

Legeros Fire Blog Archives - 2013 Postings Compiled, Part 2

July 2021

Greetings!

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

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

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - LP Gas Emergency « Edenton Fire Station ... » Charlotte's Old Dilwo... Training Conference in Raleigh, June 1-2

LP Gas Emergency Training Conference in Raleigh, June 1-2

05/26/13 204 W - + 5 - 2

Event announcement. Western Wake Fire Rescue and the Wake County Association of Fire Chiefs is supporting the North Carolina Propane Gas Association with a North Carolina Industry Responders Conference held at the State Fairgrounds on June 1 and 2.

The two-day conference will provide training on LP gas emergencies and the related equipment, as well as the uses for LP gas that fire departments may encounter in incidents.

Developed by the Propane Education and Research Council, this program is delivered across the nation. This is first time the program has been delivered in North Carolina.

The two-day conference will take place at the Governor Martin Building on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 1, and Sunday, June 2.

Industry specialists from around the nation will provide the training. There will be numerous static displays on both days, and live fire training on Sunday.

Meals will be provided for participants, and training materials for each participating department will be provided, so they can conduct further training at their fire station.

See this [FireNews.net event notice](#) for more information, and an online registration link. The cost is \$59 per person.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Charlotte's Old Dilworth Fire Station > Salon and Spa

05/27/13 117 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

From a reader, here's a picture of Charlotte's old Dilworth Fire Station, which has been revitalized and renovated as the [Re Salon and Med Spa](#). The historical two-story story served as [Station 2 from 1909 to 1948](#). The building's site was in the cross hairs of developers in 2010, but a Facebook campaign followed by a letter-writing campaign helped save the building from demolition. The salon and spa opened at the end of 2010. Here are some [press stories about them](#) (scroll to bottom of page). Their web site also tells a bit about the building's history, and features this documentary from 2010 named *If These Bricks Could Talk*. Thanks for the photo, Andrew!



Fantastic video! I went in what is now the hair salon, and the new owners have done a nice job preserving our history. Above the check out desk, there are two nice poster displays commemorating the fire department and telling the history of this building. They have also kept the original brass fire pole, and there are a couple of old brass nozzles in the waiting area.

Andrew - 06/02/13 - 23:30

Mystery Road

05/27/13 14 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Where's this bit of asphalt?



I haven't seen this intersection in-person for a while, but it was the first thing that popped in my head. Always go with your gut instinct, I'm told.

Jones Sausage/Rock Quarry intersection?

rfburns - 05/27/13 - 20:05

Yay! That truly was a WAG (wild-***-guess). Post-game interview: I figured, since the sign is temporary that it was a newly closed road. The faded paint on the road tells us it was a somewhat heavily traveled roadway. I don't know why that intersection popped into my mind, but when I looked it up on Google Maps, I saw the power lines running down the side of the old road. Then I looked up the recent places you've visited, and thought, "if he posted a road near Edenton, I'm kicking his Hawaiian-shirted butt!"

Good game. Can't wait for the playoffs.

rfburns - 05/29/13 - 21:43

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo Promotional Video

05/27/13 37 W - + 10 - 3

Speaking of videos, here's a neat (and short) promotional video for the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo, which will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center on August 7-10, 2013.

Name: (real name preferred)
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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.

Garner High School's New Public Safety/Firefighter Program

05/27/13 500 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

The *Garner-Cleveland Record* last month reported on a new pilot program that's paired the Garner Fire Department with the Wake County Public School System. Expanding upon [the story by Kyle Jahner](#), here's some information from a recent conversation with Garner Fire Chief Matthew Poole. The school system approached the fire department in 2011, about a pilot program to prepare high school students for careers in public safety. Four programs already existed in the state: [Concord](#), [Fayetteville](#), Jacksonville, and Harnett County. Additionally, a fifth program was starting in Hickory.

Officials from both the school system and the fire department toured Concord, to learn about their program. The fire department also helped the school system find an instructor. John Pinder was hired by the school to begin the program at Garner High School. Pinder was a former Cary firefighter and, most recently, a former Deputy Fire Marshal for the City of Raleigh. His first classes started in the spring 2013 semester, consisting of generic public safety classes.

Pinder's teaching two classes of thirty-three students, one of fifteen students and one of eight. Next year's enrollment has tripled, however. Nearly a hundred students are enrolled for the program beginning in the fall. The planned sequence of courses is general public safety, followed by Firefighter I, then Firefighter II. Students will finish the program with nearly all state credentials for Firefighter I and II, with the exception of live burn training. That's omitted due to age restrictions. Upon graduation from high school, students complete their fire training at Wake Technical Community College. The program will also prepare students to enter fire science college curriculums.

The program is currently providing instruction only on fire suppression. EMT is planned to be added at a latter. The program may expanded in the future to include EMS and/or law enforcement.

Pinder is also becoming (or has become) a member of the Garner Fire Department. He'll benefit from access to department resources, and have the ability to maintaining his certifications. They'll benefit from him as a volunteer member, and he'll be serving on duty crews. Down the road, the fire department may also look at implementing a junior firefighter program, that aligns with the school program. The fire department is also looking at providing a 1992 Pierce pumper to the program. The truck is a reserve of a reserve, and will be either donated or leased. The engine would be used on site, at the school.

The program is still being developed. Pinder is still putting his curriculum and resource needs together. The fire department anticipates shared use of larger training props, and a partnership at the training level for school students and firefighters.

Garner High School has seen their vocational programs grow in popularity. They have an Junior ROTC program that has taken off in recent years. They have more than 260 students in the ROTC program this year. [Read the Garner-Cleveland record story](#) for more information.



Garner-Cleveland Record/Kyle Jahner photo

Arrival Video of Belmont House Fire

05/28/13 119 W - + 11 - 2

Here's a short video that's been making the rounds, such as [FireNews.net](#) and [Statter911](#). Belmont Fire Department arriving at a well-involved (or is that fully-involved) house fire on Forney Avenue on Sunday morning. One fatality, a 62-year-old woman found in the front bedroom. (Does the fatality, in turn, warrant mention in this posting's headline? Should this posting be titled "... Fatal Belmont House Fire?" Does it add a sympathetic or gratuitous twist? You tell me.) Can't find much info on BFD. They have two stations, one of which is co-located with South Point FD. The municipality has 10.1 square miles, shaped roughly like a diamond. Population 10,076 in 2010. Town was incorporated in 1895.

This fire is actually in Community FD area. Community, Mt. Holly, Belmont, and East Gaston responded. That is Mt. Holly E 34 arriving first in the video followed by Rescue 32 from Community.

rocket33 - 05/28/13 - 14:59

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Atlantic Emergency Solutions - Greensboro Open House, June 6

05/28/13 38 W, 1 I - + 9 - 1

Here's a neat event this week at the Greensboro Regional Service Center for [Atlantic Emergency Solutions](#) in Colfax on Thursday, June 6. They're the area's Pierce dealership. Click to enlarge:

Please join us for an...



OPEN HOUSE!

Greensboro Regional Service Center
 June 6, 2013 • 12pm-8pm
 8421 Norcross Road • Colfax, NC

- Tour our new facility
- Aerial demonstrations
- CAFS demonstrations
- New deliveries and demos on site
- Check out our new equipment lines
- Meet our sales and service team





Fantastic food and great door prizes!





1-800-672-6054
www.atlanticemergency.com

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Morning Reading - May 29, 2013

05/29/13 352 W - + 10 - 1

Good morning Raleigh. A good man was laid to rest yesterday. We're all the better for having known Senior Firefighter Morgan McLamb, who passed away on May 23 after a long illness. He was thirty-seven years of age, and survived by a wife and two young children. Morgan was a volunteer with Durham Highway FD, and worked at the Youngsville FD before joining the Raleigh FD on January 5, 2004. He was a nine-year veteran who last served on Engine 8 on "A" platoon. [Read his obituary.](#)

To help remember him, I've been digging through my photo archives, to find the best pictures of him at the station or on duty (which I've been posting on Facebook). How does that work, you ask? Do IU have a special index, or even (gasp) face-recognition software installed? Negative. 'Tis a manual process, enhanced with whatever "memory aids" are available. Recalling dates or timeframes or specific instances, for instance. File name searching helps as well, such as searching for "sta8" in my file names. Slowly but surely.

Anyway, here's some morning reading from recent local headlines...

- [Wake Forest man breaks into fire station to assault firefighter](#) - WRAL story from Monday night. Yikes.
- [Durham news anchor tries out as a firefighter](#) - WNCN story from the other week that put newsman Phil Sanchez in turnout gear at the Durham Fire Department training academy.
- [The severely undervalued EMS work in North Carolina](#) - News & Observer editorial from Monday, by Dr. Seth Hawkins who's a medical director and an EMS coordinator in Burke County.
- [Wake Forest board agrees to annex Jenkins Road land for new fire station](#) - Wake Forest Gazette story from last week, about the meeting of the town commissions and citizen feedback on the fire station project.
- [Firefighters rescue baby deer from storm drain](#) - Wake Forest and Raleigh firefighters rescued a fawn from a storm drain in North Raleigh on Monday. Engine 5 and Engine 25, if memory serves of the dispatch. And you thought they only took cats out of trees...

At first you want to scream at the lady in Wake Forest. Then you think about it.

She, like so many others are so misinformed. We continue to see that in 2013 and it makes me scratch my head.

The demand for PS is considerably higher and higher with our aging population and significant growth in the county.

I don't know this lady, never met her, but I would hope the town/fire department would reach out to the 10 people opposed and offer additional resources to lean more about the department.

The comments about loud sirens and uncesary traffic and wealthy owners is clearly not how you want to start a relationship with your neighbors.

Wake Forest town commissioners should be applauded for looking ahead and planning for even more growth in the coming years.

They must now reach out to those people and ease their concerns.

It's our job in the fire service to educate,protect and save lives!

It's who we are!

Junior - 05/29/13 - 14:19

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

Squad 15 at Six Forks

05/29/13 118 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Mobile phone photo from yesterday afternoon, units clearing a reported house fire on Lynn Road, just east of the old Six Forks Road Volunteer Fire Department. Also known as Six Forks VFD, or just Six Forks FD, later merged with Bay Leaf VFD, also known as Bay Leaf FD, and formerly sharing quarters with Six Forks Rescue Squad, later known as Six Forks EMS, now defunct and served by Wake County EMS, which occupies the structure with BLFD. Got that? (The headline has more "s" sounds than if we wrote "Squad 15 at Bay Leaf." Mikey likes alliteration.) Lower-light photo, which is why it's a little soft. Click to enlarge:



The building is now officially owned by Wake County (EMS) and houses BFD units until completion of their main station.

Update - 05/31/13 - 21:53

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

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Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police SWAT/Bomb Response Unit

05/29/13 125 W, 2 I - + 7 - 7

Came across this tonight via web searching. Spartan/Hackney SWAT/bomb squad unit, delivered to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department a couple years ago. Maybe a 2011 model? The 20-foot body has a walk-through passage from the cab to the body. The truck's equipped with a 15-kw diesel generator, that can power AC, heating, interior lights, flood lights, and work stations. Roll-up door in rear accesses the robot garage. Ramp provided for deployment. Pneumatic tower with R-vision camera. Chassis is designed with a shorter wheelbase, to help with maneuverability. And that's a blue and white Roto-Ray on the front! [Visit this Hackney page](#) for more details, photos, and drawings.



What do cops and firefighters have in common? They both wanted to be firefighters as a kid!

Bob P. - 05/29/13 - 22:49

This truck is currently kept at Charlotte Fire Station 35. CMPD also has a smaller IHC 4900/Hackney but I do not know where it is stored, possibly at the academy.

UPDATED: New Parking at Fire Administration

06/06/13 173 W, 3 I - + 5 - 2

June 6

Resurfacing has been completed, and the lot has reopened this morning. Workers also found a couple artifacts during the construction, a couple railroad spikes and plates, a couple of which are shown below. As noted in the below link, the property was formerly occupied by Union Station. As the map shows [in this prior posting](#), four sets of tracks as well as the covered "train shed" were present on the property. Thanks again, Jeff!



May 31

Reader photo on a new parking area for the Dillon Building in downtown Raleigh, which houses the fire department administrative offices, including the Office of the Fire Chief and the Office of the Fire Marshal. What's changed? Two satellite dishes have been moved, to provide more parking spaces. Work started on Wednesdays, May 29. Wonder what they'll discover under the pavement, as that's the property of the [old Union Station](#). Thanks Jeff! Click to enlarge:



Looks like a lot of work for how many parking spaces? From Google maps maybe 3-6 more spaces?

2redline - 05/31/13 - 11:29

I'm told the lot will net 3 additional spaces, however this was not the reason the lot was renovated. The lot was in disrepair and had been resurfaced multiple times. It was beginning to be a safety hazard to employees and citizens, hence the overhaul of the lot. They figured it would be a good time to move the satellite dishes to create a few more spaces at the same time.

AP - 05/31/13 - 19:57

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Web Site: (optional)

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Mystery Apparatus

05/31/13 10 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

What the heck are we seeing here?!



A new type of water rescue vehicle!!!

Water - 05/31/13 - 07:58

I think that transport truck might be a little over powered for that purpose.

2redline - 05/31/13 - 11:23

Perhaps there is a significant roof leak.

stretch - 05/31/13 - 19:08

Budget cuts!!!

JDH - 06/02/13 - 10:40

Doing More With Less

Chris - 06/04/13 - 19:50

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

This Morning's Vehicle Fire on Interstate 540

06/01/13 145 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Traffic cam montage of a vehicle fire on Interstate 540 between Creedmoor and Six Forks roads, dispatched about fifteen minutes ago. That's Bay Leaf and Durham Highway fire departments on scene, blockin' lanes and throwin' foam. How to make one of these? Start at TrafficLand's [Raleigh page](#). Press ALT + PRINT SCR on your Windows computer. Paste the captured window image into, say, [Microsoft Photo Editor](#). Rinse and repeat until you're done making screen captures from the traffic cam feed. Next, crop each image, and save in a single folder. Finished? Next, open the first image using the [IrfanView image editor](#). Switch to thumbnail view. Create a contact sheet, using the appropriate menu selection. (You'll have to try a few times, to get the size and spacing just right.) Save image and go nuts. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Did that first in engine park with its pump panel exposed? or was it a top mount pump?

Highway Safety - 06/01/13 - 23:52

Top mount pump. Had a second engine blocking as well.

Unknown - 06/03/13 - 21:00

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Caption This Photo!

06/02/13 24 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

Good weather for outdoor training today, even if it's inside a barbed wire fence...



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Comment:

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Yes

No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Vintage Rigs in Western North Carolina

06/03/13 66 W, 3 I - + 6 - 3

Lee Wilson took a trip to western North Carolina over the Memorial Day weekend. Here are a couple of the vintage rigs that he found. Top to bottom are a 1941 Ford/Champion pumper from Mocksville, a ~~1960s?~~ 1960 Ford/American LaFrance pumper from Skyland, and a ~~late-1960s?~~ 1974 American LaFrance pumper from Hendersonville. [See more photos.](#)





Lee Wilson photos

The Skyland pumper looks to be a 1958 Ford F series with an ALF pump/body. The late 50's Fords are differentiated mainly by the style of the grille work. The open cab ALF custom is a 1000 series of the same type as the early 1970s ALF pumper used by Cary. This one is unusual in that very few open cab 1000 series apparatus were built. The front eagle top emblem, bright metal trim behind the front bumper, and the style of turn signals above the headlights mark this as a 1000 series, or possibly, a rebuilt 900 series. As to the 1941 model, most of the units built during the late 1942-1945 years did not have any chrome due to wartime rationing.

DJ - 06/03/13 - 11:17

Hendersonville's truck is a 1974 ALF 1000 series and Skyland's rig is a 1960 Ford.

BFD1151 - 06/03/13 - 22:50

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

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Evac 1 in Action at Airport

06/03/13 181 W, 3 I - + 5 - 2

Here's Evac 1 in action at Raleigh-Durham International Airport on Friday morning, part of a National Disaster Management System (NDMS) drill. The [2009 International/Sartin mobile ambulance bus](#) is operated by Wake County EMS. The event simulated the arrival of disaster victims via military transport. The patients were transferred to transport vehicles, then to a nearby an assessment and treatment area at a hangar. **[See more photos by Mike Legeros.](#)** See also [photos from the North Carolina National Guard.](#)

The participating agencies were Wake County EMS, Eastern Wake EMS, Cary EMS, Apex EMS, Durham County EMS, Raleigh-Durham Airport Emergency Services, Cary FD, Morrisville FD, Raleigh FD, Wake County Fire Services, Raleigh Emergency Management, Wake County Emergency Management, Wake County Human Services, NC Baptist Men and Women Disaster Relief Ministry, State Medical Assistance Teams from WakeMed, Duke, and UNC hospitals, Triangle Red Cross, NC Air National Guard, NC Emergency Management, NC Office of EMS, and US Department of Veterans Affairs.





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Grassy Creek's Willys/Howe

06/04/13 128 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

Here's another old beauty that Lee Wilson recently photographed in western North Carolina, a Willys Jeep converted by Howe Fire Apparatus that served Grassy Creek Fire Department outside the town of Spruce Pine in Mitchell County. Model HJ, model year 1947, Howe serial number 7634, and equipped with a 500 (?) GPM pump and 500-100 or 150 gallon tank. Howe converted hundreds of "Jeeps" from the 1940s to the 1970s, notes this incomplete [production list](#) that's part of the [Fire Service Jeeps](#) site. Readers can advise how many other such trucks served in our state, either for structural and airport protection. Grassy Creek FD was organized in 1964 and merged with Altapass FD in 2001 and formed Parkway FD. [See more photos from Lee Wilson.](#)





Lee Wilson photos

I find it hard to beleive that this 1/4 ton Jeep CJ is carrying over two tons (500 gals)of water. The CJ we used, had a much smaller pump (10gpm @ 300psi, a full roll cage, and only 50 gals of water. It was a real trip to point. No, you didn't drive it, you aimed for a spot and hoped it went there.

George Crosby - 06/07/13 - 11:34

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Durham County Announces New EMS Director

06/04/13 511 W - + 6 - 2

Press release and congratulations to our friend Skip Kirkwood. (Tip of the [checkered hat](#), perhaps?) This was announced yesterday (with a couple style tweaks by me, see if you can spot them):

Durham Deputy County Manager Lee Worsley announced today the appointment of Howard "Skip" Kirkwood, Jr. as the new Durham County Emergency Medical Services Director. He is currently employed with Wake County's EMS System serving as Chief, Emergency Medical Services Division/Deputy Director since 2005.

With over thirty years in EMS leadership at the national, state and local levels, Kirkwood is highly regarded for his expertise in management of direct services, regulation and policy, advocacy, teaching, research and publication. As Durham County's Director of EMS, he will directly manage the Durham County EMS staff of 112, in nine locations and a budget of \$8.6M as well as be responsible for the management of the entire Durham County EMS System.

Worsley said of the appointment, "I am happy to welcome Skip to Durham County. Skip has a long and distinguished career in the field of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and has held numerous state and national leadership positions in EMS professional organizations. Skip is regarded by many to be a leading authority on innovative EMS practices, and we are very pleased that he will be leading the Durham County EMS System".

In accepting the new position, Kirkwood stated, "I'm very excited to be joining Durham County EMS and the Durham County management team. Durham County has a long and proud history of leadership in emergency medical services, as befits a county whose seat is known as the 'City of Medicine'. I'm looking forward to helping an already good organization become even better as we bring quality emergency medical services to the citizens of Durham County".

In addition to his tenure in Wake County, his extensive professional career includes service as Executive Director/Chief EMS Officer, Area Ambulance Authority in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Director, Emergency Medical Services, Munroe Regional Health System in Ocala, Florida; Battalion Chief and EMS Officer, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Aloha, Oregon and Chief, Emergency Medical Service and Systems, Oregon State Health Division in Portland, Oregon.

Kirkwood is a graduate of the University of the State of New York, with a B.S. degree in Biomedical Sciences. He also holds a M.S. degree in Health Services Administration from Central Michigan University and a J. D. with Honors from Rutgers University School of Law. In addition, his is a graduate of University of North Carolina School of Government where he received a Certificate in Municipal and County Administration.

He is affiliated with numerous professional organizations such as the National EMS Management Association where he was on the Board of Directors and served as President in 2011-2012. Kirkwood is also a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and IAFC EMS Section, and the EMS Administrators of North Carolina.

He is scheduled to assume his new duties with Durham County on June 17.

Congrats Chief! I'm here for you if ever you need anything!!

A.C. Rich - 06/04/13 - 18:17

Congrats Chief Kirkwood!

R. Stanley - 06/04/13 - 23:27

How do the EMS systems in Wake and Durham compare?

Salty - 06/06/13 - 22:39

UPDATED: Raleigh Fire Museum Rack Card Concept

06/20/13 175 W, 2 I - + 5 - 3

June 20

Nearly finished. Will measure four by nine inches. Heavy stock with a glossy coat. Probably UV protection as well, to help prevent fading. We'll start with 750 or 1000, hopefully priced in the \$100 to \$125 range. Still assessing vendors. Click to enlarge:

Experience the History of Firefighting in Raleigh



Fire Station 28
Fire Station 28 is located at 3500 Forestville Road in Raleigh, NC. It houses a 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, two 1953 rescue boats, a 1961 American LaFrance pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.




See antique fire engines at Fire Station 28
3500 Forestville Road, Raleigh NC
Visitors welcome



Raleigh Fire Museum
The Raleigh Fire Museum is located just a few blocks south of downtown Raleigh at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. It's open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 900 square-foot museum includes hundreds of artifacts and photographs. Major exhibits include the city's 1870 fire alarm bell, an early 19th century hose reel, and color film footage from 1950.




Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum
105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh NC
Open second Saturday of each month, 10 to 2
Admission is free
www.raleighfiremuseum.org

Schedule tours for both locations at
www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours

The Raleigh Fire Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to preserve and present the history of firefighting in North Carolina's Capital City. Learn how you can contribute. Contact our organization at contact@raleighfiremuseum.org or PO Box 31084, Raleigh, NC 27622. Our phone number is 919-964-1070.

June 5

What the heck is a "rack card?" Those are the four-inch by nine-inch documents used for commercial advertising, typically seen in places with high foot traffic, such as hotels, restaurants, and tourist attractions. The Raleigh Fire Museum is designing its first one, for local and perhaps regional use and distribution. Still in the early stages. Needs a bit of explanatory text about the fire museum corporation. Maybe also a picture of Old Engine 1 and the old rescue boats, both of which are also located at Station 28. What do you think? The fire museum is also open this Saturday, for it's regular monthly opening. Second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. More information at www.raleighfiremuseum.org. Click to enlarge:



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.

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, June 8

06/05/13 137 W - + 5 - 2

The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) is open this Saturday, June 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located in a modular classroom at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at www.raleighfiremuseum.org.

Please note that other antique apparatus is stored elsewhere. Both the museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) and the city's [collection of antique fire and rescue apparatus](#) is housed at at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.

Below is a short video overview. Tours can be scheduled for both locations at www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tour.

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 - *Morrisville's New* < **UPDATED: New Parking ...** > **You Can't Push Fire (...)**
Rescue Truck

Morrisville's New Rescue Truck

06/07/13 118 W, 4 I - + 5 - 2

The town of Morrisville yesterday received this 2013 Spartan/Rescue 1 rescue truck. The chassis is a Spartan MetroStar with a short wheelbase just under 19 feet. Features include a recess-mounted light tower on roof, absorbent material hopper on roof, ground ladder compliment accessed from rear, and bumper tool mount. [See more photos and compartment details](#) on the Rescue 1 site. The delivery is part of a multi-year plan to implement a quint concept, with a ladder truck and rescue unit at each of the town's three fire stations. Read more about that in [this prior posting](#). This unit will replace a 1989 Simon-Duplex/KME/Saulsbury rescue truck that was purchased some years ago. Click to enlarge:



Hey Mike, all the thumbnails take you to the same picture ... (Case of cut/paste-ism?)

Paul - 06/07/13 - 11:54

Does anyone know where Morrisville's old rescue ended up?

BFD1151 - 06/10/13 - 22:17

Is this rescue a county spec rescue like the Pierce Contender pumpers?
 Does each department have some say so on the truck options or equipment?
 Seems a little like Stony Hill rescue truck on the outside

Is the county looking into a quint spec program for those departments in need?

Buckwheat - 06/13/13 - 10:40

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

You Can't Push Fire (But You Can Change Flow Paths)

06/07/13 227 W, 1 I - + 3 - 2

That's one of the myths busted in [this Firefighter Nation article](#) that's making the rounds. Titled *What Research Tells Us About The Modern Fireground*, the article by Steve Kerber and Timothy E. Sendelbach looks at recent studies by research teams at Underwriters Laboratories (UL). They highlight several scenarios and suggest changes to longstanding tactics, such as the example shown below. Heavy fire involvement in the front room of a house, with flames visible from the front door and windows. Unknown if occupants are inside.

Applying water to the fire as quickly as possible, which they call "softening the target," can make conditions better throughout the entire structure. They cite the UL experiments, where twenty-five gallons of water directed off the ceiling of the fire room, from an exterior line, reduced the fire room temperatures from 1,792 degrees F to 632 degrees F in 10 seconds. Hallway temperatures dropped from 273 degrees F to 104 degrees F in 10 seconds. Conditions made better, not worse.

[Read the entire article](#) for this and other examples. Reader comments and commentary are welcome, both on this subject and the meta-subject. What do you think about (a.) these studies and their results and (b.) change in the fire service, and how departments can move from old ways to new ways?



