded in older death certificates, this from 1950s:

- Place of death (county, city or town, length of stay, full name of hospital or institution)
- Usual residence (where deceased lived)
- Name of deceased
- Date of death
- Sex
- Color or race
- Marital status
- Place of bearth
- Age
- Usual occupation
- Type of business or industry
- Birthplace (state or country)
- Citizen of what country
- Father's name
- Mother's maiden name
- Was deceased a veteran?
- Social security number
- Informant's name and address
- Cause of death

- Autopsy?
- Accident/suicide/homicide?
- Place of injury (location)
- Time of injury
- Work/home injury?
- How injury occurred
- Burial/cremation/removal
- Date of above
- Cemetary/crematorial name and address
- Funeral director and address
- Signatures/dates

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.

Bombs Away

07/04/11 125 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

As this [WRAL story notes](#), the ordinance demolition experts (e.g. bomb squad) from Seymour Johnson Air Force has been busy lately. Twice in two weeks they've been called upon to dispose live munitions dating to World War I. First was a German-made hand grenade found in the drawer of an antique sewing machine (!) being restored by a Goldsboro couple. [See Goldsboro News-Argus story](#). Then Saturday, a Winterville man called police to ask about ridding himself of a ~~mortal~~-mortar shell. He'd had the thing for a decade. The Air Force boys buried the shell and made the thing go boom. They also briefly evacuated several residents as a precaution. [See Daily Reflector story](#). Early Fourth of July fireworks, indeed!

*WRAL photo*

Ummmm.... mortar shell I believe, though it would prove mortal if it went off. Incidentally, I don't think this was a mortar shell. It has no stabilizing fins on the tail end. I'd guess it is a shell from a direct-fire weapon like a howitzer judging by the percussion cap. Not trying to cherry pick , just observing. If I had found that, you can bet I'd stay WELL away from it.

Bob - 07/04/11 - 22:13

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

2011 Wilmington Fire Department Recruit Class Graduates

07/04/11 40 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

[WWAY video story](#) about the graduation ceremony of the 2011 Wilmington Fire Department Recruit Class on Friday night at City Hall. The academy started in January, and the recruits completed over 900 hours of training.



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'?

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

Getting Unstuck

07/04/11 52 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

Big truck gets stuck on service road near Blog Central. Bet most of you can place this place pretty quickly. Happens to the best of us. Mrs. Blogger is certainly already chuckling, recalling the winch-assists she's witnessed for her husband. Those AAA membership are gold, baby! Click to enlarge:



Century dr.

RescueRanger - 07/05/11 - 16:45

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'?

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

Saturday's Fatal Fire in Southern Wake County

07/05/11 204 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

[WTVD filed this story](#) this weekend about Saturday's fatal house fire in southern Wake County. Five people were inside the residence when they reported the fire at [1108 Leach Street](#) about 7:00 a.m. Crews arrived and found the one-story, single-family dwelling with 1,120 square-feet nearly fully involved. One person died, a two-year old who was pronounced deceased on the scene. [The WRAL story](#) notes that three others (adults) were injured, and transported to WakeMed with non-life-threatening injuries. One was transferred to UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill. The fire investigation took several hours. The cause was determined as accidental, caused by a faulty electrical cord in the living room. Readers are welcome to add incident details.



Afternoon update: Fairview Engine 3 was first on scene, as units from Fuquay-Varina Station 2 were out of quarters at a motor-vehicle accident. Fairview E3 deployed two hand lines, 2 1/2-inch and 1 3/4-inch. Fuquay-Varina Engine 3 laid a 5-inch supply line down Fanny Brown Road to Leach Street. Crews made an defensive attack due to the volume of fire. Units on scene: Fairview E3, E2, E1, Tanker 6, 7, Car 2; Fuquay-Varina E3, E2, Tanker 3, 1, 4, 2, Battalion 1, Car 1; Garner R2, Tanker 12, Battalion 2. Apologies for any missed. EMS to be determined.

Ems was 9, 16, dc 2, truck1, and county command unit. Also wso, wc1, ccbi, wc7.