Steve Kerber/UL photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

UPDATED: New Tractor for Raleigh's Haz-Mat 2

06/14/13 276 W, 2 I - + 4 - 2

June 13

More information. The truck is a 2014 M2-112 Freightliner, purchased by North Carolina Emergency Management. The city will retain the vehicle as a prime mover for the RRT 4 mass-casualty/non-ambulatory decon trailer. That unit is presently parked at the training center. The new truck can also be loaned to other RRT teams, if they have units undergoing extended repairs. Here's the current listing of Raleigh haz-mat assets:

City of Raleigh / Raleigh Fire Department

- Haz-Mat 1 - 2006 Freightliner/Hackney tractor-drawn unit (Station 2)
- SR 2 - 2002 International/SVI support unit (Station 2)
- SR 3 - 2005 Ford F-550 prime mover (Station 22)
- SR3 - 2010 Matthews Specialty Vehicles decon trailer (but with RRT lettering) (Station 22)
- Haz-Mat 3 - 2008 Ford F-350 Super Duty utility truck with crouch-in body (Station 8)
- Haz-Mat 3 - Four-wheel cargo trailer for USAR haz-mat support (Station 8)
- Car 51 - Ford F-350 pick-up with workcap (Haz-Mat Coordinator)
- Four-wheel foam transport/deluge trailer (Station 2)

North Carolina Emergency Management / RRT 4

- Haz-Mat 2 (future) - 2014 Freightliner tractor
- Haz-Mat 2 - 1995 International/Hackney tractor-drawn unit (Station 27)
- Six-wheel mass-casualty/non-ambulatory decon trailer (KTC)
- Four-wheel spill containment trailer (Station 8)

June 8

Here's a reader photo of a Freightliner tractor (is that really the right word?) recently delivered to the Raleigh Fire Department. We'll work on a properly posed photo, either alone or after in service. Click to slightly enlarge:



It replaces a 1995 International tractor that pulls a 1995 Hackney trailer. The unit is housed at Station 27, operated by Engine 27, and is part

of the equipment assigned to North Carolina Regional Response Team 4. What do you think, shorter wheel base for the new tractor? Click to enlarge this photo from a couple years ago:



Lee Wilson photo

Is this an RFD or a NCEM purchase????

RNLN - 06/13/13 - 17:57

My guess is NCEM

Silver - 06/13/13 - 22:25

The new tractor is owned by NCEM and it is part of the "RRT package" (and a scheduled replacement of the old tractor). The utility of these response platforms is clearly illustrated as one may replace the tractor and keep using the trailer for multiple years (with some up-fits of course); all at a fraction of the cost of full replacement!

A.C. Rich - 06/15/13 - 19:02

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

Morning Reading - June 8, 2013

06/08/13 405 W - + 6 - 1

Good morning Raleigh. Looks like a (comparatively) good weather day after the four (or was it five) inches of rain from yesterday. Captured on camera three water rescues in the Brier Creek area, in various stages of progress. Was a challenge on a couple fronts. Rain, which isn't helpful when it lands on the lens or soaks the equipment. Wind, which battered the photographer who was holding a big umbrella with one hand, while using one (or two) cameras with the other hand. Speed, which was a necessity in getting from one ongoing incident to another, and which, alas, resulted in some rushed and subsequently rejected shots. Move quickly but with steady purpose, just like the fireground. Going too fast is never good. Those stories and photos are forthcoming. Time to start our Saturday. The fire museum is open today, though not staffed by myself. And Hawaiian Shirt Guy will be headed to Station 28 this afternoon, to help with some work on old Engine 1. Meanwhile, enjoy a few web stories curated just for you...

- [What happened to the Miami-Dade fire captain who confronted the photographer in March?](#) - This Statter911 story answers the question, which reports on a news report that no discipline was reported to the media. Dave Statter analyzes the latest story, and offers continued opinions about the original situation. Lots of back and forth with readers. Couple comments from myself. Key question: Who or what are you protecting, when you confront a camera on scene?
- [Maryland AG says patient photos trigger HIPAA](#) - FireLaw story about a memo issued by the Maryland Attorney General's office to EMS providers, regarding photos of patients and what could constitute individually identifiable health information. Plus informative reader questions and their answers from Curt.
- [You won't finish \[reading\] this article](#) - Slate story that explains why people online don't read stories to the end. Shows research, readers can't stay focused. The longer we write, the less you stay focused. Welcome to the age of skimming.
- [People don't like the new Flickr format](#) - Help forum on their site, continuing an official feedback thread for comments on the new web experience that they launched on May 20. You know Flickr as the site that hosts [photos by Lee Wilson](#). Ditto for some [photos by Mike Legeros](#). There's plenty to hate, and the users are eloquent and passionate in their feedback.

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'?

Contact Sheet for Glenwood Avenue Water Rescue

06/08/13 92 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

Here's the contact sheet for my shots from Glenwood Avenue yesterday. These are the keepers with processing just about done. Discarded double this amount, and a number of wider- and establishing shots. Needs a little more color correction. Memo to self, take two or three or four times as many shots at the next one. Should help reduce the ratio of soft to sharp-focused. Holding the camera with two hands also helps, with umbrella in crook of elbow. Click once or twice to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Boone, Charlotte, Fayetteville, Greensboro Rigs For Sale

06/11/13 69 W, 2 I - + 7 - 2

An assortment of interesting rigs is currently available on [GovDeals](#). Out with the old, in with the new. Readers can provide fleet updates or vehicle histories/memories as desired:

- Boone - [1986 Mack Aerialscope aerial platform](#)
- Charlotte - [1995 Spartan aerial ladder](#)
- Fayetteville - [1991 Spartan/E-One pumper](#)
- Fayetteville - [1994 E-One heavy rescue](#)
- Fayetteville - [1995 HME/Boardman/LTI aerial ladder](#)
- Greensboro - [1985 EEI/Duplex pumper](#)



You forgot that crash truck Lee photo'd, its on gov deals now too.

Tim H - 06/11/13 - 14:36

As far as fleet updates go, Fayetteville just received two new engines and a ladder:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/piercemfg/8..>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/piercemfg/8..>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/piercemfg/8..>

Anonymous - 06/12/13 - 09:31

Tim H, I'm told you have your own lot of fire trucks...do you have pictures to share?

Ricky Jones - 06/13/13 - 07:21

Ricky, Thanks for your interest in my rigs. Mike provided me some links to share with you, photos compliments of Lee Wilson. I have since, sold the Volk Valley and my Raleigh engines in hopes to acquire another.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/7..>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/5..>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/7..>

Tim H - 06/13/13 - 10:57

Cary Construction Site Accident

06/12/13 76 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

From WRAL, here's an unusual accident that occurred in Cary this morning. This concrete pumping truck tipped in the 6100 block of Tryon Road just before 7:30 a.m. Two workers were injured, one knocked off a wall and the other with his torso pinched between two sections of metal. Both were transported to WakeMed with non-life threatening injuries. [Read the WRAL story](#). Or see [this WTVD story](#), with video footage.



WRAL photo

Legeros, this is an unrelated post, but I noticed your photos of the guys working on old Eng 1 and was wondering if you were able to provide an info on that process and what exactly they have to do to the truck? Are they totally restoring it? Thanks.

Avid reader - 06/13/13 - 07:17

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Zebulon Rural Fire Department Tanker

06/13/13 127 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Our friends at the Zebulon Fire Department share this new old photo, showing the first (?) tanker of the Zebulon Rural Fire Department, a 1964 Chevy (?) that carried 1,500 gallons of water. The truck formerly served the Department of Transportation as a fuel truck. It's shown after it's delivery from a paint and lettering job. Date not known, nor source. Looks like a newspaper photo, perhaps *News & Observer* or maybe *Zebulon Record*.

So who had the very first tanker in Wake County, you ask? Believe it's the Cary Fire Department and their tractor-drawn tanker built in 1954, using an ex-military tractor and a former fuel truck trailer. Readers can consult [my master list](#) (PDF and last updated in 2004!) and discuss/debate. Click to enlarge:



Late 50s early 60s Ford

DJ - 06/13/13 - 09:56

From the Legeros history page....1970's, Rural department apparatus purchase: 1960 Ford tanker, converted from DOT truck, 500 GPM, 1200 gallons.

Chris - 06/13/13 - 10:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Cary Station 8 Almost Ready

06/14/13 68 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

Reader photo of a gorgeous building in Cary. That's the [town's newest fire station](#) at 408 Mills Park Drive, which we've been blogging about since the project started. Engine 8 is already in service, added in early April. It's been quartered at Station 7, and relocated during daytime hours to the Station 8 territory. Thanks Jeff! Next up is the [relocating of Station 2](#). Click to slightly enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

UPDATED: Wilkes County Firefighter Killed at Fire Scene

06/16/13 303 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

June 16

Arrangements have been announced. [Read his obituary:](#)

The viewing will be Sunday, June 16, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home, located at 270 Armory Road in North Wilkesboro.

The memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday the Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home. Burial to follow at Dehart Baptist Church Cemetary in Hays, North Carolina.

June 14

[FireNews.net has posted details](#) of a firefighter death in Wilkes County yesterday. Mountain View Fire Department member Tony Barker, 36, was electrocuted at the scene of a small fire shortly after 3:00 p.m. on Thursday. The location was behind an auto repair shop on Traphill Road near the Yellow Banks Road intersection. Storm winds had blown a large maple tree across power lines.

Firefighter Barker was observed bending over, looking more closing at the burning area, when he collapsed. He was pulled away the building, and attempts at resuscitation were started. He was pronounced dead at Wilkes Regional Medical Center. It is reported that Barker was electrocuted without touching the metal building that we standing near. Electricity from power lines on the building moved through the building and the unpaved (but saturated) ground to Barker.

Barker was a member of Mountain View Fire Department for seventeen months. He is survived by a wife and three year-old son. He worked at a commercial distribution center in Jonesville.

[Prior firefighter duty deaths](#) in our state by electrocution include William Capps of Fayetteville FD in 1956, Tommy Griffin of Sandy Ridge FD (Union) in 1967, Ferrell Hood of Westarea FD (Cumberland) in 1986, Jonah Kiser of Winston-Salem in 1915, James Lee of Arapahoe FD (Pamlico) in 1976, and James Rawls of Rockingham FD in 1952.

Read more at [FireNews.net](#), [MyFox8](#), and the [Wilkes Journal-Patriot](#),



So sad; witnesses stated he wasn't even in contact with the building when the line hit it (approximately 3' away). R.I.P.

Silver - 06/14/13 - 10:21

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.

Why Are There So Many Fire Trucks Here?

06/15/13 313 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Q: Why are there so many fire trucks here? Do they need that many? Why is EMS here?

A: Allow me (and maybe others!) to answer your questions...



Q: Why are there so many fire trucks?

A: There was a reported house fire on this block. These are the usual number of fire trucks dispatched for reported structural fires.

Q: But why do they need so many of them?

A: Fires are fought using three things: people, equipment, and water. The many trucks that you see--the pumpers, the ladder trucks, etc.--are needed, to carry those things.

Q: Wow, that must be a big fire!

A: The fire department responds to fires with resources needed for worse-case scenarios. They prepare for big, then scale down if things are smaller.

Q: Why can't they send fewer trucks with more people, equipment, or water?

A: Because the fire department has a big area to cover. If there are fewer trucks, in fewer places, it will take them longer to travel to some locations. There will also be fewer available city-wide, when multiple fires or emergencies occur at the same time. Each fire truck, particularly each pumper, functions like a "mini fire department." They have the people, equipment, and water to handle small fires, and many other types of emergency incidents. For bigger fires and larger emergencies, those resources are merged by adding multiple fire units.

Q: Why is EMS here? Was someone hurt?

A: Emergency medical units respond to house fires also as a precaution, in the event an occupant is injured or in case a firefighter is hurt during the operation. In addition, the EMS personnel provide medical monitoring and rehab, to ensure that firefighters stay safe during the physical strenuous activities of fire suppression.

Why are the fire trucks so loud? Why do they have to take up the whole street? Why are they painted red? Who invented the question mark?

Ace - 06/16/13 - 07:44

I invented the question mark in the 1580s.

Henry Denham - 06/16/13 - 10:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Facebook Tip - Controlling Your News Feed

06/16/13 169 W, 2 I - + 5 - 0

Have a crowded newsfeed on Facebook, e.g. that stream of updates that appear when you use the application? One means of controlling what appears is changing the settings on a per-friend basis. You can change the frequency of updates, or even "unfollow" individuals entirely. Here are the instructions for same, which are pretty darn easy. Be forewarned, however. If you have hundreds of friends, this filtering process is quite time consuming. Here's how to make your friends go away:

Step 1 - Position your pointer to the far right of a friends' update. Click the down arrow that appears.

Step 2 - On the drop-down menu that displays, click **Hide**.



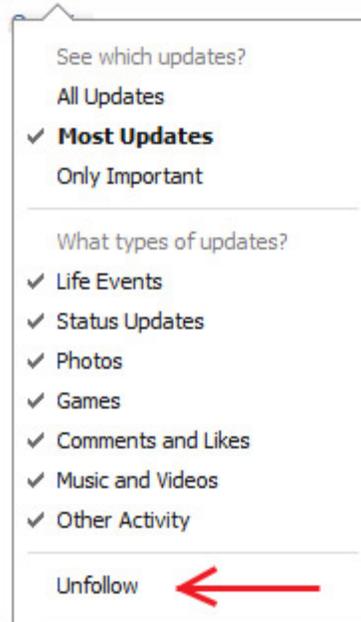
Step 3 - On the resulting "The story is now hidden..." text that displays, click **Change what updates...**

Step 4 - On the drop-down menu that displays, click **Unfollow**.

Step 5 - Rinse and repeat.

This story is now hidden from your News Feed. [Unhide](#)

[Change what updates you get from Mike Legeros](#)



Since your on Facebook all the time now Mike. How many departments are utilizing the free service to try and attract membership that you know of?

goes2fire - 06/19/13 - 00:02

Mystery Structure Fire

06/16/13 44 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

This happened yesterday somewhere in the continental United States. Bonus points if you can guess the location of the camera. Submitted by a coworker who was playing tourist while on vacation. Beastly looking smoke...



Emerald Point Water Park

JJL82 - 06/17/13 - 08:23

The fatal car crash/fire on the interstate outside Bonnaroo? The camera would be in the parking lot, facing west or northwest toward the interstate.

rfburns - 06/17/13 - 08:28

Tire/Pallet fire outside Indy?

MG - 06/17/13 - 08:44

Warehouse fire in Indianapolis?

Uptown - 06/17/13 - 08:59

That didn't take long. Can you guess the location of the picture? Clue in original posting.

Legeros - 06/17/13 - 09:11

Taken from the Indianapolis zoo?

Galax,Va - 06/17/13 - 13:51

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Grand Opening of Cary Station 8 on Wednesday, June 19

06/17/13 149 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Event announcement. The grand opening of Cary Fire Station 8 at 408 Mills Park Court will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 19. The ceremony is open to the public. See a few preview photos of the new facility, soon to be in service, from [Mike Legeros](#) and [Lee Wilson](#). Features include upstairs sleeping area and a pair of fire poles, located in the apparatus bay. These are the first-ever fire poles for the town's firefighters. Reader tips for, uh, pole technique? (Never learned the skill, myself. My long ago couple of years in Raleigh were in story-story land.) The new station might be the nicest firehouse yet constructed in the Triangle, says me. Readers can discuss and debate. Top competitors? Holly Springs Station 1 was cited by several, when the question was posed on Facebook.



I'll be the first one to throw this out there. Speaking as a resident of Cary, how can a building of this magnitude be justified as a fire station? Especially in our current climate. My statement would be directed to any fire department trying to build something similar to this. I am all for a nice place to stay, commercial cooking equipment, great beds, nice furniture, big TV... etc., but I think this is overkill. Hopefully I am missing something. Maybe there is a recreational center on the back for kids to attend after school?

Burj Khalifa - 06/18/13 - 13:26

Burj, most fire stations stay in operation for decades. With the firetrucks getting larger, cities and towns growing at a rapid pace in this area would you rather build a fire station that can be of use for 50 years or a smaller more economical one now and then have to rebuild in less than 20 years because of inadequate space. It also has to be built with handicap accessories which cost more also. Most of our stations in Raleigh are severely inadequate and we are unable to place needed equipment in certain areas because of lack of foresight from past administrations and city officials. At least now the towns and cities are building these station with the future in mind. In the long run there is a lot more money saved than wasted.

gen3fire - 06/18/13 - 18:36

I think it's seen as a recruitment tool as well as building for the future.

Guys want to work in nice facilities and city's that provide really nice equipment.

In many cases you can get very good people to apply and then you can be VERY, VERY choosy on who you hire. Make the it difficult to get a job with that city.

Those who do get a job feel like it's a big accomplishment. Makes them truly appreciate what they have compared to where they came from. Heck this station is nicer than 99% of our homes we live in.

How many times have we driven by town A or City B and think...wow, I would give anything to work in that city.

Buckwheat - 06/19/13 - 10:46

This is a piece of infrastructure that will last many decades. Additionally this station incorporates a CPD district station which occupies a portion of the first floor, so it is a multi department building which should be more economical than building two separate facilities. Another point to consider is that this is a green facility meaning that it incorporates many sustainable processes such as solar panels and building materials that were made locally. Great looking facility.

Stretching the Line - 06/19/13 - 12:11

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.

Benson's 1950 Ford/Howe

06/17/13 17 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Found in my files, taken in 2003 (!) while passing through town. Click to enlarge:



Myself and another firefighter re-painted many of the accessories/parts on the outside of this truck and did work on the inside of the cab as well back in 1999/2000. We also repaired other misc. things. This truck currently sits inside our new station alongside our restored fire wagon. Last year it had a complete brake job and new battery prior to the Benson Mule Days Parade. Members have discussed plans to restore this truck in the future, with no definite date set.

Jerry (BFD) - 06/18/13 - 13:24

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Durham Public Safety Patch

06/17/13 48 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

Found for sale on eBay, here's a rare patch from Durham, from the days of their Public Safety Department some decades ago. Memo to self, add this as a graphic to my North Carolina firefighting history presentation.



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Feed the Firefighters Benefit Jam - Saturday, June 22

06/18/13 255 W, 1 I - + 10 - 1

Support your local heroes and the Feed The Firefighters Foundation at the first annual Feed the Firefighters Benefit Jam on Saturday, June 22, from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at The Corner Tavern and Grill in Beaver Creek Commons Shopping Center in Apex. Local firefighters from all surrounding fire departments are invited to attend. An entry fee of \$10 is required. The Corner Tavern and Grill will provide Barbecue meals for \$10 each, with all proceeds going to the Feed the Firefighters Foundation.

Special appearances by the Ricky Young Band and Crush will highlight the afternoon's festivities, which will take place under an outdoor tent and will take place rain or shine. The event is sponsored by Feed the Firefighters Foundation, which supports firefighters and other emergency personnel who serve the community through their heroic work by supplying food and other nourishment during emergencies of extended duration. Participating restaurants include Barry's Cafe in Raleigh, Assiagio's Italian in Fuquay-Varina, and The Corner Tavern Bar and Grill in Apex and Cary.

The mission of the Feed the Firefighters Foundation is to provide hot, fresh and free food to local first responders and all emergency personnel including firemen, police and EMT's at a moment's notice, and to support these firefighters and their families in times of crisis. P> FoFor more information on the Feed the Firefighters Foundation visit www.Feedthefirefighters.com. For more information on the Feed The Firefighters Benefit Jam visit www.gositinthecorner.com.



Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

Grain Silo Collapse in Currituck County

06/19/13 46 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

Here's something that you don't see every day, the aftermath of a grain silo collapse this afternoon in Currituck County. The Moyock Volunteer Fire Department responded. No injuries. See more photos in [this WVEC story](#).



Brian Farrell/13 News photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Johnston County Fire News Video Channel

06/20/13 237 W - + 4 - 1

In case you missed it, there's a new local fire news site on the block, jocofire.com. That's Johnston County, just to our south and east. The site operator is Jason Thompson, and 22-year EMS and 16-year 911 center veteran. The still-growing site features information, historical photos, and current coverage of responders. On the news side, Jason's posting both hot shots (still photos) and video clips of crews in action. He's also posting to YouTube, on a new [JOCOFIRENEWS video channel](#). This is particularly exciting as it might our first local YouTube channel of fire videos. Below are a couple embeds of recent incidents. Check it out.

Next question, when will the Raleigh camera guys start posting videos?? One already has, at very rare moments. Here's the [Legeros video channel](#). Darn little in the way of fires and emergency incidents, however. Time for a pledge. Your favorite fire blogger (humor me) will immediately and thereafter commence shooting at least one video at each incident he attends. His primary camera body is equipped for same. There's a little button right there beside his thumb. Flip the switch, shoot a half-minute or more of video, and return to still shooting. Just like that. No mobile phone recording required, which was used for the current clips. Time to expand my range of services.

Now back to Jason and his work...

Many thanks to Jason, Mike and Lee for their outstanding work!!!

Brandon - 06/20/13 - 20:14

Thanks so much for the exposure, Mike! I have only a dozen or so photos from my first 10 years in EMS. I hope to change that for our local responders by showcasing their work and giving them something that their children can hopefully look at years down the road. Video is new to me! The quality will hopefully improve with time and as I upgrade equipment and my experience level. Some of our local media outlets have asked me to do some freelance work with them, thus the small clips. I realize now it is frustrating to view only 15 seconds of an incident! I am making an effort from here on out to set the camera and let it roll for a few minutes. Hopefully, this will give my viewers some better and longer videos. I really owe Mike and Lee a tremendous thank you for inspiring me to take a hobby and make more out of it! I welcome any photo submissions from people who arrive before me to any incident. I will gladly take your photos and video and credit you with the work. I am also more than happy to take photos and video at training exercises if I know about them.

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/21/13 - 11:33

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: 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 Snot Shot

06/20/13 54 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Been waiting an age to write that headline. Baby born on Beltline yesterday morning. Firefighters and EMS units arrived on Interstate 440 near Lassiter Mill Road and found a baby born in a mini-van. Congrats to the family and the newest resident of planet Earth. Read the WTVD story.



WTVD photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Video Tour of Baltimore City's New Pierce Tiller

06/20/13 51 W - + 4 - 2

Speaking of videos, here's a six-minute video tour from Pierce of a Arrow XT tiller built for Baltimore. Be honest, who doesn't love a tiller?
 Found via [FireNews.net on Facebook](#).

What's the current county tillers in North Carolina, by the way?

High Point FD and Raleigh FD are the only two active tillers (I believe). I understand Wilmington FD has one on the way. RFD's original Ladder 1/4 was based upon High Point's (piggy-backed the spec/bid).

A.C. Rich - 06/20/13 - 23:12

Cornelius-Lemley got a TDA in 2008. And yes, Wilmington has ordered a TDA on a velocity cab

<http://www.corneliusfd.org/stations-appa..>

BuiesCreekFire ([Web Site](#)) - 06/21/13 - 00:53

BuiesCreekFire I have heard that y'all are looking at the possibility of a tiller for your replacement. Any truth in this?

goes2fire - 06/21/13 - 10:50

All ideas are still on the table. We are currently looking at what will provide the best access for Campbell University and the still able to get out the door for calls, with a mostly vol based fire call response, its hard to say yes to a tiller but it is still being considered. We are planning to have something in the building by 2016 if things hold true with the current master plan. We have replaced the engines to a put we feel comfortable with our fleet for years to come along with a new rescue/air/light truck for handle everyday stuff (MVAs, fires, RIT) and even a full set of high angle equipment (currently in the process of est this program and training with it, but it is in the works). We have a pretty sweet deal with Campbell now to assist with equipment and they have purchased our UTV that is set to arrive any day now (maybe we can get Lee back down to get a few shots of it in trade for lunch or something like that). So yes we are looking at an AERIAL but have not nailed down what type, brand or maybe even it's color, just pretty much that it will be around a 100'. Hopefully we can get this better completed in the near future and have something to add to this topic.

BuiesCreekFire ([Web Site](#)) - 06/21/13 - 11:25

My volly dept will be looking at an aerial in the next 5 years. I feel strongly that a tiller is what we need to be able to navigate the tight streets in the cookie cutter neighborhoods we have. With 5000+ homes scheduled in the next few years combined with narrow streets and on street parking, a traditional stick or platform may not be able to negotiate the turns without taking out a few cars or the rear end of the rig. Some of the members don't feel we'll be able get enough drivers to respond a tiller since it will require two qualified drivers. We're having a difficult time

getting drivers checked out on our new tanker since we're requiring a class b license.

We're paid during the day and volly at night and weekends.

NotSo - 06/21/13 - 19:32

We have a that same problem with the Class B requirement, but remember that those tight streets are also going to be a problem when you have to setup any type of aerial. It's just a game, a game of luck and good drilling of the drivers. We have the same issue with our townhomes. And good luck getting into the Meadows of Buies Creek during a party weekend, a Tahoe is hard enough, much less a ladder. It falls back to your driver for the most part, unless you are in a tight knit city area with a lot of one way streets and two sided parking, I have seen some drivers put trucks in places that cause everyone else to ripe that little bit of cloth out of the center of the seat. Atlantic Emergency has a lot of demo trucks to show and has offered to get some to us to try for a training night, I'm sure the other dealers like CW Williams, Fire Connections, etc. can do the same. This isn't like buy a set of turnout gear, I would suggest doing a few test drives before you guys decide.

BuiesCreekFire ([Web Site](#)) - 06/21/13 - 20:20

Also, a tiller will require your drivers to upgrade to Class A drivers, I do believe, AC would know more on this.

BuiesCreekFire ([Web Site](#)) - 06/21/13 - 20:24

That is correct Buies Creek... a Classified A minimum will be required and a CDL A will also suffice – and as many know, paid employees are exempt from CDL requirements but not "Class." In NC volunteers are exempt from "Class" and "CDL," but it is a best practice to possess the appropriate license to remove any question. Also, and without doubt, operating the tiller is a completely new world and requires detailed training. Good luck to both of your departments on the acquisition process!

A.C. Rich - 06/21/13 - 23:43

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hardcore Reading Material

06/20/13 37 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

From a reader (!), here's a picture that needs no explanation. You either get it or you don't. We'll refrain from a call for captions on this one...



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.

Mike's List of Historical Projects

06/21/13 1983 W - + 9 - 4

What's on my plate(s) these days for personal historical projects? Here's the current list of active, pending, and postponed projects.¹ Maybe posting them here will spur me into (further) action. So many projects, such limited bandwidth.

- Raleigh Fire Department Newspaper Articles - Self-published, on-demand, hardcover book that compiles five [electronic books](#), that compile newspaper articles from the 1860s to the 1910s. Total of 628 pages. Priced at \$40, is my thinking. Not really trying to make money. This one's just about ready to be announced. What's on-demand you ask? The copies are printed when you order them (and right here in Raleigh!). There's no "print run" nor stock created. I won't have any copies on hand to sell. A proof of concept resides at the Raleigh Fire Museum, though it's only fourth-fifths complete.
- Raleigh Fire Department Historical Review - Self-published, on-demand, hardcover book that compiles essays and lists and facts and reports and maps. Eight hundred pages in length. Priced around \$50, I am guessing. Everything I've been writing and compiling these years. Might need to be two volumes. A proof of concept was printed in 2011 and resides at the Raleigh Fire Museum. Have resumed/restarted work. No timeframe for completion.
- Ladies auxiliary scrapbook scanning - Scan or photograph the contents of several Raleigh Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary scrapbooks from the 1950s through the 1970s. They're filled with newspaper clippings and photographs and convention programs and greeting cards and more. Then figure a way to share or show those images, so the contents can be enjoyed by everyone. Someday.
- Mangel's fire narrative - Chronological chronicle of one of the city's worst fires. Happened dead-center in downtown Raleigh in July 7, 1981. Drawn from newspapers, log books, and oral histories. Plus diagram of the block, plus a look at what turn-of-the-century buildings are still standing today. This one's maybe three-quarters completed or better. (Here's an example of a similar historical fire narrative: [The Fire of 1851](#).)
- Mangel's fire video - Somewhere out there is video shot by the late Commander Harold Jones, if memory serves. Plus local news footage, which certainly exists. See below.
- Organize digital historical assets - Assign call numbers and create a searchable index for all digital historical images and records of the Raleigh Fire Department that I've collected over the years. Some 22,000 files or so. This project's been started. Going folder by folder and renaming the files using a program called Flash Renamer. Using a call number format of YYYY_MM_DD_SET_ITEM, which is prepended to the existing file name. Then record the file names a spreadsheet. This will provide a searchable index, which is sorely need. It's already tough to remember where I have stored particular files. Discovered that challenge while working on the centennial history book. This project will also benefit those who come after me, and who won't possess my personal (but rapidly fading) knowledge of which files are what and stored where.
- Organize photographic prints and slides - Ditto, but for physical assets. Those scrapbooks and boxes full of images in my possession.
- Organize Mike's fire photos - Double ditto, but for the fire photos that I've shot. Have boxes of physical prints, plus digital images beginning in 2004. Tens of thousands of images all told. Been a busy beaver lo these last years.
- Do something with historical blog postings - The [Legeros Fire Blog](#) (formerly titled Raleigh/Wake County Firefighting Blog) contains a treasure trove of Raleigh Fire Department history, but it's all in... blog format. Dozens or hundreds of postings should be copied somewhere else, in a format that's easier to find and consume. Ditto for all the North Carolina fire history here. Not sure what type of format, mind you. Maybe web page-based. Maybe PDF-document based. Not sure.
- Oral histories of Raleigh firefighters - [Started this project](#) some years ago, and recorded a couple dozen interviews of retiring, retired, and long-retired Raleigh Fire Department members. Have restarted the project, in a fashion. Now trying text-based questionnaires, with

correspondence via e-mail. That is, starting to try those. Haven't quite ramped up.

- Oral history transcripts - Take the recordings and transcribe them. Sounds easy, right? Takes time, something like eight hours of typing per one hour of audio tape. (Could that be right?) Then what happens, once transcribed? Great question. What do we "do" with such a collection of memories and personal statements? Collect, compile, extract, and present some of them, somehow.
- Television stations and archived footage - Pending action item to contact and connect with television station archivists, to see what vintage videotape and film footage of the Raleigh Fire Department might be available. Maybe even get copies and present at the museum or online. So far, the only footage we have are these clips from the 1950s.
- Photo history of the Raleigh Fire Department - Another book project. This one's imagined as a hardcover and perhaps coffee-table sized book consisting of historical photos. Thinking of a page count in the 300 range or higher. Thinking of an image count in the 400 or 500 range. Maybe higher? Would draw upon the extensive photo research that I've done over the last decade, notably at the State Archives. Would be heavy on News & Observer and Raleigh Times photos. This one's a later-decade project. The [centennial history book](#) has met my need for "a new book about photos." And if a later, longer, bigger book of photos never happens, it's okay.
- Records of major fires in Raleigh - Continue working on my list/database of the city's major fires. Add incident details from recent months, and the last year or so. Historical data maintenance took a back seat to the big projects of our centennial year last year.
- Raleigh Fire Department Roll Call - Continue maintaining my list/database of every member of the Raleigh Fire Department since 1912. Started adding part-time members to the records last year. Would be good to further research and add. This list is updated every month or so, as people are promoted or retired or leave. The web based version, [located here](#), hasn't been updated since January 1. Probably will only update that once or twice a year.
- Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter - Quarterly project of mine, created and edited by myself. Posted to the web site [raleighfirenews.org](#). This qualifies as a historical project as each issue serves as a splendid snapshot of what's been happening. (Used the newsletter to help write the text section of the centennial history book, for example, for the narrative covering the last couple of years.)
- Another Arcadia book - This keeps nagging at me. [The format is so simple](#). Just a couple hundred images, plus captions, plus contextual text. But on what topic, and using what period of personal time/bandwidth to complete? Continues to nag.
- Centennial history book after work - Post-project projects related to the Raleigh Fire Department centennial history book, such as compiling all the textual narrative content into a single chronological file, for personal reference or future repurposing. Also create production notes, to recall and record the various steps that were required to complete the project. (That way, there are notes for the next time this is done.) Also create a web page of annotations and corrections about the book. Also create a list of the historical images in the book and their sources, to assist researchers who head to the State Archives in search of same. Most of this "after work" is done, however, and housed at [www.legeros.com/books/rfd/2012/](#).
- Photo history of North Carolina firefighting - One more book project. Started this one a couple years ago, with images collected from a few libraries and museum's around the state. Just a toe dipped in the water, really. Happened as I was wrapping my [Then and New historical series](#) created for FireNews.net. That project put me in touch with fire departments statewide, and showed me the breadth of great historical photographs that are "out there." The idea of such a book was reinforced at last years' Raleigh Fire Expo (real name South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo), as they compiled historical images from across the state to commemorate their 125th anniversary of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association.

This project might work best in partnership or even led by the association. Wait, can't anyone do something like this, does it have to me? Not necessarily, though I have pretty good experience as both a photo researcher and a fire department historian. I'd be a good person to participate in such a project. Wait, does it have to be a book? Why not an online archive or virtual museum? Great question. I don't know, there's something about a book. Something about having that big thing in your hand.

- Locate the living descendants of Sherwood Brockwell - And see if they have any historical materials that could be copied or borrow. Then, rinse and repeat for other former [Raleigh Fire Chiefs](#). This one's on the someday list.

- Wiki-style history pages for Wake County - This one's been a recurring thought of mine. What to do with those years-old [county fire department histories](#) that I have compiled. They haven't been updated, but might make great seed material for a collaborative web site. Someplace where others could add and revise and expand the histories, as interest permitted. Like a Wikipedia about local fire history.
- History of Wake County EMS system - This isn't my project as much as it's my ongoing attempt to periodically assist my friends at Wake County EMS, as they work on compiling and presenting the history of our local EMS, rescue squad, and ambulance agencies. One great start was made a couple months ago with the debut of a [Facebook site](#) for sharing historical photos.
- Former and historic firehouses - Ongoing [research](#) and [photography](#) of fire station buildings, active or retired, in cities around the United States. Good excuses for taking trips, and/or gives me something to do when travelling. August will see St. Paul. Maybe more Minneapolis as well. (Family reunion is taking me to the Twin Cities.) Recently created research documents for Atlanta, Lynchburg, and Roanoke. Hoping for Indianapolis next year, for a first-time visit to FDIC.
- Fire academy photo originals - Find the original photographic prints or digital images, for all the recruit academy photos shown on plaques at the training center. I've made scans of the plaques and have poorer-resolution versions. Would like to find all the originals. [See those photos](#).
- Earlier fire academies - Finish some research on the [Raleigh fire academies](#) before 1978. The academies are currently numbered starting with the first recruit academy of 1978. That was a conscious choice made a couple years ago, using the best information available at the time. Since then, we've learned that some earlier "big groups" of new firefighters should also be added to that list, perhaps with reverse number. Academy A, B, C. Need to finish researching that information, to determine when the department largely or entirely stopped hiring one or two or three firefighters at a time.
- Record my history talks(s) - Would be good to create a recorded version of my [historical lecture\(s\)](#), notably the RFD history talk given at each recruit academy. Maybe as simple as narrating a PowerPoint presentation using built-in recording tools. Just need to make/take the time.

It is good to have hobbies.

¹Personal historical projects are defined as those things that I am doing for myself and/or my role as official Raleigh Fire Department Historian. It's somewhat separate from my project list for the Raleigh Fire Museum, though they obviously connect in many places.

You have done a great job over the years...Keep up the great work...

Chris King ([Email](#)) - 06/21/13 - 20:02

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

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Yes
No

Comment:

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Eastern Wake Leery of Knightdale Merger Proposal

06/21/13 257 W - + 5 - 2

That's the headline of [yesterday's story](#) from the *Eastern Wake News*. The opening paragraphs summarize the situation well: "Eastern Wake Fire and Rescue is an independent fire [department] that serves 17,292 people between Raleigh, Knightdale, Wendell and Garner. [They're] funded by Wake County tax dollars. But, because [the county] says its current fire service structure is unsustainable, the county manager's office has asked Wake towns to consider merging with independent stations nearby."

The town of Knightdale is open to the idea of a merger. In April, they began a study of the financial benefits of a merger. Based on the results of that study, the town recently submitted a merger proposal to Eastern Wake. There are some kinks to be worked out, as the article notes. The proposal, called a "preliminary draft document" by the Deputy County Manager who is coordinating the merger, would reduce the number of Eastern Wake personnel from 27 to 24 employees, shrink their service area some, and change their Hester Street fire station to an all-volunteer facility. These are points to be further discussed by both parties, notes the story.

Currently, it costs KFD and EWFD a combined \$2.69 million to provide service to both areas. That amount is reduced to \$2.56 million under the town's current proposal. There's also an estimated \$2 million of savings for the town, as it negates the need for a future fire station on Hodge Road. [Read the entire story](#) and feel free to criticize my paraphrasing as needed.

The town is fooling itself thinking it negates the need for the Hodge Rd station. Currently the Steeple Square station and the Poole Rd station are in a 5-6 minute response dead heat to that area which has Knightdales 2 biggest housing developments, Mingo Creek and Princeton Manor. Not to mention combining departments but dropping to 2 total stations instead of 3 is going to be a problem when the departments run a combined 3000 calls currently. That side of town is still being neglected as much as it is today if the town things it can forgo a west side of town station by merging. As a resident of mingo creek i am upset reading this. We were told we would have that station 6 years ago, and now another way to avoid it. Fire doubles every 30 seconds, 1 minute to call and process and dispatch. 2 minutes enroute time, 5 minutes on scene to that area if not more, especially on the back sides of the neighborhoods, we are talking 8-10 minutes on a good day to get a truck to those residents. Poor logic Knightdale!

Resident of Mingo - 06/21/13 - 16:06

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'?

Raleigh's Finest 5K / Firefighter Memorial Run, Saturday, June 29

06/22/13 308 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

We're one week away from the Raleigh's Finest 5K, an annual memorial run to remember Raleigh firefighters who have died on- and off-duty. The event is scheduled for Saturday, June 29. The location is Fire Station 6 at 2601 Fairview Road. Runners and walkers will start at Station 6, proceed on Oberlin Road to Station 5, and return. The start times are 8:00 a.m for a one-mile fun walk, and 8:30 a.m. for the 5K race. This is the third year for the event, which was conceived and organized by the wives of Andrew "A.J." Johnson and Harry "Flip" Kissinger, who passed away in automobile accidents in December 2008 and December 2009, respectively. Proceeds benefit the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters and the 200 Club of Wake County. [View Facebook page.](#) [View registration information.](#) See some photos from [last year's event.](#)

Remembered members of the Raleigh Fire Department are Morgan J. McLamb (2013), J. Scott Nipper (2011), Harry P. "Flip" Kissinger (2009), Andrew J. "A. J." Johnson (2009), George E. Crocker (2008), Herman S. Jones, line of duty death (2008), Ronald C. Arch (2005), R. Merton King (1995), Theodore J. Calvert (1990), John W. Gardner (1990), William H. Wall (1987), Harold R. Faison (1984), Milton A. Adams (1982), F. Laurel Blake (1979), Robert S. Moody (1979), Charles E. Kelley (1978), John W. Holmes (1977), Lealon T. Frazier (1975), Clarence R. Puryear (1974), Joe A. Broughton (1973), Lucius Q. Godwin (1968), J. Theo Honeycutt (1968), David L. Brannan (1967), Paul A. Mimms, line of duty death (1965), James P. Blake (1964), Dempsie D. Collins (1964), Otho J. Warren (1963), Labon B. Perry (1958), Vernon J. Smith, line of duty death (1956), Alvin B. Lloyd (1955), Durwood H. Parrish (1936), John W. Peatross (1935), Eugene A. Lasater (1930), Paul L. Morgan (1927), Lewis F. Hicks (1926), William H. Denning (1925). [Here's a prior posting on this subject](#), in the context of a centennial history book page that remembers them (through 2012).



Why is not Raleigh's Bravest?

Question - 06/22/13 - 23:11

Honestly, because Melissa and I chose Raleigh's FINEST 5K. We believe that these men were some of the finest men who held this profession! Also, it has a double meaning... Raleigh's finest men/firefighters AND we believe it to be the finest 5K in Raleigh to raise funds for two fine organizations... NCFFF and 200 Club of Wake County. There has been much "discussion" about the name. WE started this charity event so WE got to chose the name. Lastly, brave has a finite definition (per Webster's) and fine has an infinite definition as described by character traits. Flip and Andrew were brave in their careers nonetheless, but they were also two of the finest men per character, spirit, and being selfless in personality.

Jill ([Email](#)) - 06/23/13 - 23:33

Understood. Thank you Jill for explaining it. I was simply curious as to if there as a background.

Question - 06/24/13 - 22:38

Swansboro Ladder Truck Mural(s)

06/22/13 82 W, 2 I - + 9 - 2

Earlier this month, Lee Wilson spent a week at the beach and brought back fire apparatus photos from Carteret, Craven, and Onslow counties. Check out the mural(s) on the side of this ladder truck from the Swansboro Fire Department! See [closer view of the truck](#) or [see more photos from his trip](#). Sorry about the load times for the second link. The [recent redesign of Flickr](#) rather bites in that regard.



Lee Wilson photo

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes

UPDATED: Bikers For America's Bravest - Burlington > Raleigh Bike Run, Saturday, June 29

06/25/13 306 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

July 25

Press release. On Saturday, June 29, the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation's Bikers for America's Bravest will be hosting the next leg of the 2013 motorcycle ride to raise money for Tunnel to Towers' Building for America's Bravest program, which builds custom designed, specially adapted Smart Homes for our most severely wounded service members returning home from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In remembrance of all the first responders lost on 9/11, the Bikers for America's Bravest 2013 Ride will relay a piece of World Trade Center steel to twenty-two different fire stations all across the East Coast of the United States.

On Saturday, June 29, WTC steel will travel from Burlington to Raleigh. Registration will start at 9:00 a.m. at Down Home Harley Davidson located at 2215 Hanford Road, Burlington, NC. The Burlington Fire Department will arrive with the WTC steel at 10:00 a.m. and kick stands up will be at 11:00 a.m. to start the ride. The participants will ride to Barry's Cafe on Tryon Road in Cary, NC, after visiting the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial at Nash Square park in downtown Raleigh. Feed the Firefighters Foundation will be sponsoring a luncheon at Barry's Cafe for all of the riders. [Read entire press release](#) (PDF).

June 22

Also happening next Saturday, June 29, is a [Bikers for America's Bravest](#) motorcycle run from Burlington to Raleigh. They're escorted a piece of World Trade Center steel along an East Coast route. Once a week, it will be relayed to the next firehouse along the route. The program is a part of the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation. Learn more on the [BFAB Facebook page](#). Click to enlarge the flyer for more information:

SAVE THE DATE

HELP THE STEPHEN SILLER
TUNNEL TO TOWER
FOUNDATION'S
"BUILDING FOR
AMERICA'S
BRAVEST" PROGRAM

Stephen Siller
Tunnel to Towers Foundation
BIKERS FOR AMERICA'S BRAVEST

All proceeds from this ride will help build *Smart Homes* for our wounded service members

Follow the WTC steel as it makes its way back to Ground Zero on Sept 29 2013. Once a week, the steel will be relayed to one of 22 firehouses along the East Coast via motorcycle.

Bikers for America's Bravest will be escorting a piece of World Trade Center steel on
Saturday, June 29th
from Burlington, NC to Raleigh, NC
\$25 per rider
Registration kicks off at 9:00 AM
at Down Home Harley Davidson
2215 Hanford Road, Burlington, NC
For more details visit us at
[Facebook.com/BikersforAmericasBravest](https://www.facebook.com/BikersforAmericasBravest)
OR email mavector4@gmail.com

UPDATED: Flickr Downloaders

06/24/13 405 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

June 24

By way of example, let's demonstrate how to download all of the photos from one of Lee Wilson's sets. Such as the structure fire last week at Surtronics on Beryl Road. (Lee has requested the sharing of these instructions, to people have easier access to his images.) For these instructions, we'll use one of the programs mentioned in the first part of this posting.

Part I - Locate the Photo Set to Download

1. Visit Lee's [Flickr site](#).
2. Click **Sets**.
3. Click **Raleigh W/F Surtronics**.
4. Copy the address of the web page:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/sets/72157634168998709>.



Click to enlarge

Part II - Install a Flickr Downloader Application.

This example uses the [Saleen Flickr Downloader](#).

Part III - Start the Application

1. Start the application.
2. In the Select License dialog box, click **Home Edition**.
3. In the main application window, paste the address of the photo set:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/sets/72157634168998709>.
4. Also in this window, click **Settings > General Settings**, and specify the output folder for the downloaded images.

Part IV - Start the Downloading

1. In the smaller Download multiple pictures window, click the **Select All** button.
2. Click the **Save selected** button, which will queue the selected images to begin downloading.
3. Because there are four pages of photos to this set, click the right arrow button to view the second page. Then repeat step #1 and #2.
4. Watch the separate Queue window, for the status of your download.

Clear as mud?

June 23

Want to download all pictures in a particular Flickr photo set? There are a number of programs available, that you can easily find using Google. Try the key words "Flickr downloader." Best one we've tried to date is [Saleen Flickr Downloader](#). This is a free program for home users that can quickly and somewhat easily download single pictures, multiple pictures, or entire photo sets. And you can download the highest quality versions available of each image. (It can take a little time, though. Say three seconds per image, which adds up if you're downloading a 200 or 300-image set.) The catch is that there are a couple dialog boxes and assorted options. You'll have to play with the thing just a little bit. For a faster and easier process--but which only downloads 500 pixel versions on their longest edge--try [Flickr Downloader](#). That one's lickety split. And there are other programs out there. What have you tried and liked?

Winston-Salem Opens Station 19

06/24/13 196 W, 2 I - + 6 - 7

The city of Winston-Salem recently opened Fire Station 19 at [4430 Glenn Hi Road](#), on the far east/southeast side of time. The station cost \$2.6M, of which about \$2M was funded through a Homeland Security grant. Looks like a well-sized, ~~three-bay~~ two-bay and probably double-deep station. Engine 19 was already in service, and housed at nearby Beeson Crossroads Fire Department at 1105 Old Salem Road in (or addressed as) Kernerville. They're 2.4 miles apart, says Google Maps. From [this WSFD page](#), Engine 19 is a 2004 Sutphen 75-foot quint. Looks like it's been in service since 2010. [FireNews.net has posted](#) the below reader photo from Ray Lacy.

The ribbon-cutting was on May 29, reports this [Winston-Salem Journal story](#). The city has nineteen fire stations, though this one is the eighteenth. See them [mapped via FDmaps.com](#). They're numbered from one to twelve and from fourteen to twenty. (No thirteen fire station, like Raleigh.) Next question, how many other departments have a Station 19? The Carolinas Fire Page [North Carolina fire station lists](#) answers that one: Charlotte, Fayetteville, Greensboro, and Raleigh. Plus several that are numbered as part of county numbering schemes.



Winston-Salem Fire Department photo



FireNews.net/Ray Lacy photo

Only two bays, huge kitchen, word on the street is that it is eventually suppose to house an engine and ladder.

NCTruckie - 06/24/13 - 12:22

That'z te rumor.

NC FireGuy - 06/25/13 - 13:41

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Morgan McLamb Memorial Stickers

06/25/13 107 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Memorial stickers have been created to remember Raleigh firefighter Morgan J. McLamb, who passed away after a long illness on May 23. They are available in two sizes: 2" x 2" (\$2.00), 2" x 2" reflective (\$3.00), and 3" x 5" (\$4.00). The proceeds will be donated to a college fund for Morgan's two children. The stickers are available from Dena Ali at Station 17 on "A" platoon. [Contact Dena](#) for more information. She'll have them available at the [Raleigh's Finest 5K](#) race on Saturday morning, as well as the [RAPS Race](#) at Rush Hour Karting in Garner on Thursday afternoon. Click to enlarge:



Mike, thanks for posting! the contact link does not work so If anybody needs a sticker just email me at dma1096@gmail.com and we will figure it out!

Thanks

Dena

Dena ([Email](#)) - 06/26/13 - 13:04

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

RAPS Race on Thursday, June 27

06/25/13 157 W - + 8 - 5

Event reminder. The RAPS Race is Thursday, June 27, at 3:00 p.m. The location is [Rush Hour Karting](#) at 5335 Raynor Road in Garner, one mile off Highway 70. The Raleigh Area Public Safety (RAPS) Racing League race is an inter-agency go kart racing challenge designed to bring public safety professionals together in a fun, team-building atmosphere. Some notes:

- Anyone can drive these karts. There is no prerequisite or racing/karting experience required.
- Qualifying sessions begin at 3:00 pm.
- Ninety-minute race starts at 6:00 pm.
- The fastest ten teams from the qualifying sessions enter the ninety minute race.

- Any and all public safety agencies are invited to enter a team of four drivers.
- Entry fee is \$150 per team due on race day.
- Team drivers alternate every ten minutes during pit stops.
- Track information at www.rushhourkarting.com

- Great fun for watching, even if you don't 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.

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UPDATED: Wilmington's New Rescue Truck

06/27/13 321 W, 4 I - + 12 - 7

June 27

Our friends at the Wilmington Fire Department share a couple more photos of their new truck, plus some information. Rescue 2 replaces 1999 and 2006 Hackney medium-duty rescue trucks. They had commercial cabs with four-person seating. The 2006 truck is shown, back when the rescues were called squads. This truck will become a reserve rescue, and the 1999 rescue will be used by the water rescue/dive team. It will replace an older vehicle.

Rescue 2 is staffed with personnel consolidated from Rescue 1 and Rescue 8. It will answer the same call types as the prior units, but the department's expanded their rescue capabilities with extrication equipment added on all the truck companies and quints-as-engines. It's housed at Station 2, which is a central location in the city. For new equipment, Rescue 2 has an onboard air compressor, the second one in the city. There's a light tower, a 40kw PTO generator, the latest Hurst tools, a remote CAD monitor for the rear positions, and wireless headsets for all riding positions that have a 150-foot operating radius around the truck.

The truck's equipped for technical rescue and extrication. The department also has collapse, trench, and confined space equipment stored in a trailer also located at Station 2. The trailer is pulled by a light-duty rescue unit, dedicated for that purpose. Those units are part of USAR Task Force 11. Thanks Chris, for the pictures and information. [Click to enlarge:](#)





Wilmington Fire Department photos

June 25

The Wilmington Fire Department has received a new heavy rescue truck, a 2013 Pierce Velocity (correct?) that will serve as Rescue 2. The truck will be received at the Empie Park Fire Station tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. in a housing ceremony. The new truck has twice the capacity of the prior rig, [notes this press release](#). Perhaps readers can share more details, such as staffing information. (Didn't the department just consolidate its two rescue companies into a single unit?)



Wilmington Fire Department photo

Yea that's right. Wilmington had three Rescues, then moved to two. Those two are now one centrally located. It's part of a redeployment model for the city. First full size "Rescue" for the WFD.

Ryan - 06/27/13 - 18:44

Beautiful rig. I like the traditional and minimal lettering for Rescue 2 Company. Looks really sharp.

-Trevor

Trevor James ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 06/28/13 - 17:47

I remember not too long ago when the brothers from WFD came to Cary to look at Rescue 4. Looks like they must have liked it seeing the similarities. Very nice rig, love the red roll up doors and chevrons on the front bumper. Congrats guys!

shevais - 06/29/13 - 11:45

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Morning Reading - June 26, 2013

06/26/13 446 W - + 9 - 5

Good morning Raleigh. Some stories that have caught my eye in recent days and weeks. Looks like we're heavy on EMS this time around. There's a particularly good lesson to be learned from Chief Kirkwood, in the context of providing feedback to paramedics.

- [Local EMS chief responds to ACEP physician issue with EMS feedback](#) - Firegeezzer posting with a thoughtful letter from Durham County EMS Chief Skip Kirkwood, newly hired from Wake County EMS, that he composed as a response to a June 13 article in the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) by Dr. David Baehren about the difficulty of providing feedback to EMS crews. One thing that caught my eye was Skip's observations on knowledge transfer. That is, how to tell another adult something that they'll actually listen to. It's a tough temptation to resist, giving feedback when YOU are ready, versus when they are ready. His quote:

"As I've aged I've become more about education, and I've had to learn some about the science of learning. One of the so-called "laws of learning" is the law of readiness. Adults learn best when they are ready to learn. That may not be the situation after their 13th call of a 12-hour shift, with an ambulance full of blood or vomitus that is waiting to be cleaned – like the ED staff, they may be tired and annoyed themselves, not wanting to hear "feedback" from a stranger who is not known to them, not part of their organization, not part of their chain of command."

- [NC EMS chief wants to keep us out of the ER](#) - *News & Observer* profile from last week of Reginna Godette-Crawford, who heads the state Office of Emergency Medical Services, which oversees nearly 40,000 responders who handle some one million medical emergencies each year. The headline refers to her focus on preventative care, and expanding the role of EMS to care for patients on site or connect them resources other than emergency rooms.
- [Durham Tech Fire Academy grad joins the brotherhood](#) - *Herald-Sun* story from a couple weeks ago about a recently graduation of sixteen cadets from the twenty-two week Durham Technical Community College Fire Academy.
- [Apex EMS chief retiring](#) - *Southwest Wake News* story about the retirement of EMS Chief and founding member (!) Nicky Winstead. He's been a member since 1971, when as a member of Apex Jaycess he helped form the all-volunteer Apex Rescue Squad.
- [Morrisville firefighter honored for service](#) - *Cary News* story about Fire Engineer Nathan Lozinsky, recently named Morrisville Rotary Club's Firefighter of the Year. He joined the department in 2007.

Thinking about this posting, I might have written the first headline differently. Kirkwood's letter and the firegeezzer posting do not reference his position as EMS chief. But for those who may not know Skip and that he is in our area, it adds context. Maybe I will rewrite that segment.