911 - 07/05/11 - 22:19

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Scenes From The State Fairgrounds

07/05/11 69 W, 2 I - + 4 - 6

There were natural fireworks at the fairgrounds last night. Thunder and lightning dampened spirits, thinned some of the crowds, and caused a postponement of the rockets red glare until tonight. Shown below is the Wake County EMS bike team inside in Jim Graham Building, and Engine 13 in the background on special assignment on the Midway. Things wrapped by 9:00 p.m. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Raleigh Fire Department Museum Hours, Saturday, July 9

07/05/11 145 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

The [Raleigh Fire Department Museum](#) opens again this Saturday, July 9. The hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center, [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). The public is invited to attend.

Over 200 artifacts and photographs are displayed, representing 150 years of fire protection in the Capital City. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month.

Yours hosts on Saturday will include historian Mike Legeros (moi). Swing by and let's talk history. We hope to have some retired firefighters on hand, as well. Their stories are even better than those dry, old historical accounts anyway. They've lived it.

For more information, and to learn about the Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society, please visit the website www.raleighfirehistory.org.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Saying Exactly What We're Thinking

07/06/11 463 W - + 5 - 5

Wired magazine, maybe two months ago, had a great quote about the effect of digital culture. They opined that the Internet has changed the world in one way: people are now saying exactly what they're thinking.

In forums such as these, and usually when identities are cloaked, raw and unfiltered expressions of opinions and ideas are taking place. Quite the game- and even world-changer, really.

Quarterbacking, the accepted term for such practice, happens when a bunch of folks turn their attentions to a past incident, and begin analyzing what happened. This is usually through questions about the choices of what was done. And with a rough-and-tumble tone.

Exactly the same stuff you'll hear around the firehouse kitchen table. The day room expands to gigantic proportions, with any number of participants. (And just the like firehouse, there are folks not in the room, but still within earshot. Good Lord, are there people in earshot!)

Exceptions to this metaphorical model? First, the concealment of identities. That's quite common. We've beat that horse more than a few times. Second, the leveling of ranks (and more). That's also quite common, and one we haven't really discussed before.

From private to Captain to Chief, everyone up the chain is or can be in on the discussion. But it's still a virtual experience. And a funky one at that. Concealed screen names. Staggered times of responses. No visual representation of exactly how many people are participating. Etcetera.

Would you make the same comments here, anonymously, that you would in person, in an up-rank situation? Would your tone, language, and subject matter communicate an appropriate respect for the rank or position?

What about cross-rank situations? Peer to peer? You wear a white hat, and are taking anonymous issue with another white hat. Are you being appropriately respectful to them, both professionally and personally?

Except, at least anonymously, those up-rank and cross-rank situations are concealed. And that's a bit of a problem. Heck, it can be outright infuriating to some. Who is this guy/gal writing this comment? Is it a direct report? Is it someone that works alongside you? Is it your boss/manager/chief? Are they even within the same organization, or just a local participant. Etcetera.

Again, can be outright infuriating. Plus any number of other emotions that we could name here.

These pontifications are my reaction and response to the latest comments, about the latest fire we're talking about. There's plenty of room for reader reaction to this missive above. Or maybe just eye-rolling. Legeros is sermonizing again.

Nature of the beast is still nature of the beast. Quarterbacking remains popular and entirely diverting. Everyone here is still considerably more civil than, say, the WRAL forums. Yada, yada, yada. Blah, blah, blah.

It's amazing what people will say when you can't put a face with a name. Or an address, or phone number. Or when you can't just reach out your arm and punch the ***hole right in the face.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 07/07/11 - 09:21

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Boom at 1:09

07/06/11 46 W - + 6 - 5

Here's the best video of the day, or even the week, and as [found on this Firegeezer posting](#). Linesman rescues linesman after bucket truck catches transformer on fire. Brace yourself for the tire explosion at 1:09. Somerville, MA. See 'geezer posting for more.

I wonder if they teach bucket bail outs at the local electric company?

Marcus - 07/07/11 - 00:35

Tire on the truck blew. Nicely helped to lessen the amount of fire damaging the truck. I guess they teach linemen like they teach garbage men. Save the truck!