Legeros - 06/26/13 - 08:48

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Brewed Ordnance Supply Vehicle

06/26/13 64 W, 1 I - + 13 - 9

Amusing vehicle seen at a shopping center in Raleigh this morning. Belongs to [Big Boss Brewing Company](#). Speaking of adult beverages, here's a fun fact: Mr. Blogger has never had a hangover. Was slightly drunk once, in high school. Never developed a taste for alcoholic beverages. Just pop me a pop, Pop. Click to enlarge this mobile phone photo:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Mystery Cloud Cam

06/26/13 37 W, 1 I - + 11 - 10

Here's a view of tonight's rain clouds. Who can place the camera's location? Winner will receive recognition on this blog. Almost as stunning as, er, any reader photo on WRAL. Click to enlarge:



Capitol Blvd near Wake Forest?

MP - 06/27/13 - 15:16

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'?

Yesterday's House Fire in Wake Forest

06/29/13 66 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

[WRAL posted this photo](#) of yesterday's house fire at 1126 Corrina Road in Wake Forest. Well, that is, mailing address of Wake Forest. Physical address is Granville County. Recalling the radio traffic, believe Brassfield FD, Youngsville FD, Stony Hill FD, and Wake Forest FD were on scene. Readers can add incident details and a run card as desired.



WRAL photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

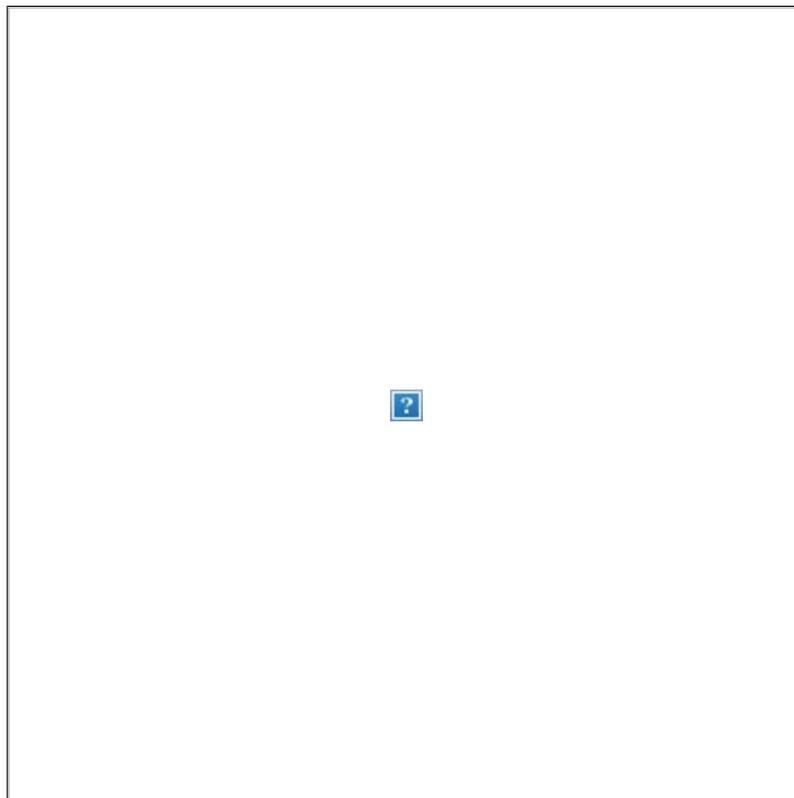
Raleigh Fire Department to Add Air Supply Truck

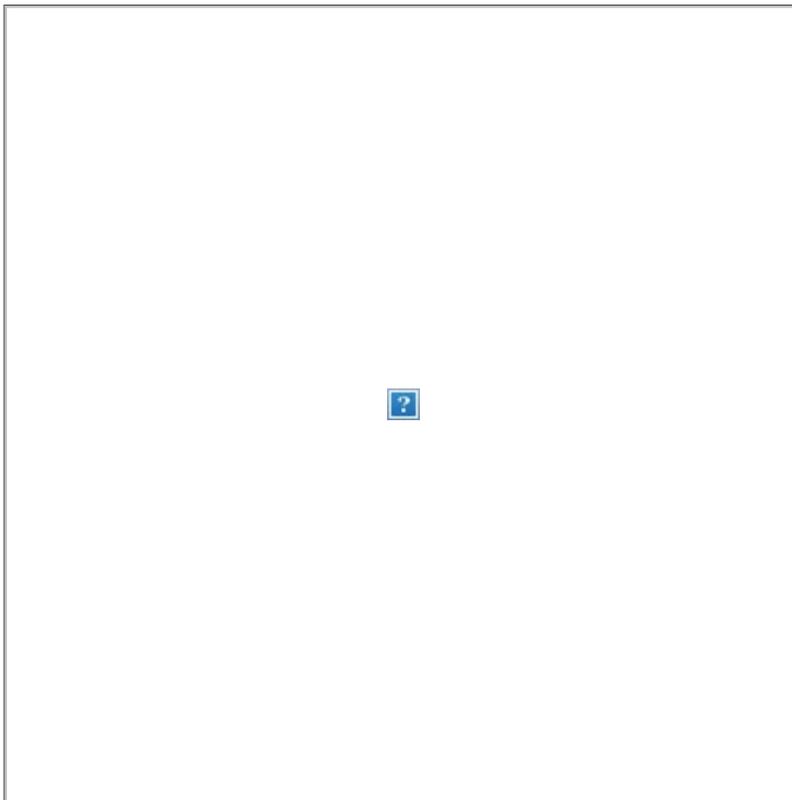
06/30/13 433 W, 2 I - + 15 - 6

Press release. When a fire erupts you know that fire fighters, fire trucks, hoses and ladders are needed to combat the flames. But what of the air supply the fire fighters require to get inside and battle the fire. The Raleigh City Council has approved the initial \$105,000 needed for a new air supply truck for the City of Raleigh Fire Department. The total cost of the air supply truck is approximately \$650,000. The air supply truck being used by the Fire Department is 12-years-old and has more than 90,000 miles. The truck has required \$65,000 in repairs since 2005 and is requiring maintenance and repairs more frequently. [Read entire press release.](#)

More information, you say? Here's some of what I'm gathering for the coming issue(s) of the [Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter](#). The current air truck is housed at Station 5. Staffed with a driver-operator, it's a [2002 International/SVI mobile air unit](#). The truck, with a two-person commercial chassis, is equipped with a cascade system and bottle storage, as well as a light tower and generator. The new truck is being spec'ed as a larger vehicle. Custom cab with three doors, with a third door behind the driver leading to a combination SCBA repair/work station and command post module. The truck will be about the size of an engine, and with extensive compartment space. Thus it can also carry fireground support equipment. Expected delivery is spring or early summer, which will coincide with new SCBA systems. All self-contained breathing apparatus are being replaced in FY14. New bottles and new masks are coming, along with Pak Tracker technology.

Next question, what's the historical perspective here? First and foremost, who had the first air truck in Wake County? Does that title go to Six Forks Volunteer Fire Department? They had a trailer-mounted cascade system by the early 1980s. They also provided the first mobile air support for the Raleigh Fire Department, and were requested as mutual aid for major fires. The city's first air truck was a [1988 GMC/Union City extended panel van](#). Delivered that summer, it was placed in service on August 9, 1988. The truck was a two-parter: half mobile command post, half mobile air unit. Because of its extended length, the policy for response was without lights and siren. The truck was housed at Station 1 until 1991. It was replaced in 2002, and converted to a haz-mat support vehicle (minutes removed cascade system) in 2003. Three years later, it was converted to a mobile command post by personnel who remodeled the interior. It is presently parked behind Station 16.





Lee Wilson photos

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.

Subscribing to City of Raleigh News

06/30/13 218 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Information tip. The city of Raleigh has an e-mail-based subscription service for receiving municipal news. Here's how to enable the thing:

1. [Register as a subscriber](#), by entering an e-mail address and choosing a password.
2. Once you've signed up, you'll see an Account Management page.
3. Click **Add Your Subscriptions**, to choose the types of news to receive.
4. Click a check box beside each news category.

Here are my chosen categories:

- City News and Information
 - [News Releases](#)
 - Newsletters
 - [At Your Service](#)
 - [NewsCor](#)
- City Council, Commissions, Boards and Committeess
 - [City Council](#)

For this option, you'll be sent weekly City County agendas and approved meeting minutes. They are published in Microsoft Word format. To search a document for, say, the keyword "fire", use the Edit > Find option. What sort of fire department news is contained in City Council minutes? It can include special funding appropriations, personnel position reclassifications, general discussions of issues relating to fire or the fire department, and comments or feedback on the fire department. To name a few.

Note that while a number of city departments are using the above e-mail channels for news delivery, the fire department isn't (yet). What do these e-mail messages look like? Here's an example, minutes the e-mail header. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?
Yes

This Morning's House Fire on Applecreek Court

06/30/13 154 W, 2 I - + 10 - 5

Photographer Jason Thompson (who runs jocofire.com) has posted photos and an extended video of this morning's house fire at 7213 Apple Creek Court in southeastern Wake County. One-story, single-family dwelling with 1,374 square-feet. Built 1983. Heavy fire through the roof requiring defensive operations. Tanker strike team requested, then switched to hydrant operations. The hydrant was 500 feet closer than drop tanks. Eastern Wake and Garner units on initial dispatch, plus Raleigh Engine 26 as automatic aid. Tankers from Wendell, Hew Hope, Zebulon, Hopkins, Rolesville. Clayton also requested as mutual aid. Medical units included EMS 7, EMS 11, EMS 61, D6. EMS Truck 1 cancelled en route. Fire started just before 1:00 a.m., [reports this WTVD story](#). Two occupants escaped unharmed. Readers can add incident details or run card. [See more of Jason's photos](#), which looks like it includes both camera and camera phone shots. [Or watch the video](#).



Jason Thompson/jocofire.net photos

Looking Ahead to the South Atlantic FIRE RESCUE Expo

06/30/13 410 W, 1 I - + 7 - 14

There's an exciting line-up of events planned for the South Atlantic FIRE RESCUE Expo, August 7-10, 2013. The location is the Raleigh Convention Center, except where noted below. Here's hopefully a comprehensive list of everything that's happening, minus the scheduled meetings of the North Carolina State Fireman's Association and the North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs. Looks like a plentiful week and weekend. And while you are browsing the event web site, check out this [archive of posters](#) used to promote the event beginning with the NCSFA Mid-Winter Conference. They've been created since the conference moved to Raleigh in 2009.



Update: [See also their now-published Schedule of Events.](#)

- [Special Guest Randolph Mantooth](#)
 Thursday, Aug. 8 - General Session Keynote Speaker - 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
 Also appearing on the exhibit floor at the Expo, see below.
- [Golf tournament](#)
 Pine Hollow Golf Club, 3300 Garner Road, Clayton
 Tuesday, Aug. 6
 Wednesday, Aug. 7
- [Pre-Conference Training and Workshops](#)
 Wednesday, Aug. 7
~~Thursday, Aug. 8~~
 Friday, Aug. 9
 Saturday, Aug. 10
- [Special showings of *Burn: One Year on the Front Lines of the Battle to Save Detroit*](#)
 Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 7:00 p.m. - Lincoln Theater, 126 E. Cabarrus Street
 Thursday, Aug. 8 at 5:00 p.m. - Raleigh Convention Center
- Services
 Memorial Service - Thursday, Aug. 8 at 4:00 p.m. - Convention Center
 Candlelight Service - Thursday, Aug. 8 at 8:00 p.m. - North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial, Nash Square
- [BBQ Throwdown](#)
 Thursday, Aug. 8 - Cooking starts at 7:00 p.m.- Lenoir and South streets
 Friday, Aug. 9 - Sandwich sale from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - City Plaza, Fayetteville Street
- Cornhole Tournament
 Thursday, Aug. 8 - Starts at 7:00 p.m. - In conjunction with BBQ Throwdown.
- [Exhibit Floor](#)
 Friday, Aug. 9 - 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday, Aug. 10 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Brotherhood Bash](#)

Napper Tandys, 126 N. West Street
Friday, Aug. 9 - 7:00 p.m. until...

- [Fire Truck Parade](#)
Fayetteville Street to Salisbury Street
Saturday, Aug. 10 - 12:00 p.m.
- [Haz-Mat Challenge](#)
Saturday, Aug. 10 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Banquet and Reception
Annual Banquet - Saturday, Aug. 10 - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
President's Reception - Saturday, Aug. 10 - 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

And as a bonus attraction, the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) will also be open that weekend. Pay a visit at the Keeter Training Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10. Admission is free. Parking and restrooms are available.

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.

Record Rainfall in Chapel Hill

07/01/13 123 W, 2 I - + 7 - 4

That's right, a total of 5.12 inches of rain on Sunday, breaking the record of 4.8 inches set in 2008. County-wide, some 150 people were impacted by the heavy rain and resulting flooding. Forty people were rescued, including twenty-five residents from a mobile home park on South Greensboro Street in Carrboro. Residents were also evacuated from an apartment complex on Estes Drive near University Mall in Chapel Hill. That latter made for good listening via [this live audio feed](#). That is, the Orange County Fire and EMS channel. Chatham County was also hit hard, with flooding and people rescued around Pittsboro. Haven't started looking for reader photos just yet, but a couple jump out from [this WRAL story](#):

*WRAL photos*

Car Versus Gas Station in Clayton

07/02/13 57 W, 1 I - + 8 - 1

Been a while since we've posted a vehicle-versus-building photo. This happened yesterday at 1225 Amelia Church Road in Clayton. Two people suffered minor injuries. One was injured when the car entered the store, and the second was injured (!) when the car backed out of the store. [Read WRAL story.](#)



WRAL photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Yesterday's House Fire in Holly Springs

07/02/13 51 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

[Here's a twenty-second clip](#) of yesterday evening's house fire on Tullich Way in Holly Springs. Holly Springs, Apex, Fairview, and Fuquay-Varina fire departments were on scene. Fire started by a water heater in the garage. Home was extensively damaged reports WRAL.



WRAL photo

Good job to crews and command for calling for more resources early into the fight. Looked like it was pretty easy to handle. Happy 4th!

Red - 07/02/13 - 08:26

Units on scene: Holly Springs: E2, E3, L2, BATT1, CAR1, Apex: E4, CAR2, L4 (cancelled), Fairview E1, CAR 2, E8 (coverage at HS STA. 1), Fuquay L1 (cancelled), WC-1, EMS: 17, DC2, APEX EMS?

FiremanFFD - 07/02/13 - 10:45

Crews did a heck of a job. All fire damage contained to the garage. Some smoke damage to 2nd story. Great work for the amount of fire on arrival.

FF8 - 07/02/13 - 15:52

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

New Book - Raleigh Fire Department Newspaper Articles

07/02/13 147 W - + 5 - 2

Historian Mike Legeros (me!) has created a hardcover compilation of historical newspaper articles about the Raleigh Fire Department. Specifically, it's a compilation of [five e-books](#) that reprint selected news articles from 1867 to 1913. Each can be viewed or downloaded free of charge. You can print 'em and bind 'em yourself, or take the plunge and purchase this bound copy. Printed by Lulu (in Raleigh!), it's an on-demand volume. There are no copies in hand, nor in stock. The book measures 8.25 by 10.75 inches, and has 628 black and white pages. Nearly exclusively entirely text. Maybe a couple dozen reprinted woodcuts or photos throughout. Exceptionally compelling reading! The price is \$39.99, not including tax and shipping. Takes a couple weeks to be printed and delivered. [Order your copy](#). Below is a video preview:

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Here Comes Video!

07/02/13 1469 W - + 8 - 3

And just like that, videos of local emergency scenes are now appearing online. They're being posted to the YouTube channels of Jason Thompson (as [JOCOFIRENEWS](#)) and Mike Legeros (as [myself](#)). They're longer- and shorter-form clips, respectively. These guys are both new to video. Veteran responder Thompson has taken the plunge into photography and web reporting, via [JocoFire.com](#). Legeros has started shooting DSLR-shot footage at incidents, after dabbling with camera phone clips for months.

What are the implications for the responder community, with this change? Let's talk through some "thinking points," in the form of questions answered by myself. Warning, your mileage may vary if you've already been there and done that!

Q: How is video different from still photography?

A: Beyond the obvious "moving pictures" versus "still pictures," there are a couple considerations to note. Video cameras record audio, so the sounds of the scene will be present in posted clips. Unless removed or otherwise edited, that is. Video footage is (presumably) harder to blur, in spots, for things like faces of victims. (Unlike the spot-blur that takes but a second on a still shot.) Video footage also requires obvious editing, if you want to "excise" something in a particular "take." And that "cut" can be obvious, and therefore contextually revealing. "Hey, something was cut! Let's start rumors about that!"

Q: Don't forget to mention the difference for viewers, and for repurposing.

A: Correct! It's a very different user experience to click through a set of still shots versus watching a video clip. It's also a different process for sharing individual still shots, versus a linked (or saved) video clip. For repurposing, still shots are great for any format or medium that utilizes photographs. It's harder to "get a shot" from a video clip, because you have to (a.) find the moment in the video to capture and (b.) create a screen capture, from the video, which (c.) wasn't necessarily shot in a native still-shot format to begin with. So the quality might be a bit crappy.

Q: What tips do you have for editing? For taking individual clips (or "takes") and compiling them into a single clip for posting?

A: Still learning to walk, so my advice is minimal. Consider editing in a manner that most effectively (a.) tells the story of what happened and (b.) helps make the responders look as good as possible. For example, if you're shooting a house fire and an aerial stream is started, you might record footage of the stream first hitting the ground near the home's foundation, then rising along the side of the building, then striking the seat of the fire through the roof. Do you edit this one, and shorten the thing, so the segment starts when water's flowing into the roof? Great question. One reaction to the unedited sequence might be "damn, those guys can't even shoot straight." Another reaction to the same sequence might be "this is a good example of watching where you're aiming, and adjusting your aim as needed." Both of those reactions would be negated, of course, if the clip starts some seconds later.

Q: What's better, unedited footage showing everything, or just a representative sample of the high points?

A: Let's ask our readers on this one. The prior answer ponders those pros and cons. The answer probably depends on the viewer and their temperament.

Q: Do you have any commentary on punitive reactions to photos or videos, by company or chief officers?

A: There's a loaded question. The best leaders lead with their best traits. This probably isn't one of them.

Q: Let's talk about sound. What's good, bad, or ugly about the audio recorded on the fireground?

A: For documentary purposes, the "sound" of what's happening adds to the effectiveness of communicating what was happening. Helps with telling the story. What will be heard on the soundtrack? Could be anything including crackling fire, spraying water, humming engines, shouted orders, spoken commands, incidental conversations, radio traffic, and road noises. The downsides are any sounds that aren't wanted, or paint less-flattering pictures. Such as, say, colorful language. Ditto for disturbing audio content, like the sounds of patients in pain or people experiencing grief.

Q: What are best practices for the audio portions of video clips?

A: Don't really have any just yet. Listen to your clip(s). Consider muting all or selective audio, or editing portions, if undesired audio is present. (This presumes such tools or skills are at your fingertips. I am still learning on the audio-editing front.)

Q: What's the proper reaction of a videographer, if a department requests editing or removal of a posted video clip?

A: Speaking strictly for myself, let me first define myself. Mike Legeros is a seasoned (salt, pepper, oregano) fire photographer with

relationships and official sanctions from local agencies. Therefore, my mission is to represent local agencies in a positive light while truthfully documenting their activities. With still photos, requests to "edit or remove" are infrequent. Maybe a few times a year. But I've never received a request that I felt was unreasonable. Now, a couple caveats. I'm a citizen photographer and receive no income. Therefore, I'm not impacting my personal income or commercial employment by removing or editing photos. I'm also self-aware when I shoot. What I don't shoot (or don't save) spares me the trouble of, er, posted trouble.

Q: You didn't answer the question. We're talking about video.

A: Correct. Use your best judgment. Focus on your mission--what's your short- and long-term goals for shooting, for example--and act accordingly.

Q: Can anybody shoot video? Can anybody post videos?

A: Most or maybe all smart phones can shoot video and with surprisingly good quality. Anyone can also create a YouTube account, and upload their videos for the world to see. The process of shooting and posting is fairly simple. Watch this space for a future posting, where I'll walk through the steps for creating a short instructional video with narration.

Q: Does that mean that we'll start seeing fireground videos from all over the place?

A: Yes, no, maybe. For individual responders with smart phones (or video cameras), it's probably not a good idea to post footage for public viewing. There are legal, procedural, and ethical issues to consider. For emergency agencies, however, it's probably a good idea. Let the public see what you're doing. Pictures tell a thousand words, and moving pictures tell even more. That's where Public Information Officers or Public Education Officers come into the mix. For citizens interested in becoming dedicated emergency services videographers, the sky's the limit. Well, that and frequency (or infrequency) of working fires, major incidents, or things "worthy of shooting." For Joe Six Pack, anything's possible. Based on my YouTube searches, however, "general citizen videos" of responders in the Raleigh area are still pretty rare.

Q: What tips do you have for shooting video?

A: Same as for shooting stills (see, for example, [these slides from a few years ago](#)). You'll be standing still longer, so pick your placement carefully. Your footage will be impacted if you have to hustle to suddenly move, or are continuously moving due to the conditions at the scene. Beyond that, no idea.

Q: How about shooting in the rain?

A: Big umbrella. Steady hand.

Q: What tips do you have for responders, who find themselves being photographed or videotaped on scene?

A: Personnel in our area should already be familiar with cameras on scene. Many or most have experienced, say, Lee Wilson or Mike Legeros taking pictures. The presence of videographers shouldn't be much different. As with any cameras that appear on scene, crews may act or react a bit. Safety vests that haven't been donned might suddenly appear. People doing something they don't want seen might slide out of view. Or the shutterbug might be pulled aside, from time to time, and asked "hey, don't show that, okay?"

Q: Why do people do things they shouldn't, if they don't want to be seen (or filmed) doing things they shouldn't?

A: It's complicated.

Q: Any further thoughts?

A: Baby steps, Bob. There's a learning curve with everything, and that applies on both sides of the camera. Fire photography takes a few years to get right. Just as "being photographed at fires" can take a while to become the norm. Pay attention as you go. Learn from your mistakes. Shoot everything and then some. Share everything (says Mike), and make the people happy with your work. The people are everything. They're the ones doing the things that are so compelling on camera.

Great post! My primary motivation behind video is to provide a more realistic depiction of the scene. Sometimes sounds are important to that and sometimes not. I'm not sure what I'm going to do about sound yet. I also want to have material that the department can use for training purposes and to preserve their history. I do freelance for a couple of media outlets, but the clips I sell to them are very short and rarely focus on the personnel. That's why I'm trying to make my youtube clips longer, so everyone can really see what was going on. I want to do this as a service to the firefighters. I want their children, wives, families, etc. to be able to see what Mom, Dad or Spouse does. I want to be very respectful of the departments and their chiefs. If there is something they don't like or that they deem controversial, I'll gladly remove it. I want

to be someone you're glad to see come on scene, not someone you hate to see come on scene. I don't want to be irritating or be in the way. On a technical note, a tripod is almost essential for good quality video, especially at night if you don't want it to be blurry. Phone video footage is awesome and raw and often shows the real "emotion" of the incident; however, if you're going to do long clips, a tripod is awesome.

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/02/13 - 23:25

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E-mail: (optional)

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

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

Ferrells Fire Department's Ward LaFrance

07/03/13 127 W, 2 I - + 9 - 4

Lee Wilson shares these photos from twenty years ago, of the Ferrells Fire Department in Nash County and their first fire engine, what he recorded as a 1945 Ward LaFrance that they obtained in/around 1974. (That's the year they incorporated, in November of that month.) They sold the truck shortly after the time of this 1993 photo. He recently found and photographed the truck off Highway 97, at an old barn in a field. We'll share those photos a bit later. Where did the truck come from, and serve during its first decades? We'll let Lee or other readers offer opinions. Next question, how many other mid-century Ward LaFrance fire trucks served in our state? Did any others?? Click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photos

im not sure what state your in ,but I have the same truck and it was originally from Jessup ,pa firehouse

thanks
bob

bob romano ([Email](#)) - 02/07/18 - 02:56

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Would You Believe a World's Record Fire Truck Parade in Warrenton?

07/04/13 204 W - + 5 - 4

That's what the planners of the Thirtieth Annual Warren County Firemen's Day Parade are hoping for on Saturday, September 28, 2013. To help celebrate the event they're going to try to break the Guinness World Record for Most Fire Trucks in a Parade. The prior record of 159 was [broken in Atoka, OK, on January 20, 2012](#). They had over 300 fire trucks from all over Oklahoma., and established a new world's record of 221 fire engines.¹ What do you think, can we beat that between North Carolina and Virginia??

Note that for the purposes of the record, a fire engine is defined as a (1.) vehicle that is or has been in service with a fire brigade service and (2.) is capable of putting out fires. Support vehicles are not eligible. Bring out your rigs! Can be motorized, horse-pulled, or hand-pulled. After the parade, the annual firefighter competition will get underway at the Warren County Recreation Complex. [Visit this Facebook event page](#) for more details. [Contact the Warrenton Fire Department](#) if you can participate. See you there!

1How long is such a parade? Let's say average length of 28 feet. Multiplied by 221 gives over a mile of end-to-end apparatus! Total of 6,188 feet!

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And The Flag Flies High

07/04/13 47 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

There's Old Glory in the top of frame, as photographed by Bob Bartosz at live fire training with the Nashville Fire Department on June 25. See more photos on [their Facebook page](#). Have a great and safe Independence Day!



Bob Bartosz photo

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Mystery... Mailbox

07/05/13 24 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Can you place this roadside attraction in Raleigh? Hint, it's in the 4000 block of somewhere.



Would you like to buy a manatee mailbox? <http://manateemailboxes.com/shop/5-manat..>

stretch - 07/05/13 - 14:22

Balsam Drive

H2O - 07/08/13 - 11:02

Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

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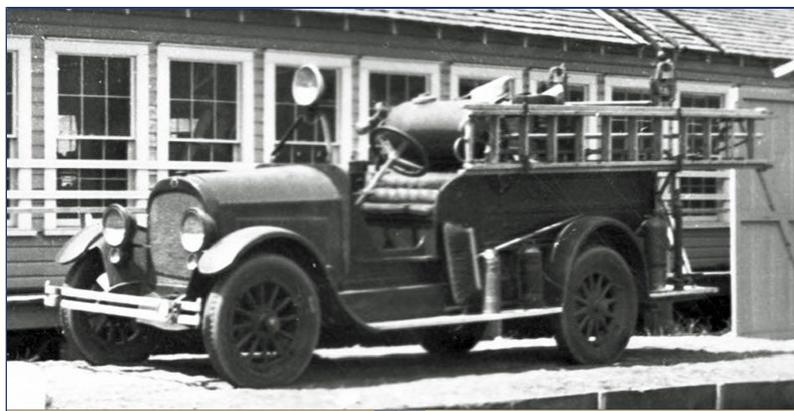
/ [Textile](#)

UPDATED: Wake Forest Fire Engine > Carolina Beach, 1936

07/06/13 358 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

July 6

And a photograph. This is from the New Hanover County Public Library Digital Archives, from the [Louis T. Moore Collection](#). He took this photograph between 1921 and 1940, the year of the great fire. The structure on the right is City Hall (as the sign notes), and the fire station is the small building on the right. As for the apparatus, is that the old Wake Forest fire truck? Good question. [View an interactive version](#) of the image. Or click to enlarge:



July 5

Found in a newspaper article today, the first fire truck owned by the town of Wake Forest ended up in Carolina Beach in 1936. The June 26, 1936, edition of the *Star* notes that the Carolina Beach Fire Department--which was undergoing a reorganization--now possessed "500 feet of hose and a LaFrance chemical and hose truck" that was "formerly used by the town of Wake Forest." The town also had a new water system, which provided "every cottage [with] hydrant protection."

The truck is presumably (but not certainly) a Westcott/American LaFrance chemical and hose truck that the Wake Forest Fire Department placed in service in the mid-1920s. [As my WFFD notes](#) note, it was old Westcott automobile that was converted by firefighters.¹ The top was cut off, a hose bed added, a basket for the American LaFrance chemical tanks, and "provisions" made for carrying ladders. In 1935, the town purchased a 1935 Chevrolet/Barton pumper. After that point, they likely sold their earlier or earliest fire engine.²

Based on my recent [Carolina Beach Fire Department research](#), the town purchased a 1944 American LaFrance pumper some years later. Believe that's the truck [shown in this picture](#). What happened to the former Wake Forest rig? Nothing found as of yet.

¹Westcott produced automobiles between 1909 and 1925, so the model year was no later than a 1925. [See this Wikipedia page](#).

²Did the town have more than one fire engine by 1935? And/or might they have replaced the chassis of the Wescott, last confirmed in a 1926 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map? Don't know, but it's certainly not outside the realm of possibilities.

How the heck can this mystery be solved? Perhaps an enterprising soul will take time to peruse the town minutes from the 1930s, and find any references to the apparatus that was sold to Carolina Beach. Just takes time.

Legeros - 07/07/13 - 21:45

Morning Reading - July 6, 2013

07/06/13 310 W - + 6 - 3

Good morning Raleigh. Spent the day in Carolina Beach and Wilmington yesterday, researching more of the history of the beach town's fire department and fire stations location. [Watch this thread](#) as it evolves. [Plus the neat news](#) that Wake Forest's first fire truck later served at CBFD. Also more water rescues yesterday, on the Neuse and Tar rivers. Will compile those details and post at a later time.

- [Garner firefighters honored for saving lives](#) - *Garner-Cleveland Record* story about the recent annual Wake County EMS System Code Saves Ceremony. In the past year, twenty Garner firefighters helped revived eight victims of cardiac arrest.
- [New Orange County fire station draws ire of locals](#) - *FireNews.net* story from the [Chapel Hill News story](#), about a new fire station planned for the White Cross Fire Department west of Carrboro, and negative reactions of neighbors therein.
- [Firefighters help renovate home for paralyzed colleague](#) - *WRAL* story about a great project to renovate the home of a Bethesda/Redwood/Vance firefighter who became paralyzed after a car accident on May 16. Members from Raleigh, Durham, Bethesda, Redwood, and Vance fire departments are pitching in, along with EMTs from Franklin and Vance county. Home Depot is donating the materials. Great story.
- [Nash County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Safety Day photo gallery](#) - *Rocky Mount Telegram* gallery of photos from Bob Bartosz, from the event in Nashville on June 1. Love the plastic barrel choo-choo for kiddies.
- [You did finish that article!](#) - *Slate Magazine* follow-up to [this prior story](#) about how people don't read to the end of stories online. Well, get this, they also share stories that they haven't fully read. Mr. Blogger would never do such a thing, or at least admit to it. Thanks to Firegeezzer Mike Ward for passing along.

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This Week's River Rescues

07/06/13 583 W, 2 I - + 7 - 2

Four river rescues and counting this week on the swollen Tar Haw and Neuse rivers in Chatham and Wake counties, respectively. They're swollen with higher water levels and greater amounts of debris due to the strong storms and heavy rainfall of recent weeks. Here's what we've learned about each:

Friday afternoon, July 5 - Haw River at/near Highway 64

Overturned kayaker, who relocated to a rock among the rushing waters. He was rescued by three rescuers using an inflatable boat. Agencies on scene included Chatham County responders and the Apex FD. That's the crew of Apex Engine 1 in the photo below.



WRAL photo

Friday afternoon, July 5 - Neuse River behind 2819 Treasures Lane

Four people on an inner tube, being pulled by a fifth person in a kayak. The tube became trapped in trees and overturned just south of the Falls Lake dam. Five people needing rescue, three in the water and two in a tree over the water. Rescued by Wake Forest Engine 5 crew and Wake County EMS Medic 93 using throw ropes. Dispatch assignment was E22, E25 (as USAR 801), L5, Squad 15, R1, B5, B1, C20, and Wake Forest E5. Plus EMS __, D__, M93. Dispatched about 2:14 p.m.



WTVD photo

Friday morning, July 5 - Haw River near Highway 64

Boater who capsized his craft on Thursday night, about a half-mile downstream from Highway 64. Swift-water rescue attempted, but the swift water prevented rescuers from reaching the boater. North Chatham FD, Pittsboro FD, Apex FD, South Orange Rescue, and (later) Raleigh Fire Department among agencies on scene. Shortly before midnight, a North Carolina Helicopter and Aquatic Rescue Team (HART) requested. The State Highway Patrol helicopter and two Raleigh Fire Department helicopter rescue technicians arrived on scene at 2:35 a.m. They located the survivor on a small island in the middle of the river. After rigging their equipment, the rescue was started, but aborted due to diminished visibility due to fog. The helicopter and its team returned after daybreak, and the rescue was completed just before 7:30 a.m. (They do short-haul rescue operations. They lift a rescuer a short distance to the victim, then lift the rescuer plus victim a short distance to awaiting medical units.) See this [short video by Matthew Mauzy](#).

Thursday afternoon, July 4 - Haw River at/near Highway 64

Two people on inner tube went over a dam and fell eight feet. Adult male swam to safety. Adult female reached an island of rocks, and was rescued. Three rescue crews (agencies?) participated.

Notes About Apex

The Apex Fire Department responded to the three Haw River incidents. They have a mutual aid agreement with North Chatham FD and South Orange Rescue Squad for water rescue calls in those areas. Believe they send a six person crew and two boats on such calls. Their roster of equipment includes two small rescue trucks (Rescue 1 and Rescue 2), along with three Zodiac inflatable boats, two flat-bottomed Rescue One boats, and two rafts. (Think that's right.) They're housed at Station 1 and Station 2. Fun fact, Rescue 2 is Durham Highway's old Unit 9, a 1987 Ford/E-One light-duty rescue. See some pictures from Lee Wilson [on this page](#) (scroll toward the bottom).

Sources

- NCDPS - [State Highway Patrol and NCHART team makes helicopter rescue on Haw River](#)
- WRAL - [Helicopter plucks Raleigh kayaker from Haw River](#)
- WRAL - [Swollen rivers keep water rescue crews busy](#)
- WRAL - [Tubing woman goes over dam on Haw River](#)
- WTVD - [Several rescued from rain-swollen waters](#)

Do you mean July instead of June? easy typo

EMT, MD - 07/06/13 - 13:54

Mike, it was the Haw River and not the Tar. Apex responded to the Haw incidents, and the boat crew depicted in the raft is that of AFD E1's crew who made a great grab!

Bob P. - 07/06/13 - 21:36

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Comment:

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Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

San Francisco Air Crash - Links and Information

07/07/13 402 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Here are some links to stuff related to yesterday's crash of Asiana Flight 214 at San Francisco International Airport:

News, Photos, Videos

- Easily found via Google.

Radio Traffic

- [San Francisco FD dispatch and initial radio traffic](#) (12:12)
- [Air traffic control chatter on tower frequency](#) (3:21)

Airport Information

- [AirNav airport information](#)
- [FAA map](#), annotated with fire stations and crash site
- Located thirteen miles south of downtown San Francisco, in unincorporated San Mateo County. Ergo the dispatch instructions regarding "when you reach the county line."
- Tenth busiest airport in the United States.

Fire Department Information

- SFFD operates airport fire department.
- SFFD has forty-four stations, forty-three engines, nineteen trucks, forty-five ALS ambulances, and nine battalions. See [Wikipedia page](#).
- San Francisco is both a city and a county.

Fire Department - Airport Division

- Ninety-five employees staffing three fire stations.
- Four ARFF vehicles, three with 4,500 gallons of foam, fourth with 3,000 foam
- Two engines
- One truck
- Two paramedic units
- One command unit
- Four water craft, housed in new boathouse near Sea Plane Harbor.
- Plus reserve apparatus, see below photo pages.
- See this [Airport Division web page](#) for more information.

Airport Apparatus Photos

- [Fire Engine Photos](#)
- [San Francisco FD web site](#)
- [San Mateo County fire apparatus](#) (check out the Metz aerial on Truck 44!)

Response Notes

- After the third alarm, a "10-1" dispatch is indicated, and dispatch advises all units and all stations that routine and field duties are suspended. That's [explained in this document](#) (PDF), which notes "When activated, building fires from that point forward will be assigned no more than two engines, one truck, and one Battalion Chief; investigative requests will be assigned no more than one engine; and medical calls will be assigned no more than one SFFD unit. A 10-1 dispatch will be implemented during any non-catastrophic event or series of events that results in six or more chiefs being out of service and up to half of SFFD engines simultaneously deployed to fire, medical and/or response calls."
- Among special called SFFD units was the hose tender. [Here's one possible photo](#) found via Google image search. [From this Wikipedia](#)

page, SFFD has two attack tenders and one hose tender. If memory serves, the department has had these on the roster for decades, for reasons including the need to augment the water mains in the event of an earthquake.

Airport Map

- Click to enlarge:



Looks like the airport is actually in San Mateo County. That's where you hear about the crossing of the county line [ncnjems](#) - 07/07/13 - 13:53

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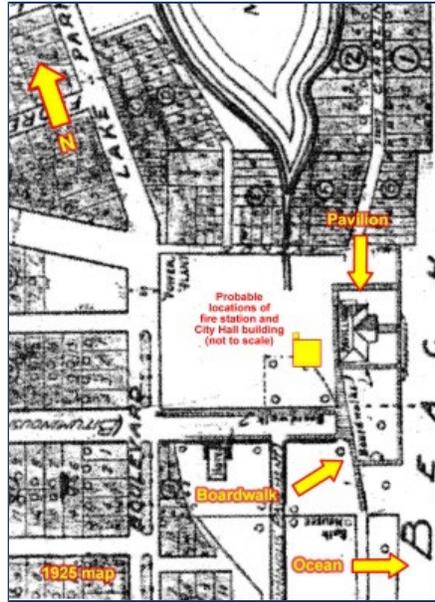
Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Carolina Beach in « San Francisco Air Cra... » Two Alarms on Mayfair...
1925 - Map and Notations

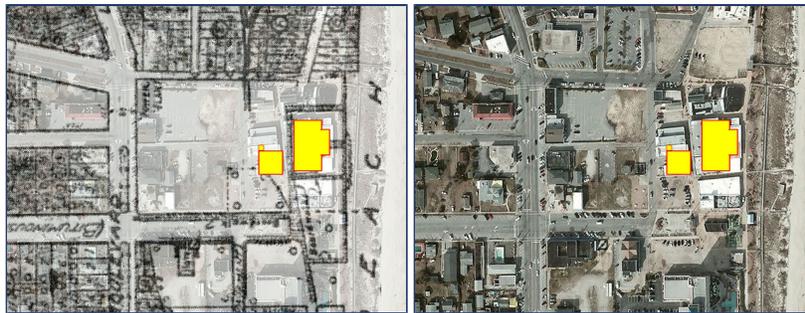
Carolina Beach in 1925 - Map and Notations

07/07/13 85 W, 3 I - + 8 - 4

Ongoing updates to my [history of Carolina Beach fire station locations](#). Latest is this annotated map from 1925, showing the probably location (and perhaps relative size) of the City Hall and original fire station. Click to enlarge:



For extra credit, I have overlaid the map with a modern aerial view, to compare things. As it happens, the City Hall building was indeed where the present Britts Donuts (and some other buildings) are today. Click to enlarge:



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No

Two Alarms on Mayfair Street in Durham

07/08/13 230 W, 2 I - + 6 - 0

Eighteen apartments were destroyed and two (or maybe six) others were damaged at 3525 Mayfair Street in Durham early this afternoon. The two-alarm fire was reported around 12:40 p.m. More than three dozen people were displaced from the Royal Oaks Apartments. Here's the run card. First alarm: E6, E4, E16, E11, L6, L12, Sq1, B1, B2, MS1, Safety 1; Second alarm: E2, E3, E10, E9, E12, L3, Sq7, B3, FD5, FD20, FD1, FD6, FD3. Plus fire watch companies through the evening: E15, E13, E8, E5, E1, E14, E7, L2. Readers can add incident details. Looked like a long supply line with relay pumping, from at least one hydrant, from the aerial footage. There was a single aerial operating on the A/D corner. Due to limited access and trees, they could only deploy a single ladder.

Here's some media from WRAL, including a [news story](#), a [photo gallery](#), and [aerial footage](#). And here's some media from WTVD, including a [news story with video](#) and a [photo gallery](#). Here's an NBC17 [story with video](#). The [Durham Fire Department Facebook page](#) has also posted a couple photos from veteran photographer [Julian Harrison](#). See larger versions on his web site. Alas, Mr. Blogger learned of the blaze just a little too late into the lunch hour to respond. Maybe next time.



Julian Harrison photos

Mike, As I count that left E15 being the only engine company left in service. Did they call back a shift and man reserves or were other departments called to cover the city?

stretch - 07/09/13 - 16:53

This was not a 3 alarm fire, the fire only went to 2 alarms during the suppression efforts. The run cards are correct with the following exceptions, all the "FD" units responded on the 2nd alarm, L-2, E-15 and all the 3rd alarm companies went in as single units to provide fire watch throughout the night. All the 3rd alarm units were in service during the actual fire and a few move ups were made to provide coverage.

Watson - 07/09/13 - 17:34

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Holly Springs Hiring Firefighters

07/09/13 128 W - + 6 - 2

The town of Holly Springs is hiring firefighters. Here's the description: Position will respond to fire and rescue emergencies, perform fire suppression and medical support as first responders to emergency situations, and perform station and equipment maintenance and upkeep. Work involves considerable knowledge of firefighting equipment, modern firefighting principles and practices as well as considerable physical exertion. Position requires graduation from high school or equivalent supplemented by 6 months to 2 years of firefighting experience. Position requires the ability to perform heavy work exerting up to 100 pounds of force. Applicants must possess Fire Fighter I and II certifications, EMT certification and a valid NC Driver's License. Normal hiring range \$35,480 - 37,000 based on relevant work experience. [See this web site](#). Good luck!

If you are applying to Greenville you need to know that your career path to captain will require you to obtain your paramedic. Great job, solid department. But if you aren't interested in being a paramedic then this isn't the job for you. Also, they are on a 24/48 schedule.

D.Cates - 07/09/13 - 23:06

Greenville also has a stringent living requirement that is mapped out on their website.

car3550 - 07/12/13 - 20:55

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Raleigh's Old Aerialscope in Action (Again)

07/10/13 66 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Our friends in Barnwell, SC, share this photo of Raleigh's old Aerialscope in action at Memorial Day house fire. The 1977 Mack/Baker aerial platform is shown getting in position for an aerial attack. The truck, named Tower 101, was purchased in 2007. They've shared [updates](#) and [photos](#) over the years. Read this [People Sential story](#) about the fire. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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

Wake County Fire Departments with Facebook Pages

07/11/13 179 W - + 6 - 4

Facebook page are an exceptionally easy way for fire departments to have a web presence, and one that's easily updated with text and photo postings. How many fire departments in Wake County have Facebook pages? Below is the list. Perhaps readers who are involved in the operation of these pages will talk about their experiences, and challenges/benefits of using Facebook:

- Apex - no
- [Bay Leaf](#) - placeholder page
- Cary - no
- [Durham Highway](#)
- [Eastern Wake](#)
- Fairview - no
- Fuquay-Varina - no
- [Garner](#)
- [Holly Springs](#)
- Hopkins - no
- [Knightdale](#) - placeholder page
- [Morrisville](#)
- Raleigh
 - [Organizational page](#)
 - [Closed group](#) named as such
 - [Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association](#)
 - [Raleigh Fire Museum](#)
 - [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#)
- RDU Airport - no, but the [airport itself](#) has a page
- Rolesville - no
- [Stony Hill](#)
- Swift Creek - no
- [Wake Forest](#)
- [Wake New Hope](#)
- [Wendell](#)
- [Western Wake](#)
- Zebulon - no

Plus such related pages as

- [Capital Area FOOLS](#)
- [Greater Wake County Fire Officials](#)
- [Wake County Firefighters Association](#)
- [Wake County Fire Training Center](#) - placeholder page

I believe Fairview Rural FD in Wake Co. does have a page. Follow this link, <https://www.facebook.com/NCWakeFRFD?fref=ts>

John Maynard - 07/17/13 - 00:22

Deploying For Privacy

07/11/13 97 W, 1 I - + 5 - 1

Here's a screen capture from [this WRAL story](#) on Monday night, about a six-year old drowning victim in Raleigh. The responders deployed a sheet to prevent cameras from capturing images of the victim being loaded into the ambulance. Its a simple, effective, and professional method of providing privacy on scene. Works equally well using canvas traps, or even repositioned vehicles to shield sight lines. Public photography is absolutely legal, and this approach negates the need (or, if you prefer, the temptation) to confront camera operators.



I'm thinking it is great to see our first responders showing compassion for the victim, and victim's family, in these situations. This sight should be more common. Maybe this practice should be SOP?

Tim B - 07/13/13 - 09:25

Have you seen the one that Durham PD uses to placed beside bodies on the ground? I have just noticed it on the news here recently. It looks like cloth affixed to PVC pipe made into some sort of a stand. It's kind of like one of those metal pedestrian barricades except its cloth on PVC pipe. It looks very easy to make. It just sits on the ground around the body to keep it from plain view. Crime Scene Investigators frown upon placing a sheet over a body because it can destroy evidence. It also keeps people from standing around holding up sheets for long periods of time. For loading into an ambulance, of course people holding them works best.

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/14/13 - 04:04

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, July 13

07/11/13 167 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) is open for its regular second-Saturday opening this weekend, on Saturday, July 13. The museum is located in a modular classroom at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Admission is free. Parking and restrooms are available. [Here's a two-minute video tour](#). Learn more about the museum, and the non-profit organization that operates it, at www.raleighfiremuseum.org.

Please note that antique fire engines are located elsewhere. Both the museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) and the city's [collection of antique fire apparatus](#) is housed at at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome. Or schedule a tour at www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours.

Swing by and say howdy. You'll see a familiar face or two. We have copies of the centennial history book for reading as well, if you haven't seen that gorgeous volume yet. Click to enlarge:

Experience the History of Firefighting in Raleigh



See antique fire engines at Fire Station 28
3500 Forestville Road, Raleigh NC
Visitors welcome



Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum
105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh NC
Open second Saturday of each month, 10 to 2
Admission is free
www.raleighfiremuseum.org

Fire Station 28

Fire Station 28 is located at 3500 Forestville Road in Raleigh, NC. It houses a 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, two 1953 rescue boats, a 1961 American LaFrance pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.




Raleigh Fire Museum

The Raleigh Fire Museum is located just a few blocks south of downtown Raleigh at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. It's open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 900 square-foot museum includes hundreds of artifacts and photographs. Major exhibits include the city's 1870 fire alarm bell, an early 19th century hose reel, and color film footage from 1950.




Schedule tours for both locations at
www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours

The Raleigh Fire Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to preserve and present the history of firefighting in North Carolina's Capital City. Learn how you can contribute. Contact our organization at contact@raleighfiremuseum.org or PO Box 31084, Raleigh, NC 27622. Our phone number is 919-964-1070.

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Does the American Fire Service Culture Need Gene Therapy?

07/12/13 231 W - + 6 - 2

Found this via a [posting from FireLaw](#), a recently [posted YouTube video](#) of a presentation by Dr. Burt Clark, a full-time faculty member at the National Fire Academy and former career firefighter in the District of Columbia. The thirty-two minute video is predominately an exploration of fire service culture, and as it relates to deaths and injuries of firefighters. There's a short segment where Dr. Clark offers his solutions, his recommended therapy.

Hoping we'll get reactions here, and maybe some discussion. Really enjoyed his articulation of the problem, though I'd like to see an equally expanded/fleshed out version of his proposed solution. And perhaps consideration of other factors/solutions. Though that might double the length of the video. Maybe I will drop him a line some time.

Secondly, his presentation has me thinking about the movie [Burn: One Year on the Front Lines of the Battle to Save Detroit](#), which I watched again this weekend. (Exceptional movie and must-viewing. Buy your DVD today.) That's the American fire service culture in the raw (and in concentration), and depicts a number of behaviors and factors that are potential troublesome as defined by Dr. Clark. (Though it's perhaps heresy to say anything untoward toward that movie, toward Detroit, or toward severe urban situations?)

Looking forward to reader responses all around. Watch the video...

Dr. Clark is right on target with his philosophy. However, I think he needs to go farther with the "gene therapy" to advocate the utilization and training of the NIST results of the burns in SC recently to make changes in our attack procedures. The fire service overall needs a re-visioning process to think about its future.

Frank - 07/12/13 - 23:47

...my constant advocacy at RFD... encouraging people to ask and explore the details of "why" we do what we do. It is quite simple, but only recently have fire service leaders been speaking up about the age-old problem. Maybe its because more are now understanding the affects of culture on decision-making and behavior. Also, listen to the NIST study findings from the FDNY Governors Island NY studies in July 2012 (as presented at FDIC 2013): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGEgr9877..> Instead of saying "BE SAFE," let's say: "BEHAVE SAFE"

A.C. Rich - 07/13/13 - 13:04

Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter, Summer 2013

07/12/13 107 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

For your Friday enjoyment, here's the Summer 2013 edition of the Raleigh Fire Department newsletter has been posted to www.raleighfirenews.org. This quarter's issue contents includes Morgan McLamb Passes Away; Two Alarms on Calumet Drive; Changing the Culture on Emergency Vehicle Driving; Asst. Chief Peter Brock Retires; Station 29 Update; Budget Adopted; Five Compete in Ironman Triathlon; Helicopter Rescue on Haw River; Promotions and Retirements; Divisional News; Photos. The newsletter is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. The editor is Historian Mike Legeros. The proofreader and fact-checker is his wife Julie Legeros (little known fact). [Read the new issue](#) (PDF).

Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 3
Summer 2013

Morgan McLamb Passes Away

Senior Firefighter Morgan James McLamb, age 37, died in Burlington on May 23. The nine-year veteran had been receiving treatment for a recurring brain tumor when he developed complications from the chemotherapy, including pneumonia.

McLamb was last assigned to Engine 8 on "A" platoon. He joined the Raleigh Fire Department on January 5, 2004.

He was promoted to First Class Firefighter on September 29, 2007. He was promoted to Senior Firefighter on October 3, 2010.

McLamb entered the fire service as a volunteer with the Duttam Highway Fire Department, and was a member for over ten years.

He worked for the Youngsville Fire Department for one year before joining the Raleigh Fire Department.

On Monday, May 27, a visitation was held at Mitchell Funeral Home in Raleigh. A funeral service was held on [continued on page 2](#)

Two Alarms on Calumet Drive

Two alarms were struck on Tuesday, May 21, at 3215 Calumet Drive. Arriving units found fire showing through the roof of the two-story apartment building. Hydrants were caught and lines were pulled for an interior attack, as the two arriving ladder trucks were positioned. As searches were performed, heavy fire was found spreading through the attic. Crews were withdrawn at about the fifteen-minute mark and Ladder 2 and Ladder 4 began aerial operations. Portable monitors were also deployed, in the front and rear of the structure.

Command was located in the parking lot, on the left-rear corner of the building. Staging and rehab was along Calumet Drive. Dispatched at 3:31 p.m., the fire was controlled at 4:22 p.m. Seventy-five percent of the building was damaged. The cause was determined as natural, by lightning strike. See more photos by Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros at www.raleighfirenews.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Morgan McLamb Passes - Two Alarms on Calumet
- 2 Morgan, Continued - Bike Workshop - Parking Lot
- 3 Chief Brock Retires - Fire Marshal's Office News
- 4 Promotions - Retirements - More Staff Changes
- 5 Station 29 - Budget Adopted - Training News
- 6 Five Compete in Iron Man - New Hoo-Mat Tractor
- 7 Photo Gallery
- 8 Calendar - Helicopter Rescue on Haw River

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

You Might Be a Firefighter If...

07/13/13 46 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

...you drink your water with sooty hands. That one might look good as a motivational poster. Memo to self: work on that. From this week's house fire on Idlewild Avenue. [See those photos.](#)



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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 Railroad Incident

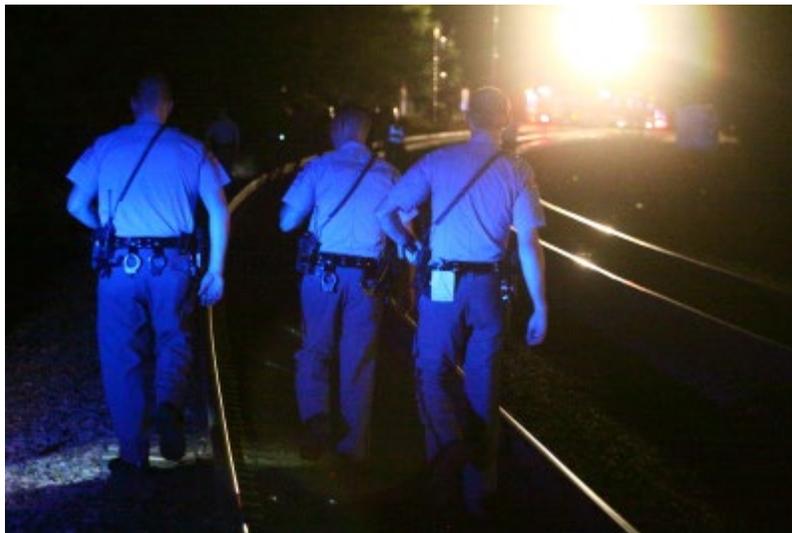
07/13/13 277 W, 3 I - + 5 - 2

Last night about 8:40 p.m., the engineer of an inbound Amtrak train reported that they struck a person alongside the tracks at the Beryl Road crossing, just south Hillsborough Street. The incident was dispatched at the intersection of Royal and Hillsborough streets, which is just north of the Royal Street crossing. Fire, police, and EMS units responded to the Beryl Road crossing, the Royal Street crossing, and the Gorman Street bridge.