Duda ([Email](#)) - 07/07/11 - 09:19

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Artsy

07/06/11 32 W, 2 I - + 6 - 8

Two more views from this afternoon's house fire on Basil Drive. These pictures can look pretty strange when they're being made. Apologies in advance for any induced states of vertigo:



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Fire Department Milestones

07/07/11 725 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

It's a work in progress, [our museum](#). Each month you'll probably see something different, mostly slight changes. Moving this, adjusting that. Plus some experimentation. Like this list of milestones. This one's a test version, printed on regular paper. Multiple sheets, placed together on poster board:



What's listed on the poster? See below. Where did that information come from? That's a longer story. Some ten years-worth of story, beginning with a narrative history of the Raleigh Fire Department that appeared in the 2002 commemorative book.

Took the electronic copy and added paragraph breaks after every single sentence. Converted the whole thing to a table. Added a column to the left, so every sentence had a cell to the left. Added dates (years) to each sentence. Thus creating a timeline.

Then commenced validating the information. Checking and correcting dates. Adding dates, where only estimates were known. Revising and adding new sentences. Meaning, the pieces of history themselves. Not everything to be known was listed in that document. (That line-by-line parsing was later transformed into web-based [timeline pages](#).)

Over the next number of years, intensive, extensive, and sometime exhaustive research started filling in gaps. The first city retirements, for example. A retiree's daughter crossed paths with some firefighters one day. Maybe an engine company out and about. She told them that her father was the first retiree. From her to them to Mr. Legeros the information traveled.

Consulted my master list of personnel data. Took that person's "stop date" to the local history library, and started looking through *News & Observer* and *Raleigh Times* issues around that date. Found an article about a new city retirement system. Among the first of the retirees was a member of the fire department.

Most of these milestones were already sufficiently documented. Some just needed specific dates and details. Everyone knew (or at least thought) that the original drill tower was built in the 1950s. Newspaper reports determined the construction year as in 1954.

Log books helped determine the date and details of the last box alarm received, a milestone in the transition between fire department dispatching and the new Raleigh/Wake County Emergency Communications Center in the early 1970s.

On a base level, the below list of milestones is entirely fine. Maybe more than fine. For presentation purposes, for hanging on a wall in a

museum, it probably needs more. The best format is probably multi-column. Like a timeline, maybe horizontal, maybe vertical. We should list the fire chiefs in there, the biggest or most major fires, and probably some general historical context. Demographics, national events, etcetera.

But it's a work in progress, like our museum. Hope to see you there Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

- 1912 – Creation of career fire department. Volunteer companies disbanded.
- 1913 – First motorized fire apparatus delivered.
- 1914 – First motor pumper delivered.
- 1915 – Last horse retired.
- 1916 – First aerial ladder delivered.
- 1924 – Two platoon system created.
- 1933 – Firefighters receive Civil Service protection.
- 1935 – International Association of Firefighters Chapter 548 organized.
- 1949 – First city retirement.
- 1949 – Fire Prevention Bureau formed.
- 1950 – First fire helmets.
- 1950 – Work hours changed to 24-hour shifts.
- 1951 – Ladies Auxiliary formed.
- 1953 – Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad chartered.
- 1954 – First drill tower.
- 1955 – First two-way radios.
- 1956 – First line-of-duty death.
- 1963 – First black firefighters hired.
- 1968 – Raleigh Fireman's Club organized.
- 1970 – Third platoon created.
- 1971 – Administration reorg, including Assistant Chiefs to day duty and seven District Chiefs created.
- 1972 – Fire department ceases operating own dispatch center.
- 1973 – Last box alarm received.
- 1975 – Third battalion created.
- 1977 – First aerial platform.
- 1978 – First female firefighters.
- 1980 – First responder program placed in service.
- 1984 – Hazardous materials team placed in service.
- 1984 – Honor guard organized.
- 1985 – Explorer post created.
- 1986 – First uniform patches.
- 1988 – First mobile air unit.
- 1990 – First fully-enclosed apparatus.
- 1993 – EMT-D started.
- 1993 – Confined space and trench rescue training started.
- 1995 – High-level rescue training started.
- 1997 – Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT) started.
- 1999 – Fire alarm system plans review expanded, false alarms drop sharply.
- 2003 – North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 8 created.
- 2004 – Fourth battalion created.
- 2004 – North Carolina Haz-Mat Regional Response Team 4 moves to Raleigh.
- 2006 – Bicycle team created for special events.
- 2007 – Full-time fire investigators added.
- 2008 – Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society organized.
- 2011 – Raleigh Fire Department Museum opens.