As the stopped train was located just east of Gorman Street, most units relocated to the bridge. Command was established by Car 20 and a number of units staged at that location. Rescue 1 for lights and Battalion 5 relocated to the Royal Street crossing. Squad 14 for lights relocated to the Beryl Road crossing. Crews began searching on foot, proceeding west from Gorman Street and east from Blue Ridge Road. They utilized hand lights and thermal imaging cameras.

A purse and belongings were found just east of the Beryl Road crossing. Crews concentrated searching in that area, including utilizing the lights of an outbound CSX freight train that had been stopped. No patient was found. Dispatched about 8:40 p.m., units began clearing about ninety minutes later. The patient, an adult female who was also the subject of a Silver Alert, was later located. She admitted that she was nearly struck by the train. Units on scene included E8, L7, Sq14, R1, B3, B5, C20, EMS 16, EMS 13, EMS 8, EMS 3, M94, D1, D5, Logistics 1. [See more photos by Mike Legeros](#). Related news stories on [WRAL](#) and [WTVB](#).





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Morning Reading - July 14, 2013

07/14/13 505 W - + 5 - 2

Good morning Raleigh. Gearing up for summer travel here at Blog Central. Will be in Baltimore in two weeks for the Fire Expo. Look for Hawaiian Shirt Guy on the exhibit floor maybe Thursday, definitely on Friday, and probably on Saturday. Will be lurking around the Firegeezer/Statter911 booth, among others. Still computing my travel routes. Can't decide if a Raleigh > Ocean City > Atlantic City > Camden/Philly > Baltimore road trip is desired. Or maybe getting there by way of the Rockstar Energy Drink Mayhem Festival with Rob Zombie in Bristow, VA, that Wednesday. Or even some historical firehouse finding, say Roanoke and Lynchburg, VA. What to do, what to do.

- [Professional and caring until the end](#) - *News & Observer* story from last week of Raleigh firefighter Morgan McLamb, who died on May 23 after a long battle with brain cancer. Writer Elizabeth Shestak tells his story: born in Denver, settled as a teen in Raleigh, graduate in criminal justice from NCSU, and a member of the fire service since 1998. He volunteered with Durham Highway and worked for Youngsville, before entering the Raleigh Fire Department in 2004. He was thirty years old when he first exhibited signs of a tumor. He was a caring soul who never wavered in his kindness. He is survived by his wife Amy and two children, a daughter Avery, age four, and a son Carson, age two. [Here are memorial stickers](#) recently made available. Here's a [gallery of photos remembering Morgan](#).
- [Apex unveils first responder memorial with 9/11 steel](#) - *News & Observer* story about the unveiling of the town's Service Memorial on Thursday. The memorial, which honors both first responders killed in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and United States veterans of wars who found on foreign soil, is centered around a six-inch cube of recovered World Trade Center steel. Money for the memorial was raised by selling bricks inscribed with the names of local responders and veterans. The town also received donations from individuals, local charities, and businesses. Lee Wilson was present for the ceremony and has [posted photos of the event](#).
- [Bonnie and Clyde, the Aerial Version](#) - *New York Times* review of [The Skies Belong To Us: Love and Terror in the Golden Age of Hijacking](#), a smashingly entertaining book by Brendan L Koerner, about the years 1961 to 1972, when 159 commercial flights were hijacked in the United States. Specifically, he focuses on Roger Holder and Cathy Kerkow, and their lives before, during, and after their hijacking of Western Airlines Flight 701. You really can't believe what you're reading, as tales of guns and knives and dynamite and gas cans are brought aboard airplanes. Planes are hijacked, flights get diverted, and even parachutes are deployed. (At least once, a hijacker requests parachutes and a book on how to skydive.) That's stuff crazy, but wait until the government, the airlines, and the general public react. Search every passenger for weapons? Can't be done, they cry. Highly recommended reading. Here's a [second Times review](#).

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Yes

No

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Wake County Fire Commission Meeting - Thursday, July 18

07/15/13 200 W - + 4 - 3

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, May 9, 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](#).

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
 - Invocation
 - Roll of Members Present
- Items of Business
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes for May 9, 2013 Regular Meeting
 - Recognition of Paul Miller - North Carolina State Fireman's Association, Executive Director
- Regular Agenda
 - Consider Post Incident Review Program Policy Adoption
 - Consider support for Recommended Amendments to Fire Protection Agreement Section 20, Standardcs of Performance
 - Consider support for Recommended General Amendments to Fire Protection Agreement
- Information Agenda
 - Apparatus Policy Update
 - FY 2013 Fire Tax Budget Update
 - Fire Tax Financial Report
 - Chair Report
 - Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
 - Comments from the public will be received at the time appointment by the Chairman of the Fire Commission for 30 minutes maximum time allotted, with a maximum of three minutes per person. A signup sheet for those who wish to speak during the public comments section of the meeting is located at the entrance of the meeting room.
- Adjournment - Next Meeting September 19, 2013.

Documents

Why so much difficulty filling the Director's job? Anybody have ideas?

Curious - 07/19/13 - 18:04

So, they want a secretary and treasurer who won't come in with possible ideas for change. That sounds about right.

in other words - 07/20/13 - 21:05

Yes, no, maybe. The system doesn't seem presently designed for a big swinging d—k, with reins to grab and whips to snap. Rather they have to be plugged into a universe with a variety of different and sometimes opposing gravitational forces. But systems can change. And a person with ideas and vision won't be a bad thing by any means.

[And as the posted job description added below notes, there's an entire division and its services and responsibilities to manage. It's not just suppression.]

Legeros - 07/20/13 - 22:27

Construction Photo of Bay Leaf Station 1

07/16/13 90 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Here's the latest construction photo of Bay Leaf Station 1, courtesy of Lee Wilson. The facility is being reconstructed at 11713 Six Forks Road. Look at that nice new apron! [At last report](#), it'll be operational around October 1 and with a grand opening in October. The fire department is currently using a two-bay temporary station on the site, as well as storing their apparatus equipment at other stations. Here are some previous postings from [April 2013](#), [February 2013](#), and [September 2012](#). [See more photos](#).



Lee Wilson photo

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'?

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

You Might Be a Firefighter If...

07/16/13 45 W, 1 I - + 4 - 5

...you've practiced on a cone course. That's one of the city's original closed-cab pumpers, a 1990 Pierce Lance that's now a reserve rig. The cone course is a temporary one at the training center.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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State Bureau of Investigation Bomb Response Unit

07/17/13 318 W, 2 I - + 6 - 7

.auto-style1 { text-align: left; } Noticed this photo in this [Eastern Wake News story](#) about a meth lab discovered in Zebulon. Same shows a North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Bomb Squad vehicle. Google finds more information this unit, notably in this [NC DOJ web page](#) and [WSAV story](#) from May. There are three bomb response units (and six robots) spread across the state. They're located in Asheville (west), Greenville (east), and Raleigh (central). They're there to help local agencies, both those with their own bomb squads and those that don't have such resources. There are twelve technicians including two full-time agencies that staff the SBI Bomb Squad. They train monthly and respond to about 100 calls per year. The truck below was built by [Mickey Engineered Vehicles](#) and is the subject of [this case study](#) on their site.



Zebulon Police Department photo

Back in January 2009, we blogged about a pair of [interesting SBI special units](#) seen in town for that year's inaugural ball, including this older bomb response unit. Wonder if it's still on the roster, or was replaced by the above truck? (Or moved out of town, to replace other units?) Click to enlarge:



That could be a fun posting, compiling photos of the various specialty law enforcement vehicles around our state. We've covered a number of them as seen in Raleigh, in these postings:

- [Department of Corrections Special Operations Response Team](#)
- [Durham Police Mobile Recruitment Unit](#)
- [Durham Police Special Units](#)
- [Postal Police Mobile Command Center](#)
- [Raleigh Police Hazardous Devices Unit](#)
- [Raleigh Police Special Vehicles](#)
- [Raleigh Police Support Vehicle](#)
- [Raleigh Police Truck Tractor](#)
- [Raleigh Police Using Former Rescue Truck](#)
- [State Bureau of Investigation Special Units](#)
- [State Highway Patrol Fire Apparatus \(!\)](#)
- [State Highway Patrol Mobile Command Unit](#)

Wow, there are enough photos there to warrant a Flickr set. Memo to self: compile and upload to [my Flickr site](#).

Name: (real name preferred)

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Special Police Vehicles

07/17/13 58 W, 1 I - + 12 - 3

Following [this thread from this morning](#), there's a Flickr gallery of special police and law enforcement vehicles as photographed by Mike Legeros over the years and decades. Most are local or from a couple places around North Carolina. Few are from the District of Columbia.

[View the photos.](#)



Name: (real name preferred)
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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

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Fully Involved Tractor Cab on Interstate 40

07/18/13 63 W, 2 I - + 5 - 4

Seen yesterday morning during rush hour. Interstate 40 near the Durham Freeway. Photos from stories from [WRAL](#) and [WTVD](#). How did we ever get by before mobile phones and the Internet? Bets on response? Durham and Parkwood, correct? Maybe three engines and a tanker, before it was all done?



Kevin Prescott/WRAL photo



James Westberry/WTVD photo

First due should have been Parkwood 631 from Station 3 on Old Page Rd. due to direction. Would likely have gotten Parkwood 611 also, as well as a tanker. I don't know those numbers, I've been out of DCo for too long, before they even used the current numbering system in fact.

Hey, there's an idea for a discussion.... station/unit numbering system!!!

D.Cates - 07/18/13 - 17:24

First due was Engine 631 (Parkwood), with Parkwood Engine 611 and Batallion 610 also responding. I believe a Bethesda engine responded as well.

Eagle - 07/20/13 - 20:33

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Video of Clayton Car Fire

07/19/13 30 W - + 7 - 2

From Jason Thompson of jocofire.com. Single-vehicle motor-vehicle accident yesterday. His five-minute video starts as the arriving Clayton engine is stretching their line.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Raleigh Police Memorial Design Approved

07/20/13 396 W, 9 I - + 7 - 2

[This Midtown Raleigh News story](#) recaps this week's news that the City Council on Tuesday approved the design for a Raleigh Police Memorial at City Hall. The memorial will be located on the Hargett Street side of the building, with its west side to the right of the building's entrance. It will feature twenty-one granite columns from which a sixty-four foot narrow water table extends. Past its end will stand a single column bearing the engraved names of the eight police officers who been killed on duty since 1922. The memorial is designed by architect Thomas Sayre. The project is still being funded, with about \$150,000 still needed. The [Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation's](#) next fundraiser is the annual Five-O Memorial Bike Ride in August. [See this web page](#) for more renderings.



Raleigh Police Department Officers Killed in the Line of Duty

Detective Tom G. Crabtree	September 1, 1922	Shot and killed after being confronted by a intoxicated individual, while en route to a join a surveillance operation. Age 36. Tour of nine years.	
Patrolman Robert E. Sparks	March 8, 1968	Killed in a motorcycle accident on Ridge Road while pursuing a speeding motorist. Age 27. Tour of one year, three months.	
Patrolman James G. Lee	December 5, 1968	Killed along with Officer Allen in an automobile accident when their patrol car was struck by another vehicle. Age 23. Tour of four years.	
Patrolman James W. Allen	December 5, 1968	Killed along with Officer Lee in an automobile accident when their patrol car was struck by another vehicle. Age 24. Tour of two years.	

			
Patrolman Delma D. Adams	February 3, 1980	Shot and killed while making arrest of intoxicated driver, after the suspect produced a handgun after being placed in the rear of the patrol car. Age 33. Tour of 13 years.	
Police Officer Denise Holden	August 4, 1995	Killed in an automobile accident at Hillsborough and Morgan streets, when her patrol car left the roadway while responding to an officer needs assistance call. Age 24. Tour of seven months.	
Detective Paul A. Hale	July 11, 1997	Shot and killed while attempting to apprehend a murder suspect at Ligon Middle School. Age 35. Tour of seven years.	
Master Officer Charles R. Paul III	September 10, 2002	Killed in a motorcycle accident on Interstate 440 while attempting to initiate pursuit of a speeding vehicle. Age 30. Tour of seven years, six months.	

Sources:

- [Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation](#)
- [Officer Down Memorial Page - North Carolina](#)

Thanks for covering this, Mike!

rfburns - 07/23/13 - 11:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Mystery... Wheel

07/21/13 29 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Can you place this perspective? Bonus points for direction facing and how close to the ground the camera was placed.



The nearest Food Lion where a buggy was pushed into a natural area as opposed to walking 5 extra steps to place in a buggy corral?

Tom Smith - 07/23/13 - 21:49

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'?

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

Way Down East House Fire

07/21/13 148 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

This photo by Dylan Ray was posted in [this Carteret News-Times story](#) yesterday. That's a major house fire way down east in the community of Straits. The address was 945 Crow Hill Road, which Google says is a Beaufort (!) street address. The two-story house was four-years old. The fire was reported about 2:00 p.m. and required a tanker shuttle, due to the lack of hydrants in the area. Looks like at least one aerial stream was operated. Morehead City's mobile ambulance bus also responded, as both firefighters and bystanders required medical attention due to heat-related problems. (Yesterday's heat index at that time was about 94 degrees, says one site found via Google.) Responding fire departments (and approximate road distances) were [Otway](#) (4.9), [Harkers Island](#) (4.8), Marshallberg (6.0), [South River-Merrimon](#) (24.5), Davis (16), North River (11.2), [Beaufort](#) (14.4), and [Morehead City](#) (20.7, from Station 2, where the MAB is housed).



Dylan Ray/News-Times photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Five Triangle Newspapers Closing, August 1

07/21/13 68 W - + 6 - 3

Reports this News & Observer story from last week, these newspapers owned by Civitas Media near Charlotte are ceasing operation on August 1:

- *Apex Herald*
- *Cleveland Post*
- *Fuquay-Varina Independent*
- *Garner News*
- *Holly Springs Sun.*

Notes the story that these five communities will continue to have newspaper coverage from the *Garner-Cleveland Record* and the *Southwest Wake News*, which are published by the *News & Observer*.

Sad the Apex Herald is going bye-bye. At one time I believe it was the "Western Wake Herald"; I use to always enjoy looking at the "fire report" section as a young kid.

Silver - 07/21/13 - 23:32

Jeff the Apex Herald actually stinks now. When it was local owned and had local reporters it was great. They deliver to most homes now for free and give them away.

Apex Batt Chief - 07/22/13 - 23:35

Sad to hear that

Silver - 07/23/13 - 21:53

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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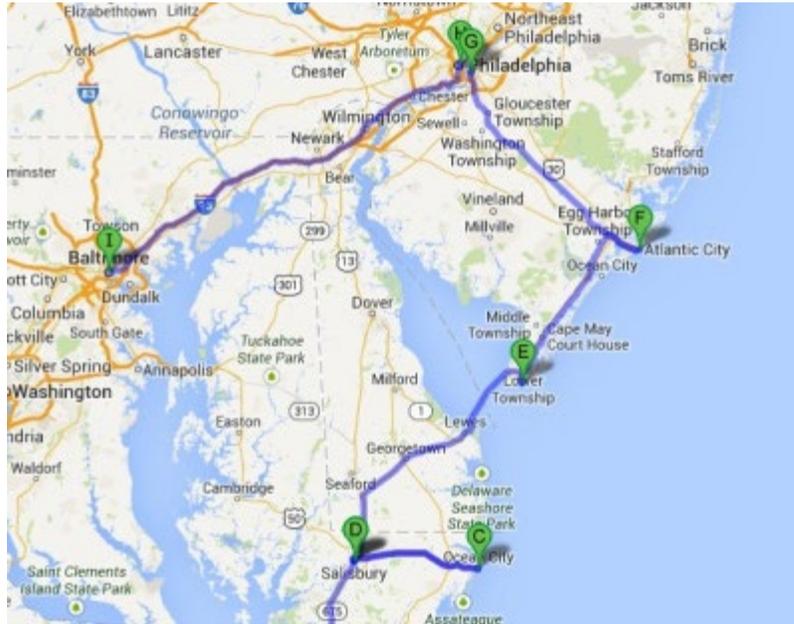
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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

See You in Baltimore

07/23/13 82 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Leaving today for points north. Planned route to the Baltimore Fire Expo is by way of Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and Philly. Hoping to see the sights of Ocean City (MD) and Atlantic City, and some historic former firehouses of Camden (!) and those [yet photographed](#) in Philadelphia. We'll see how the plans pan out. Watch for Hawaiian Shirt Guy on the show floor starting either late Thursday or first thing Friday.



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

Remember personal info?

- Yes
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Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Raleigh Fire Department Recognizes Promotions

07/23/13 211 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

In a ceremony at the City Council Chambers on Monday night, the Raleigh Fire Department honored seventeen recently promoted members. They recognized the achievements of individuals who obtained appointment or promotion through a competitive process. The ceremony opened with a presentation of colors by the Raleigh Fire Department Honor Guard and remarks by Fire Chief John McGrath.

Recognized were Asst. Chief Kendall T. Hocutt; Division Chiefs Robin R. Johnson and Barry D. Spain; Battalion Chiefs Kevin L. Coppage and Stephen R. Page; Captains Mark F. Kelling, Jeffrey L. Massey, Ralph R. Ripper, William M. Stanfield, Adam R. Stanley, Jason G. Whitford; Lieutenants Philip F. Arevalo, Kenneth G. Gilson, Keith D. Moses, Jay D. Rauer, and Ryan C. Stagner; Fiscal and Administrative Officer Adam S. Perry.

Also recognized were two members of the Raleigh Fire Department who recently retired: Battalion Chief Franklin G. McLaurin and Finance Officer Mark Scaringelli. Following the ceremony, a reception was held around the corner at Station 1. The procession of promoted members and their family and friends from City Hall was led by a Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums piper. More photos from Mike Legeros are coming later this week. Congratulations to everyone.



Whitford promoted to Captain.

Rauer - 07/23/13 - 15:26

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

UPDATED: Former and Historic Firehouses of Camden

08/08/13 170 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

August 8

Photos posted, both the [street-side adventures](#) and the [old engine houses](#).

July 25

Reporting from the road, and after a fine day of firehouse hunting in Camden, NJ. Still on the Road to Baltimore, and today's stops included an afternoon (and dinner) in the city across the river from Philly. My tour guides were Camden Fire Department historians Phil Cohen ([see his web pages](#)) and Lee Ryan. They were a fun pair, exceptionally informative, and helped keep me out of harms way. (Was dressed down for the occasion. The tropical shirt stayed in the car.) Photos and historical information are forthcoming. Below is a preview. Left to right, top to bottom, are two volunteer houses from the days of the Stockton Fire Department. That's the town that was annexed by Camden in 1889. Next, you're seeing old Engine 1, old Engine 3, old Engine 4, old Engine 6, Squad 7, old Engine 8, Engine 9, Engine 10, and Engine 11. Pretty old buildings.



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

More Historic Philly Firehouses

07/26/13 153 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

Reporting from the road. Shot a few more historic and former Philadelphia firehouses on Thursday. These'll be added to [my Flickr photo](#) set, and replace the "other sources" images on [in my master listing](#). That was last year's Baltimore trip project, shooting most of those buildings over two nights and three days. Left to right, top to bottom, and in absolutely no order, are old Ladder 2 on Race Street; old vollie company on Kensington Street; old vollie company on Marlborough Street; Engine 52 on Van Kirk Street; Engine 63 on Oak Lane Avenue; Engine 35 on Ridge Avenue; old Insurance Patrol on Bridge Street; old Engine 14 on Frankford Avenue; old Engine 7 on Church Street; and Engine 62 on Bustleton Avenue. Search the blog, using the widget to the right, on Philadelphia (spell it correctly) for related posts from last year and earlier.



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
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Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Your Morning Fire Video - Henderson, NV

07/27/13 125 W - + 5 - 8

July 30

Update. This video is no longer available. See the [Statter911](#) story for speculation on the reasons.

July 27

Reporting from the road. This YouTube clip posted by Jim Moore caught my eye, as found and [surfaced on Statter911](#). Pre-arrival and early arrival footage of a house fire in Henderson, Nevada. The arriving engine catches its own water supply, and two lines are opened on a fully-involved garage space. The clip is notable for the audio portion as it well-captures the incidental reactions and emotions of neighbors (and the property owner?) to the situation. (There's also commentary from one person, about how long everything's taking. He references a two-minute phone call to their 911 center, in particular.)

Name: (real name preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

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Wide Views From The Fire Expo

07/27/13 45 W, 3 I - + 7 - 1

Reporting from the road. Here are three mobile phone panoramic images from Friday at the Fire Expo at the Baltimore Convention Center (top two) and the Brotherhood Bash in Little Italy on Thursday night. Click to enlarge:



How does this expo compare in size to the one that is held in Raleigh?

Wondering - 07/28/13 - 11:05

Great question. Those in the events business can perhaps answer accurately, but here's my perception of the differences. Comparing this year's Baltimore show to memories of last year's Raleigh show. Not exactly apples to apples, mind you. The Baltimore show exhibit floor—square-footage, number of rigs and vehicles, number of vendors—seems somewhat larger. Not hugely so. Maybe not quite (or near) double the size?

Legeros - 07/28/13 - 11:17

@Wondering.... Your question prompted us to run the numbers. The Firehouse Expo 2013 in Baltimore used three halls for a gross of 170,000 square feet. Some of that space was allocated to Convention Services, storage, Food Court, Podcast Areas, Classrooms, etc., for a net LESS THAN 150,000 sf. There were approximately 25 fire apparatus rigs on the show floor.

For the South Atlantic FIRE RESCUE Expo in Raleigh, three halls will be used (total of 150,000 sf). In addition, Exhibits will be in the Mezzanine Level as well as an exterior Apparatus Demo area (Cabarrus Street), resulting in a net that far EXCEEDS 150,000 square feet. The SAFRE Expo is completely SOLD OUT.

You can still get into the Conference and Expo by registering on-site. Additionally, this year there are many special events including the BURN Documentary, Cornhole Tournament, BBQ Throwdown, Fire Truck Parade, Brotherhood Bash and more. Full details are at

<http://www.southatlanticfirerescueexpo.c..>

Please let us know if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you in Raleigh!

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/28/13 - 15:34

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 - Raleigh-Wake « Wide Views From The F... » Surviving the Streets... County Emergency Communications Center Training Academy Receives Recertification

Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center Training Academy Receives Recertification

07/28/13 157 W - + 5 - 3

Press release. The [Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center](#) has received recertification of its Training Academy from the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International. Of the more than 6,100 9-1-1 centers throughout the United States, only 45 have qualified for this honor. "The APCO Project 33 Agency Training Program Certification is a formal mechanism for public safety agencies to certify their training programs as meeting APCO American National Standards (ANS)," according to APCO. "Building and implementing a successful agency training program requires many resources and a good deal of dedication. Submitting for certification demonstrates the agency's commitment to training and to meeting national standards. Receiving certification for a training program is a major accomplishment for the agency, its staff and the community it serves." The certification covers both the three-month-long formalized classroom training required for all new recruits as well as continuing education programs for veteran employees.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Surviving the Streets of Camden

07/28/13 109 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Reporting from the road. Photo by Phil Cohen, during lat week's afternoon exploration of historic and former firehouses of Camden, New Jersey. He and Lee Ryan, both Camden Fire Department historians, were the tour guides. [See prior posting](#). Will ask Phil about his post-processing process. He's cleverly disguised my trademark tropical attire as a regular t-shirt. Give me a few more days to get the photos posted. Been busy vacationing. And a second trip is queued in a couple days. Going to the Twin Cities, for a family reunion in Minneapolis and historic firehouse explorations in St. Paul. More later. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Really Big Tow

07/29/13 42 W, 2 I - + 7 - 7

Happened upon the DCFD shop yesterday, during my last day of vacation. This really big wrecker was sitting on the street. Perhaps one of our readers can advise make and model. Click to enlarge these mobile phone photos:



That's the DCFD Heavy Rescue Crane. Put in service around July 2008 (<http://www.dcf.com/July2008.php>). Not sure on make/model. They keep parked at the shops.

Trevor James ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/30/13 - 08:36

From Youngstown Fire site 2007 PB/Miller "Century" w/60 ton crane

stretch - 07/30/13 - 19:26

Looks to be a rotator crane.

Tt - 07/31/13 - 19:53

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Three Guys and a Bunch of FOOLS in Baltimore

07/30/13 94 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

This photo's from Thursday night, at the Central Maryland FOOLS Brotherhood Bash in Little Italy. Left to right is [Iron Firemen](#) blogger Willie Wines, Legeros Fire Blog blogger Mike Legeros, and [Fire Critic](#) Rhett Fleitz. The photo bomb is by [Dave Statter](#), who certainly qualifies as a fool in this shot. (Though he'd be hard pressed to beat the Hawaiian Shirt Guy for overall antics.) Great seeing everyone. The picture was made by Stanley Jaworski. [See his entire series](#) on Flickr.



Stanley Jaworski photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Vehicle Versus Building on Poole Road

07/30/13 92 W, 3 I - + 6 - 6

That's Engine 12 and EMS 7 on the scene on Poole Road at Rawls Drive. Northwest corner, where the pictured automobile struck the pictured apartment building this afternoon. Photos forthcoming on the [Legeros photo site](#). They'll include some shots of police officers in action. Been trying to include law officers in my shots, more and more these days. Since I'm already there, and they're compelling subjects as well.





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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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More Trucks

07/31/13 95 W, 5 I - + 11 - 6

Here are a few more trucks as seen last week, during a 1,400-mile road trip from Raleigh to Salisbury (MD) to Cape May (NJ) to Camden to Philly to Baltimore to Frederick (MD) to DC and back home. Might have to start calling this the Legeros Travel Blog. Happens every summer, for a couple weeks. Readers should be used to it. Top to bottom are a brush truck from Suffolk (VA), a pair of rigs from Frederick, a smaller DCFD wrecker, and a USCP wrecker. [See more police vehicles](#). Click to enlarge:



Hey Mike. First time/long time here. If you ever get the chance next time you're traveling up north, head to North Jersey. Bergen county to be exact.

Trevor ([Email](#)) - 08/02/13 - 11:32

Thanks for the tip, Trevor. My time traveling in Jersey has been sparse, so far. Looking forward to my next visit, some future year.

Legeros - 08/02/13 - 11:41

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Street Siren in St. Paul

08/03/13 123 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

Reporting from the road (again). Seen at this historic (and still active) fire station in St. Paul, MN, it's a small siren mounted between the bay doors. Station 20 on West University Drive. Built 1920. Don't know if it's still operational. Originally installed (as it's been explained to me) to warn vehicles and probably pedestrians of the outgoing apparatus. I've seen these somewhere else. Maybe in Milwaukee? Maybe in Minneapolis. Memo to self, [check my photo galleries](#). What street-side warning devices have you seen before? Will have shots of all historic and former firehouses in the twin city at a later date. Over twenty such structures!



That's exactly what they were used for, especially if the station was right in front of a busy street or sidewalk. The village of Hatteras had a setup like this across the street from their station in the traffic median, but it was removed in the early 2000's

Jason ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/09/13 - 16:57

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Vehicle Versus Tobacco Field

08/03/13 64 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

As posted to JocoFire.com. Driver lost control on Lassiter Road in Johnston County. First responder was 50-210 Fire Department. Driver declined transport by Four Oaks EMS. See [original posting](#) on the site's home page. Open question for readers, what are some of the more unusual vehicle versus _____ incidents you've encountered?



Jason Thompson/JocoFire.com photo

A "dead truck" (one that hauls dead hogs from hog houses) was traveling down I-40 at 2 AM and the PTO somehow went in gear and the trailer elevated itself into the dumping mode. When it went under a overpass the trailer struck the whole underside of the bridge putting concrete pieces all over the highway striking several vehicles and others hitting them causing them to have damage to tires. Our department was paged to debrie in the roadway, no further until checked enroute then advised same was a possible bridge collapse. We stood by for several hours until DOT shut down the bridge and the roadway and a temporary fix had to be done to open area up. Of course this happened during the summertime and traffic backups were terrible for the next week. Never a dull moment down East!

car3550 - 08/03/13 - 22:34

Older guy driving a Lincoln Town Car swerved off the side of the road into a field to avoid rear-ending another car on Allen Rd. in Pitt Co. (Red Oak VFD) and ended up with the bumpers on either side of an irrigation ditch between fields. He needed some help getting out of his car as he was about seven feet off the ground and didn't want to jump.

Then there was the car vs. horse on US 17 N (Old Ford VFD, Beaufort Co.). Horse got loose from OFVFD member's pasture in the middle of the night and was struck in the hind legs by a car. Shattered both hind legs of the horse. Not a pretty site for the owners or equine fans.

Then there was the truck vs. boat in Washington, NC (Washington FD) in the middle of US 17 and US 264 intersection. Driver towing the boat didn't secure it to the trailer and lost the boat from the trailer taking the corner. The boat was struck by another truck.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 08/05/13 - 10:08

Best Mailbox Ever

08/04/13 50 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Reporting from the road. Also seen in St. Paul, MN, is this vintage extinguisher-turned-mailbox. Again at Station 20 on West University Drive. Built 1920. Have favorites you've seen in your day, or at your station? Pass along photos!



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Authentic Fire Truck Billboard

08/05/13 183 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

Reporting from the road. Saw this in St. Paul today, at the business of Captain Ken's Foods. As the [web site notes](#), the products were started by a Captain in the St. Paul Fire Department. His name was Ken Freiberg and his specialty was oven-baked beans.

He began his career in 1943, and was promoted to Captain in 1953. His beans were a firehouse favorite, and word spread around the community. He sold his first dish of beans from a stand at the state fair in 1964. A few years later, he retired from the fire department to pursue a second career in food service. (Wonder how many other commercial foods or services had their start in firehouse kitchens?)

Shown is the billboard at the company's headquarters at 334 S. Roberts Street. What's the story of the truck that's parked on high? No idea, but we'll see what we can find. Looks like a 1910s or 1920s model. Didn't poke my head inside, which might've been a mistake. Looks like there might be more artifacts in there! Click to enlarge:



That is a fantastic looking billboard.

chris - 08/05/13 - 20:55

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Eastern Wake Fire Rescue Withdraws From Merger Talks

08/06/13 158 W - + 5 - 2

[This Eastern Wake News story](#) reports on what was communicated at a recent fire commission meeting, that Eastern Wake Fire and Rescue has called off discussions of a merger with the Knightdale Fire Department. The county manager's office earlier this year encouraged Eastern Wake FD, along with twelve other county-funded fire departments, to explore consolidation options as a fire tax revenue shortfall is predicted in 2014. Discussions began between Eastern Wake FD and Knightdale FD, and a proposal was made by the town in April that would reduce EWFD personnel to twenty-four employees, slightly constrict their service area, and convert their second station on Hester Street to an all-volunteer station. The proposal was not well-received by EWFD, the story notes. Negotiations have thus been cancelled, and the department has withdrawn from the issue. The county manager's office will re-approach the department about consolidation within the next year. [Read the story.](#)

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Vehicle Versus House in Durham < Failed Driving Test

08/06/13 79 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

As this [WRAL story reports](#), a man taking his driver's license road test with an instruction lost control of the driving school's SUV on Monday afternoon and struck a home on Cooke Road in Durham. There were no injuries, but said vehicle operator failed the road test. Wonder what the numbers are on these building strikes, per week or month in our area?



Well on the bright side he knew how to accelerate

Malibu - 08/09/13 - 01:56

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Schedule of Events for South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo

08/06/13 174 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Lots happening this week in Raleigh for the annual South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo. Here's the [official schedule of events](#), which includes:

- Golf tournament
Tuesday and Wednesday at Pine Hollow in Clayton
- Pre-Conference Training and Workshops
Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday
- Special showings of *Burn: One Year on the Front Lines of the Battle to Save Detroit*
Wednesday at Lincoln Theater, and Thursday at Convention Center
- BBQ Throwdown
Thursday (cooking) and Friday (sandwich) sale
- Cornhole Tournament (in conjunction with BBQ event)
Thursday
- Exhibit Floor
Friday and Saturday
- Brotherhood Bash
Friday night at Napper Tandy's
- Fire Truck Parade (at 12:00 noon this year!)
Saturday
- Haz-Mat Challenge
Saturday
- Banquet and Reception
Saturday

And as a bonus attraction, the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) will also be open on Saturday. Pay a visit at the Keeter Training Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10. Admission is free. Parking and restrooms are available.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Explore the History of Firefighting in Raleigh This Week

08/07/13 129 W, 1 I - + 6 - 0

The Raleigh Fire Museum will be open on Saturday. It's located at the training center in downtown Raleigh. There's antique fire appartus stored at Station 28 in northeast Raleigh. Or go virtual, and visit these sites to learn about firefighting in Raleigh's Capital City: [Legeros history pages](#), [Raleigh Fire Museum site](#), [historical photos](#). Want to talk shop? Legeros will be around the show on Saturday, as well as shooting the parade. Other museum staff members will be found out and about, as well as at the museum itself. Drop a private message via e-mail (or Facebook) if you want to connect, or have questions, or need more information. We are at your service! Click to enlarge this promotional rack card:

Experience the History of Firefighting in Raleigh



See antique fire engines at Fire Station 28
3500 Forestville Road, Raleigh NC
Visitors welcome



Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum
105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh NC
Open second Saturday of each month, 10 to 2
Admission is free
www.raleighfiremuseum.org

Fire Station 28
Fire Station 28 is located at 3500 Forestville Road in Raleigh, NC. It houses a 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, two 1953 rescue boats, a 1961 American LaFrance pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.



Raleigh Fire Museum
The Raleigh Fire Museum is located just a few blocks south of downtown Raleigh at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. It's open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 900 square-foot museum includes hundreds of artifacts and photographs. Major exhibits include the city's 1870 fire alarm bell, an early 19th century hose reel, and color film footage from 1950.



Schedule tours for both locations at www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours

The Raleigh Fire Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to preserve and present the history of firefighting in North Carolina's Capital City. Learn how you can contribute. Contact our organization at contact@raleighfiremuseum.org or PO Box 31084, Raleigh, NC 27622. Our phone number is 919-964-1070.

Name: (real name preferred)
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Yes
No

/ [Textile](#)

Convention Center Filled with Fire Engines

08/08/13 106 W, 4 I - + 5 - 2

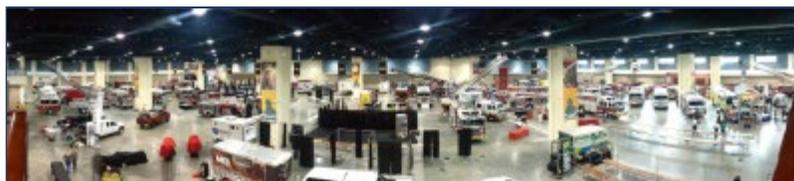
Some sixty-five pieces of fire apparatus have been loaded into the Raleigh Convention Center, as preparations continue on the exhibit floor of the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#). The days and hours for the, er, expo portion of the Expo are Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Photographer Lee Wilson has been on scene this week. See his photos so far.





Lee Wilson photos

And here's a lame panoramic picture of the show floor so far, via mobile phone photo by Mike Legeros. Click to enlarge:



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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

UPDATED: Raleigh Recruits Graduate on Friday

08/08/13 307 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Congratulations to the twenty-seven members of Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy 38. They graduate from their twenty-eight week academy tomorrow night, Friday, August 9. The ceremony starts at 7:00 p.m. at Meymandi Concert Hall at the Duke Energy Center in downtown Raleigh. Below is a spiffy group photo shot by Jeff Harkey last week. He and Lee Wilson took photos, which can be seen here. We'll see if someone will send the names for everyone, left to right, and maybe their home towns. Watch this space. [See more versions of their class photo](#). There are also several galleries of photos from their academy: [February 1](#), [March 21](#), [April 2](#), [April 25](#), [April 30](#), [May 30](#), [June 21](#), [June 24](#), [July 12](#) and [16](#).

Update. Pictured and with their home towns in parenthesis are, back row, left to right: Ben Thedieck (Raleigh), Miles Roe (Bellport, NY), Ryan Dover (Raleigh), Clayton Welch (Grand Cane, LA), Alex Oliver (Blackburg, VA), Charles Santos (Miami, FL), Adam Hauser (Cleveland, OH), Clarence Barbour (Philadelphia, PA), and Kahlil Robinson (Raleigh). Middle row, left to right: Marilyn Rodriguez (Cary), Kamilah Webb (Anchorage, AK), Michael Fox (Cary), Graham Pearce (Rolesville), Zeth Lee (Kinston, NC), Peyton Ellis (Arlington, VA), Jonathan Braswell (Holly Springs), Nick Banister (Raleigh), and Kirsty Thayer (Ashaway, RI). Front row, left to right: Russ Leaptrott (Troutman, NC), Zachariah Reynolds (Greensboro), Jessica Newman (Dobbs Ferry, NC), Addison Lynch (Bracey, VA), Sam Scott (Raleigh), Jonathan Tyner (Raleigh), David Boyette (Garner), Brandon Freese (Pittsville, MA), and Ryan Bracey (Raleigh).

Their family ties include Jonathan Tyner as son of Captain Jim Tyner, and David Boyette as son of Battalion Chief David Boyette, and grandson of retired Capt. Wade Boyette. See my [family tree document](#) (PDF and newly added on my web site) for more information about "who's related to who" in the Raleigh Fire Department.



Jeff Harkey photo

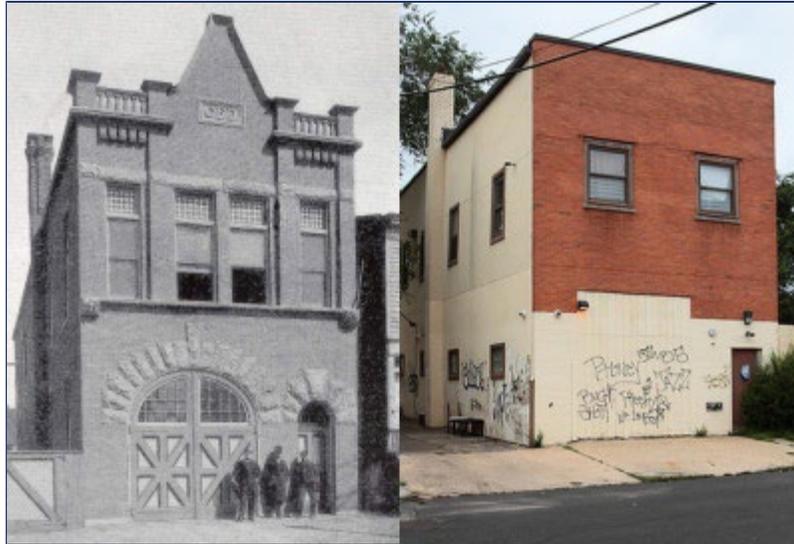
Congrats guys and gals, this is the first step in a long career that you will learn to love if you have never gotten the chance to ride a truck to the aid of another. Stay safe out there and always do the right thing.

Positive - 08/09/13 - 01:55

When Old Buildings Change - Camden Engine 1

08/08/13 132 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

While most repurposed former firehouses can be recognized as old engine houses, here's one that's absolutely devoid of its original charm. Here's the old quarters of Engine 1 on Pine Street in Camden, NJ. Built in 1892, it was closed in 1978. The building is presently part of a multi-family residential complex. It was photographed during Mr. Blogger's visit late last month. [See those photos](#). See more history, [courtesy of Phil Cohen](#). As for these two photos, see a [larger version of the present day photo](#) and the [Engine 1 history page](#). Next question, what are some utterly unrecognizable old engine houses that you're aware of? Locally, you'd never know the rear of old Memorial Auditorium held a fire station. That thing's been built over. Click to enlarge:



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

UPDATED: Vintage Wilmington Engines

08/20/13 109 W, 8 I - + 8 - 4

August 20
 More images of vintage Wilmington engines have been posted for sale on eBay. Check out these beauties! Same seller as other recent postings here, [such as this one](#). Top to bottom, left to right are old Engine 2 (1920s? pumper) [update: NOT a pumper from Wilmington, NC, apparently], Engine 1 (1977 ALF), Engine 2 (1977 ALF), reserve Engine 2 (1950 ALF), reserve Engine 1 (1966 ALF), and reserve Engine 6 (1960 Howe). Click to enlarge:



[Above is NOT from Wilmington, NC, apparently]



August 8
 Found for sale on eBay, photos of two vintage Wilmington engines. Top is Engine 3, a 1962 Howe. Bottom is Engine 5, a 1967 Howe. Ignore the watermarks. Click to enlarge:



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

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

Minneapolis Station 7

08/09/13 228 W, 2 I - + 4 - 2

Here's a neat station adornment, a historic bell hanging in front of Station 7 in Minneapolis. The inscription on the bell reads "Clinton H. Meneely Bell Company, Troy, N.Y., U.S.A., A.D. 1883." The mounting assembly has been shaped as a numeral. How cool is that? What similar types of bell assemblies (or outdoor art) have you seen at fire stations?

The fire station is located at 2000 E. Franklin Street and was opened in 1962. It houses Engine 7 and Ladder 3. My memories are strongest of Foam-Hose 1, which was housed there in the late 1970s. That was a 1958 Walter Class 1500 crash truck, ex-Navy, converted by the MFD shops to a foam/deluge unit in 1976.

Named "Big Red," we blogged about the thing back in 2007. [Read that posting](#), or see [photos of the truck](#) at an aviation museum in Anoka. (Raleigh-Durham Airport also operated a Walter Class 1500 crash truck, purchased new in 1959. See a [couple photos](#).)

As for the fire station, it was photographed along with a few others, to complete my [Flickr gallery of historic and former Minneapolis firehouses](#). Defined as (a.) active or retired facilities that are (b.) fifty years or older. Learn more about Minneapolis Station 7 and other stations at the [Extra Alarm Association site](#). Great web site.





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Charlotte Commemorative Coin Set

08/09/13 72 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Attending the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo on Saturday? These commemorative coin sets can be purchased for \$50. Charlotte Fire Department Engineer Jeff Dixon has them. He'll be around all day, and particularly near their 1902 steamer. He has many sets for sale. The eight coins celebrate the department's 125th anniversary. They depict seven pieces of antique apparatus that are still part of the department's fleet. Click to enlarge:



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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Today's Apparatus Parade in Downtown Raleigh

08/10/13 54 W - + 4 - 2

As part of the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo, which included a parade of fire apparatus on Fayetteville and Salisbury streets. This footage was shot with a handheld digital SLR camera. Will try a tripod next time. Readers are welcome to list the participating rigs:

Yes, I will brag... Stony Hill's 1954 Mack B-Series. The ONLY antique in the parade that has not been restored and is sporting the original paint! Thanks to FF Brian Rimmer for his support in taking the truck to the parade.

A.C. Rich - 08/11/13 - 16:41

I am going to brag as well. The one two one of BAYLEAF. It had the people From Burn on it. Lt. Farrell in Command.

Chris ([Email](#)) - 08/12/13 - 10:15

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

See You Next Year

08/11/13 121 W - + 6 - 1

Had a blast at this year's South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo in Raleigh, and an equally grand time in Baltimore two weeks prior at the Firehouse Expo. What's on the calendar for 2014? Here are dates for select fire service conferences and events next year. Google is your friend for finding more information:

- SPAAMFAA Winter Convention (Charleston, SC) - February 6-8, 2014
- Fire Department Instructor's Conference (FDIC) (Indianapolis, IN) - April 7-12, 2014
- Lancaster County Firemen's Association Fire Expo (Harrisburg, PA) - May 16-28, 2014
- South Carolina State Firefighters' Association Conference (Myrtle Beach, SC) - June 9-14, 2014
- SPAAMFAA Summer Conference (Columbus, OH) - June 25-28, 2014
- Firehouse Expo (Baltimore, MD) - July 15-19, 2014
- South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo (Raleigh) - July 23-26, 2014

Is there any certain reason on why the date for the South Atlantic expo moved earlier? My wallet is going to need a bigger break between the expo in Baltimore & the one here in Raleigh. Thanks for the great photo coverage provided by you & Lee.

Josh_S - 08/11/13 - 15:57

That's a busy 2 weeks for vendors with Firehouse and SAFRE on back to back weeks!

shevais - 08/11/13 - 16:22

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preferred)
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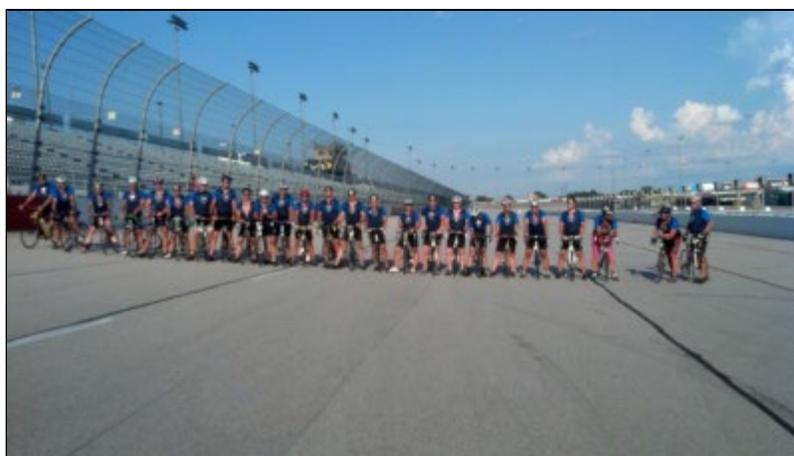
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Second Annual Carolina Brotherhood Ride Underway

08/12/13 187 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

As [this WBTW story](#) reports, the second annual Carolina Brotherhood bicycle ride is underway. Emergency responders from across the state are riding this year to honor six fallen brothers and sisters: Trooper Bobby Gene DeMuth Jr. of the North Carolina Highway Patrol, Master Police Officer Jeremiah M. Goodson Jr. of the Lumberton Police Department, Deputy Sheriff Dewayne Charles Hester of the Bladen County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Sheriff William Mast Jr. of Watauga County Sheriff's Department, Master Corporal Sandra E. Rogers of the Aiken Department of Public Safety, and Detective Randall "Shane" Thomas of the Henderson County Sheriff's Department.

On Sunday afternoon, the cyclists rolled into Darlington Raceway as part of their 700-mile ride through the Carolinas. They'll continue through the week, averaging 100 miles a day until they reach Boone, NC, on Saturday. The next stops are planned for Columbia (SC), Aiken (SC), Honea Path (SC), Hendersonville (NC), and Marion (NC). The event was started two years ago, to honor Asheville Fire Department Captain Jeffrey Bowen. Learn more and follow the riders progress at www.carolinabrotherhood.com.



WBTW photo

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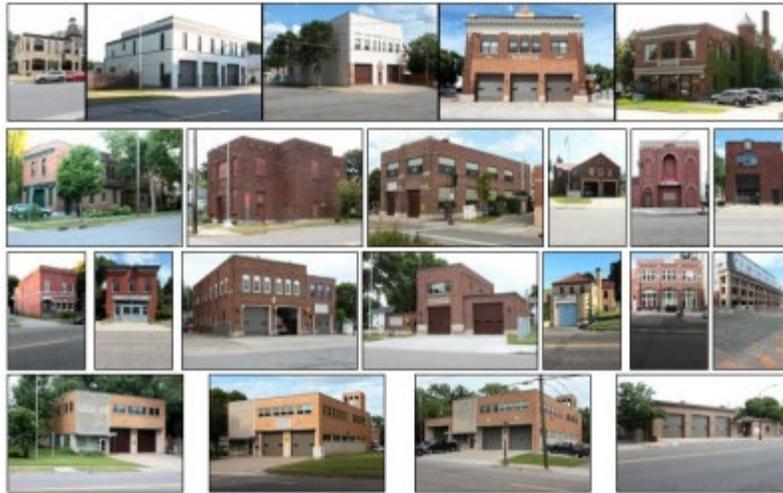
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Historic and Former Firehouses of St. Paul

08/12/13 136 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Twenty-three, count 'em, twenty-three historic and former firehouses in St. Paul, Minnesota. Meaning, fire department buildings (a.) still standing, (b.) active or retired, and (c.) fifty years of age or older. Earliest was built in 1872, and seven were constructed before 1900. Single, double, and triple bay facilities. Two of them expanded with two-story additions back in the day. Doubled their sizes! One of them *reduced* in height, now a single-story building dating to the 1880s. Beautiful, interesting, fascinating structures. [Read their histories](#), and see the [photos in this Flickr gallery](#). Also shot a few more historic and former Minneapolis firehouses, which are [listed on this page](#), and [shown in this Flickr gallery](#). Both cities were visited during last week's trip to the Twin Cities.



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UPDATED: Vintage Engines of Carolina Beach and Wilmington

04/05/14 80 W, 6 I - + 9 - 7

April 5, 2014

Found another for sale on eBay. One of Wilmington's 1952 Oren engines. Click to enlarge:



August 12, 2013

Found for sale on eBay, these 35mm slide images of vintage Carolina Beach and Wilmington engines. Left to right, top to bottom are a 1953 International/Bean (CBFD E3), a 1976 Ford/Howe (CBFD E2), a 1970 Ford/Howe (CBFD E1), a 1952 Oren (WFD reserve E3), and another 1952 Oren (WFD reserve E4). Absolutely beautiful. Click to enlarge:



Thanks Mike, just bid on these. I'd like to add these to our archives. I've got shots of the WFD engines but not slide quality.

Chris Nelson - 08/12/13 - 22:21

Hope you get them Chief. It was hard for me not to bid. I'd like to have the ones of Engine 3 blown up for our wall of flame!

Thanks for pointing them out Mike.

Ryan - 08/13/13 - 09:49

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No

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Zebulon's Former Firehouse For Sale

08/13/13 172 W, 2 I - + 5 - 0

As [this Eastern Wake News story](#) reports, the town's former firehouse is for sale. *And* the price has been slashed to nearly nothing. The former municipal building (and fire station and police station) at 111 E. Vance Street is selling for a mere \$35,000. That's reduced from the previous sale price of \$242,000. Talk about a deal! The two-story, 4,846-foot square building was built before 1953, which is the year the rural fire department was formed, of which its first piece of apparatus is shown in the below historical photo. (Left is the municipal department's 1946 Mack, right is the rural department's 1953 International. The fire departments, plural, moved next door to a dedicated fire station in 1974.) Maybe readers know the building's exact age. Using the building will require more money, as extensive renovations are apparently needed. For starters, the story mentions the "A" word, asbestos. But it still might be a deal for the right person.



Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *What's Next for* « Zebulon's Former Fire... » Hazing, Harassment, L... the Traveling Fire Buff?

What's Next for the Traveling Fire Buff?

08/14/13 504 W - + 5 - 3

With a pair of back-to-back summer vacations under my belt, the adventures of the Traveling Fire Buff are concluded for the season. Historic firehouse photo projects in Camden, Philly, Minneapolis, and St. Paul. Fire museum visits to Cape May (NJ) and Salisbury (MD). Fire expos in Baltimore and Raleigh. Okay, the last one didn't require any travel, but it did consume a big ol' mess of time and energy. What's next? Here are my prospects and plans for "buff stuff":

- Roanoke and Lynchburg - Have compiled data and mapped locations on former and historic firehouses in these two western Virginia cities. (Here's the [Roanoke data](#).) Hope for an excuse for road trip within a year. Maybe next summer.
- Baltimore Fire Expo - Might attend again, for my tenth year in a row (or abouts). Or, might take a break. The show is same-old same-old, but the social component gets stronger every year. Both meeting new people and growing increasingly socially comfortable with those already known. Plus getting there is a blast.
- Raleigh Fire Expo - Will be there next year and probably all future years. How long will the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo be staying in the Capital City? No idea, but it's darn convenient for those living here. Did make a couple changes this year. Declined to propose myself as a speaker, for a history talk-as-workshop. Had done that for three consecutive years. (Plus on a fire photography panel last year.) Also worked at work on Friday, due to workload. Typically take that day as vacation.
- Fire Department Instructor's Conference (FDIC) - Hoping to attend next year, for the first time. And particularly because [Indianapolis has a host of historic and former firehouses](#). Instant photo project there! Can't effectively drive to Indiana, alas. So it'll be a plane trip.
- Interschutz - International fire expo in Germany, held every five years. Next one's in 2015. Haven't been to Europe yet. Did get our passports a couple years ago, when Interschutz 2010 was approaching. Might try to get there this time.
- National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend - Will be traveling to Emmitsburg, MD, in October. First time for a real visit. Paid a Sunday stop some years ago and [took a couple pictures](#). Will be assisting the social media group as a photographer. More later.

That's the firm-ish list. There's the SPAFAAA Winter Conference in Charleston in February, which might get added to the above list. There's the expo in Myrtle Beach in June, which might be interesting to sample. Plus whatever wild hairs appear. Such as odd historical whims that compel day trips around our state. Want to shoot the steamer currently on display in Old Salem in Winston-Salem. Plus my "regular fire duties," of course. Local incident and event photography. Quarterly fire department newsletter. This blog. Plus all hysterical historical duties in Raleigh, both as official Historian and part of the Raleigh Fire Museum. Hobbies are good.

Here is two for you to consider. New York State Fire Chiefs Association Convention now held at Turning Stone Resort and Casino Oneida NY, East of Syracuse. Usually held in June each year. I have been to the expo when it was held in Monticello NY. And the PA Fireman's Convention held the end of Sept each year. Parade is Sunday morning and last three to four hours. It is like a moving expo, all compartment doors will be open on the trucks. Usually 300 to 400 pieces of fire equipment at the parade. Lewistown is this year's host.

<http://firechief.com/2013-nysafc-confere..>

<http://famefireco.org/fame175th/parade.h..>

stretch - 08/14/13 - 17:23

Speaking of such a grand parade, any ideas on how to improve the parade at SAFRE? I thought it was very short! Perhaps making it into a competition of sorts would inspire more participation?

Too short - 08/14/13 - 22:35

Hazing, Harassment, Lawsuits, Metrics

08/15/13 247 W - + 6 - 2

Reading [this Fire Law blog posting](#) this morning about a Maryland lawsuit by a former recruit claiming she was illegal hazed, harassed, and forced withdraw from a fire academy. The department and the particulars are named in the posting. More importantly, Curt Varone provides opinion and perspective on the issue, and he opens with the below beloved clip from the movie *Full Metal Jacket*. He then asks

"How many fire instructors out there – with the absolute best of intentions – tend to emulate Sergeant Hartman in how they treat new recruits?" He then deconstructs those behaviors from a legal perspective, and how problematic they are if challenged in a court of law.

My reaction to the story (and thus my posted comment) is a high-level slash historical one (as such treatment of recruits is presumably the exception versus the rule in the nation's fire service):

I've long asked about metrics regarding hazing and harassment. You know, the science behind the question "how's that working out for you?" Those behaviors (presumably) added value at some point in the history of the fire service and other institutions. (Because we know they wouldn't have been adopted otherwise... right?) Are they still value-adds? Yeah, great question to ask about a lot of things still done because they're still done.

Does hazing and harassment (still) work? Can you prove it? And if you can't, why are you still doing it?

Just found this post. The comparisons with military training are pretty self evident since the fire service models itself as a paramilitary organization, utilizing a similar rank structure and the dangers of the profession are similar to those of military service. Of course a huge difference is the legal obligation of service in the military and the comparatively shorter time to train larger numbers of recruits necessitate the military training style. A key difference with fire recruits is they are aspiring civilian municipal employees and under no UCMJ. They are also not typically young kids freshly graduated high school (usually). But then, firefighters don't hold the same type of job that, say, an HR person in the personnel office where their biggest risk is carpal tunnel syndrome.

The Fire Law blog seems to indicate pretty clearly that the training cadre went overboard, but in general I don't see a problem with some....

modified... "drill instructing." The main purpose is to break down the recruits sense of individualism so that they will understand how critical team work is in the military. The ability to function well as a team means a greater chance of survival and mission accomplishment in combat. That misery of basic tng. and subsequent accomplishment of training tasks as a team fosters close relationships that last a lifetime. Many would say they had a battle buddy in basic who they consider a brother, more so sometimes than blood relatives. As a combat vet, I can attest to the small comfort knowing that the guy next to you "has your back" even if it means he might die. Things get pretty real when lead starts flying. I'll take that any day over the dude in the next cubicle trying to stab me in the back for the next promotion. Firefighters also rely on the same type of teamwork on the fire scene. Sorry but this is NOT a "feel good" profession and the weak and unfit are a liability. We owe it to ourselves, or families at home, and the people in dire situations who are counting on us to be at the "top of our game" to ensure the best candidates are chosen. I understand that this isn't the military and some modifications might be warranted, but the core duty of a recruit academy is to train the most qualified to perform their job and weed out those who can't hack it. Pretty simple to me. The military method has worked for generations. If you can't handle a little razzing because you tripped over your foot on a run or otherwise made a slight fool of yourself, how do you think you'll handle REAL fire is pinning you to the floor??

Bob - 08/19/13 - 23:01

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E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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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.

Vehicle Versus House in Charlotte

08/15/13 94 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

WSCO posted [this bird's eye view footage](#) of an extrication in northeast Charlotte this afternoon, after a sport-utility vehicle crashed into a house on Robinson Church Road. The driver was airlifted in critical condition to Carolinas Medical Center. The driver's Chevy Suburban was reported traveling at a high rate of speed when it entered a curve, became airborne, and struck the home. [Read the WSCO story](#). Check Google for additional news stories and photos and footage. Readers can add a run card and any incident details as desired.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Raleigh Fire Department Barbecue Team Wins "Throwdown"

08/17/13 208 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

One of the tastier events at last week's South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo last week was the BBQ Throwdown. Over a dozen and a half (by my count) teams prepared their wares on Thursday, August 8. The collective results were then sold as sandwiches on the first day of the expo on Friday. First place was awarded to the Raleigh Fire Department team "Up in Smoke." That was a two-pronged attack by Grant Williams and Capt. Tim Duke. Their team was sponsored by FireNews.net. They also received the award for Best Appearing BBQ Throwdown Display. Of our local cooking crews, Clayton Fire Department won Fourth Place. They were Bobby Owens and Bonnie Owens. The event included an accompanying cornhole tournament (for our readers from elsewhere, that's a bean-bag toss game), which was won by the Raleigh Fire Department team "KnotWright." That's Lt. David Ritchie and Senior Firefighter Scott Wright. [See the full results](#) on the event site. See pictures of the barbecue teams by [Lee Wilson](#) and [Mike Legeros](#). There were no awards for cooking area decorations, alas. Loved the display by Wrightsville Beach Fire Department. [See that picture](#).



South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Winners and Trophies at the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo

08/17/13 271 W - + 4 - 1

Who won what at the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo in Raleigh last week? [From their web site](#), here are the assorted winners and trophy awards:

Fire Apparatus Parade

See apparatus photos [on this page](#)

Best Appearing Engine
Sharpsburg Fire Department

Best Appearing Aerial
Raleigh Fire Department

Best Appearing Special Apparatus
677th Engineering Detachment Firefighting Team, NC National Guard,
Morrisville

Longest Distance Traveled
Cashiers Glenville Fire Department, Cashiers

Best Appearing Antique Fire Apparatus in Parade
Centre Hanover Fire Company, Marshville

Best Appearing Static Antique Apparatus
Charlotte Fire Department

Haz-Mat Challenge

Winner: High Point

Rankings for all teams:

1. High Point
2. Raleigh (8:00 a.m. team)
3. Greensboro
4. Concord
5. Wilmington
6. Monroe
7. Williamston
8. Fayetteville
9. Asheville
10. Raleigh (12:30 a.m. team)

Golf Tournament

First Place Team Division
Charlotte Fire Team 2
Chuck Melton, Wally Love, Tripp Fincher, Dean Benson

Overall Individual Medalist Winner

BBQ Throwdown

See team photos [on this page](#)

First Place
Up in Smoke – Raleigh Fire Department
Grant Williams, Tim Duke

Second Place
Big Heads – Timberlake Fire Department
Charles Dunn, Randell Baker

Third Place
Box Alarm BBQ – Colington Volunteer Fire Department
Bruce Kaufman, Jr., Butch Lucas

Fourth Place
BOBO's Que – Clayton Fire Department
Bobby Owens, Bonnie Owens

Fifth Place
Charlotte Fire Department Station 7 – Pride of North Charlotte
Jay Adams, Joe Pipkin

Best Appearing BBQ Throwdown Display
Up in Smoke – Raleigh Fire Department
Grant Williams, Tim Duke

Winner of Rib Cook Off
Box Alarm BBQ – Colington Volunteer Fire Department
Bruce Kaufman, Jr., Butch Lucas

Cornhole Tournament

Winner
KnotWright – Raleigh Fire Department
David Ritchie, Scott Wright

Tony Waters

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Adventures in Lens Repair

08/18/13 384 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

This happened the other week, while Mr. and Mrs. Blogger were traveling in the Twin Cities. That's East Calhoun Parkway in the background, which passes past Lake Calhoun, the largest lake in Minneapolis, the city of my birth. (Lived in the suburb of Minnetonka until moving to Morehead City at age fourteen, then to Raleigh at age eighteen.) Why is my camera pictured (a.) on the ground and (b.) in two pieces? The story starts a few days earlier, when my gear was being packed in my carry-on. Took both cameras (and both lenses). Packed a bunch of accessories, including the over-shoulder strap for this one. It attaches to the base of the camera, which is a Canon 50D. The lens is a 70-200mm F4.0, also made by Canon. The white body means it's a higher-end "L" lens. Sealed body, and resists dust and moisture. Real workhorse.

Here's what happened. While packing, the strap was unhooked from the camera, and tested for suitcase fit. Decided the strap would fit better if attached the body. The strap's connector is like a carabiner, with a metal loop, a spring-loaded goat, *and* a screw-locker. Smart Guy snapped the thing to the camera's body, but *forgot* to twist the locking screw-locker. Camera gets packed, plane gets boarded, camera gets unpacked, and camera is toted all across the Twin Cities. Take pictures like crazy on Thursday and Friday and Saturday. Then on Sunday, there at Lake Calhoun, while getting out of the rental car, Mike attempts to swing that second camera strap over his shoulder. The strip swings just fine, but the camera instead drops a solid foot to the ground. And breaks "in half."

Which is why lens protection is on my mind this week. How much to repair? The estimate from Canon via Southeastern Camera (good place) is \$328.00. The replacement cost is, say, \$550 (used) or \$700 (new). (That is, bought somewhere online.) The warranty would be six months (repaired) or one year (new). Don't know what I'll do just yet. For now, my "long shots" are being shot with slower, lower-quality Canon 28-135mm f/3.5-5.6. See if you can tell a difference in photos posted from the last few days.



Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

Historic and Former Firehouses of Springfield, IL

08/18/13 455 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

Eight fire station buildings in the birthplace of Honest Abe. Also the State Capitol of Illinois. Also, maybe, the hometown of the Simpsons. Shot these in May 2010. How did that happen? Was visiting my wife's family, who live in Bloomington, IL¹. Needed something to do, so took a day trip to Springfield, which is 85 minutes south. Figured they'd probably have a few historic firehouses that I could find. Best as recalled, my first stop was the local library. Found one or more fire department history books, or maybe also old city directories. Then probably used a library computer and Google Street View to find those fire station buildings still standing. (Really can't remember, but it's a safe presumption.) Used GPS to locate these eight structures². Now here's the kicker. Never kept a copy of my notes, it seems. Forgot about these shots until this week. Loaded them into their own Flickr gallery, and re-researched the buildings. Have located all but one, the white house-looking building. No idea regarding its location. Still looking, and have reached out to SFD. [See more photos](#).

Update: Sanborn fire insurance maps helped me locate the mysterious white building, it's a two-story residence on Elizabeth just north of the intersection of Garfield. There was a fire station on the corner, Station 8, and the house was perhaps my best attempt at identifying a potential former firehouse at/near that location. As shown on the maps, the fire station building was instead a one-story affair. It was located there by 1917, but was gone by 1952. The building that housed the fire station also appears to have been replaced, when comparing the subsequent building diagram. Other since-demolished fire stations in Springfield (from the maps) include: Station 6 on East South Grand Avenue on the southeast corner of South 4th Street, Station _ in the 300 block of South 4th Street, east side, between East Monroe and East Capitol Avenue, Station 2 in the 300 block of East Jefferson, north side, between North 3rd and North 4th streets, and Station 1 in the 700 block of E. Monroe, south side, just east of the old City Hall, between South 7th and South 8th streets.



¹And which is why my [Flickr collection of historic firehouse galleries](#) also features Bloomington/Normal, IL, and other places visited for purposes of family, such as Des Moines, IA, and the Quad Cities. Every trip should have a couple projects to complete, says Mike.

²One of those structures is the old State Fairgrounds firehouse, now the Illinois State Fire Museum. Built in 1938, it housed the state fair fire department for a number of years (or decades). Don't know if it was a seasonal entity.

Hi, The fire station located at 1901 N. Elizabeth St. is still standing and was never torn down in the early 50's as many thought. I know this to be a fact because I own the building and was given a permit to do some demo work on the building and found this amazing brick structure underneath. The building was built in 1885 and was ridgely city hall and jail (the jail window is still there and intact). it later became a springfield fire station around 1907 when Ridgely annexed into springfield. The sangamon co historical society has done a paper on the building which you can read at <http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=7..> if you have any uestions or would like to come see the building please feel free to email me at somthinboughtatruck@gmail.com

mary young ([Email](#)) - 08/27/15 - 12:30

Early Annual Reports of the State Fire Marshal of Illinois

08/18/13 114 W, 2 I - + 8 - 5

Here's something pretty interesting. Early annual reports from the Illinois Fire Marshal. First through sixth annual editions, starting in 1911. Scanned and archived online by the University of Illinois Library. Whopping 450+ pages, if you download the PDF version. Describes all manner of things, from statistical reports on fires to summaries of fire departments to convictions of arsonists. Fair number of images, including portraits and photographs. Check out the chief's portraits in one of the volumes! Lots to enjoy and plenty to compare regarding "then and now." [Read the document\(s\)](#).

<p>26. ANNUAL REPORT</p> <p>GRANITE ROCKS—Burning in Dryland.</p> <p>Kozmowski was charged with being responsible for a fire which destroyed his dwelling. It was ascertained that sufficient evidence to bring him trial on charge of "Burning in Dryland" and he was indicted and tried for "obscure means by false pretense." The jury returned a verdict of guilty and fined him fifty and thirty days in the county jail.</p> <p>HARRY T. JENSEN—Bulveria Arsonist.</p> <p>Jensen attempted to burn the city jail at Jerseyville, Illinois, while a prisoner therein. He was indicted and proceeded for collection destruction of property and fined \$25.00.</p> <p>GRACE DREW—Madison Arsonist.</p> <p>Drew, while intoxicated, set fire to his dwelling. While in a drunken frenzy he either threw a lighted lamp at his wife or else upset it with the intention of destroying his property which was well insured. He was proceeded for the malicious destruction of his property and fined \$25.00.</p> <p>ONE BURTON—Pyromaniac.</p> <p>Burton was tried January 15, 1912, before the probate judge of Madison county and found to be insane. He was committed to the Belleville asylum. He attempted to burn his house by hanging clothes over the stove pipe.</p> <p>MONROE CHAFFIN—Pyromaniac.</p> <p>On March 27, 1911, he made four attempts to burn the property owned by Frank McLean of Danville, Illinois, who was found to be a pyromaniac and was sentenced to the asylum at Kankakee, Illinois.</p> <p>ALVIN CARROLL, alias ARNOLD FRANKLIN, and FRANK BROWN and VITO TUNNA alias VITO PAVANCI—Burning in Dryland and Arson.</p> <p>The above parties were arrested and brought to trial for "Burning in Dryland" in connection with a fire which occurred January 24, 1912. The same charge was asked by Assistant State's Attorney Smith and the charge of burning in dryland changed to malicious destruction of property. The defendants were sentenced to the county jail for five months.</p> <p>JOSEPH SCHUBERT—Pyromaniac.</p> <p>On April 14, 1912, Schubert while mentally unbalanced attempted to set fire to his mother's house. He was arrested and found to be an insane man and was admitted a pyromaniac and sentenced to the asylum at Anna, Illinois. Schubert was sentenced by the probate judge of St. Clair county.</p>	<p>STATE FIRE MARSHAL 27</p> <p>ELMER SCHUBERT—Obscure Means by False Pretense.</p> <p>Schubert was accused of being responsible for a fire which destroyed his store at East St. Louis. He was indicted on a charge of "obscure means by false pretense." The case was continued from time to time and when called for trial January 15, 1912, the defendant failed to appear and his bond was returned forfeited. He was found and brought to trial September 5, 1912, and took a plea of guilty and was fined \$500.00 and costs.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>ROBERT KESTELL. <small>Convicted at St. Louis, Franklin County, Mo., for burning in dryland, September, 1911.</small></p> <p>LORENZO WICKHAM. <small>Convicted at St. Louis, Franklin County, Mo., for burning in dryland, September, 1911.</small></p> <p>JOHN HARRIS, ROBERT SCHUBERT, and LORENZO WICKHAM.—Burning in Dryland.</p> <p>The above parties were accused of being responsible for a fire which destroyed a dwelling occupied by them for the purpose of collecting money from the insurance companies. They were brought to trial at the September term of the Franklin county circuit court on September 19 and 21, 1912, charged with "Burning in Dryland." The jury returned a verdict of guilty. Harris and Wickham were sent to the State penitentiary for an indeterminate sentence of from one to ten years. John Harris, although twenty-six years of age was found by the jury to be not sane because they were opposed to sending him to State penitentiary and he was sentenced to the State institution for insane criminals at Geneva, Illinois.</p>
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<p>60</p>  <p>CHIEF C. W. DOVE</p> <p>PERU</p> <p>Population, 20,000. Total number of fires, 225. Loss on buildings, \$30,121. Loss on personal property, \$7,721. Total fire loss, \$37,842. Loss per fire, \$167.74. Per capita loss, \$1.89. Fire loss in 1911, \$14,552. Increase in 1912, \$23,290. Number of men in department, 16. Number of fire stations, 3. Number of pieces of motor apparatus, 5. Fire Chief, C. W. Dove. Assistant Chief, Thomas Healy.</p>	<p>61</p>  <p>CHIEF F. E. THOMAS</p> <p>ROCKFORD</p> <p>Population, 31,000. Total number of fires, 202. Loss on buildings, \$10,162.78. Loss on personal property, \$1,200.00. Total fire loss, \$11,362.78. Loss per fire, \$56.25. Per capita loss, \$.36. Fire loss in 1911, \$20,911. Increase for 1912, \$1,451.68. Number of men in department, 31. Number of fire stations, 6. Number of pieces of motor apparatus, 7. Fire Chief, F. E. Thomas. Assistant Chief, S. T. Julian.</p>
<p>62</p>  <p>CHIEF F. A. OWEN</p> <p>SPRINGFIELD</p> <p>Population, 14,000. Total number of fires, 439. Loss on buildings, \$30,463.50. Loss on personal property, \$4,873.28. Total fire loss, \$35,336.78. Loss per fire, \$80.49. Per capita loss, \$2.14. Fire loss in 1911, \$19,821.93. Increase for 1912, \$15,514.85. Number of men in department, 16. Number of fire stations, 2. Number of pieces of motor apparatus, 9. Fire Chief, F. A. Owen. Assistant Chief, Daniel Warrick.</p>	<p>63</p>  <p>CHIEF GEORGE MORRETT</p> <p>QUINA</p> <p>Population, 10,000. Total number of fires, 711. Loss on buildings, \$10,291. Loss on personal property, \$6,350. Total fire loss, \$16,641. Loss per fire, \$23.40. Per capita loss, \$1.14. Fire loss in 1911, \$5,120.00. Increase for 1912, \$11,521.00. Number of men in department, 15. Number of fire stations, 8. Number of pieces of motor apparatus, 3. Fire Chief, George Morrett. Assistant Chief, Ed. Vetter.</p>

The New Fords Are Here

08/18/13 71 W, 3 I - + 5 - 3

These future Raleigh police cruisers are awaiting painting, lettering, and lighting gear. There's also a crop of Chargers coming, to join these Explorers. See [this prior discussion](#) and [even prior discussion](#) on the vehicles lately evaluated for city police use. Maybe one of our LEO readers can talk about the vehicles, and what added value an Explorer-sized vehicle brings to the table. Click to enlarge:



Any idea why RPD is allotted funds to paint brand new vehicles in their blue/white colors, whereas RFD never does that, and has a fleet of Chief and Admin vehicles that are either maroon or all white with no striping? Shouldn't the FD get the same money to have white over red SUVs to match their other rigs? RPD probably spends a couple of 1,000 of \$s for each vehicle, which would seem to make them harder to sell at the end of their RPD life.

C Wiley - 08/19/13 - 09:43

I'll take a stab at an answer. Fire has never had two-toned passenger cars or SUVs (with possible one-off exception), and thus it's doubtfully ever been a budgetary (or aesthetic) priority of theirs to make that happen. Police have had "blue and whites" for decades, however. Thus they've budgeted accordingly, and have persisted in that paint scheme for reasons that probably include tradition, branding, etc.

Legeros - 08/19/13 - 09:52

The Interceptor SUV is a good (purpose built) police vehicle from Ford.
Chargers...not so much; they're fast and look cool though ;)

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/19/13 - 10:28

I can promise you, those cabbies that buy old police vehicles don't care about their colors.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 08/19/13 - 12:25

The biggest thing the SUVs bring to the table is weight capacity. Pile on the light bars, radios, sirens, etc. Then add in the equipment (flares, fire ext, first aid kit, Patrol rifle, etc.) and a fully outfitted officer (weapon, cuffs, vest, radio, etc) and it doesn't take long to exceed the GVW of a passenger car. Also, the SUV is a lot easier to get in and out of in a hurry.

George ([Email](#)) - 08/20/13 - 18:31

So wouldn't the guys in RFD like to see the Batt Chiefs buggy match the other rigs?

C Wiley - 08/20/13 - 20:20

Actually I prefer to not see them at all!

Rescue Ranger - 08/20/13 - 22:10

RFD has much bigger issues than making their chief's cars look pretty to match the fire engines.

FD - 08/21/13 - 13:23

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Vintage Emergency Vehicles at Raleigh Classic Car Show

08/20/13 130 W, 4 I - + 7 - 4

The classic car show at the Raleigh convention center this past weekend saw a handful of vintage emergency vehicles: three old pumpers including Raleigh's 1926 American LaFrance and Wilson's Mills 1945 Mack and a pair of police cruiser. Bottom left is a 1978 Plymouth Fury from the State Highway Patrol. Bottom right is a late 1990s (?) Ford Crown Victoria from the Raleigh Police Department. [See more photos from Mike Legeros](#), including interiors of each. Next question, what other makes and models did both SHP and RPD operate over the years and decades? Readers, feel free to even post a historical fleet listing for either agency, if someone has one. For Raleigh Fire Department vehicle histories, see [this web site of mine](#), which lists everything.



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

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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'?

Vintage Jacksonville, New Bern, Wrightsville Beach Engines

08/20/13 109 W, 3 I - + 7 - 1

Found for sale on eBay are these nice color slides of Jacksonville Engine 1 (1975 American LaFrance), New Bern Engine 10 (1968 Ford/Ward LaFrance), and Wrightsville Beach Engine 1 (1974 Ford/Howe). Wonder if WBFD rig was delivered without roof beacon? Perhaps for low-clearance fire station, back in the day? We also see that Jacksonville was another North Carolina city that operated yellow (or yellow-ish) fire apparatus. Have we ever compiled a list of those? Don't readily see one, when searching the blog. Here are pics that Lee Wilson has shot and posted, however, in a Flickr gallery titled [Not Red Fire Apparatus](#). Click to enlarge:





If memory serves, Wrightsville Beach had a fire station over on the beach strip, and the Ford was in that station. There was no rooftop light on it, hence the twin Federal lights on the front. Cannot remember if they were Solar Rays (moved up and down) or Propello Rays (spinning reflector like Stony Hill's Mack).

DJ - 08/20/13 - 09:56

Mike- that is not the station I remember. Admittedly, my memory was chemically clouded the evening I saw it, but the station I saw the Howe in looked to be a bit taller than that, almost as if it was two story. The back of the station would have faced the ocean, and it fronted directly out onto Waynick Blvd.

DJ - 08/21/13 - 09:16

Sorry for the late reply, but station clearance was the reason there was not a light or air horns on top of that truck. And yes, the two lights were Solar Rays. We put a revolving light & air horns on her when we moved out of the old town hall station & to the new (now former) station on Harbor Island. I'll dig up a picture of the truck and send it to you. In the above photo the truck is parked on the north side of the station.

Chris Nelson ([Email](#)) - 07/28/14 - 17:48

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

Wake County Fire Academy Now Hiring

08/21/13 95 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Applications are now being accepted for Wake County Fire Academy Recruit Class 6. The class begins January 6, 2014, and graduates in late June. The application process closes November 22, 2013. Students who complete the program receive certifications in Firefighter II, Hazardous Materials, Emergency Medical Technician - Basic, National Incident Management System - ICS 700, 800, 100, 200, and Technical Rescuer. Read more in [this overview flyer](#) (PDF), which includes requirements, expenses and fees, and an overview of the academy. You can also click [the announcement below](#) (PDF) for more information:

Wake County Fire Academy
Recruit Class 6
 Wake County Fire Services is now accepting applications for Recruit Class 6

Recruit Class 6 begins January 6, 2014 and graduates in late June 2014

Requirements
 Complete an application and send to:
 Ricky L. Dorsey
 Wake County Fire Services
 333 South McDowell Street
 Raleigh, N.C. 27602
 Must be 18 years of age on the start date of the academy
 Must provide proof of HS Diploma or GED
 Must be affiliated with a fire department
 Must provide proof of a valid driver's license
 Must provide documentation from a physician that you are physically capable of performing activities associated with the academy
 Must acquire the supplies, materials, uniform and equipment as required

Successful candidates will receive:
 Firefighter II
 Hazardous Materials Responder
 EMT - Basic
 ICS 100 & 200
 Firefighter Rescue
 Firefighter Survival
 Technical Rescuer
 SCBA Fit Testing

For an application or more about this program contact:
 Joe Knurowski at 919/387-4338
 joseph.knurowski@wakegov.com

Small typo Mr. Legeros, it states November 2012.

Chris - 08/21/13 - 11:36

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Historic Firehouses of San Francisco (and More)

08/21/13 195 W, 1 I - + 9 - 1

Might be passing through San Francisco in a couple months. Started thinking about attractions and activities. Finding and photographing some old firehouses is a time-tested diversion, except for the sheet scale of the idea. There must be dozens in a city of that size. Who could stop at shooting just a few? Next question, where to find a list of such structures? Or how to justify the time required to research and compile such a thing? (Have other things that need attention.)

Lo and behold and the [San Francisco Fire Museum web site](#) presents itself, courtesy of Google. Wait'll you see this site. Three separate pages about [current, former, and vintage firehouses](#), for starters. Dozens, maybe hundreds of the things! And with addresses and dates and photographs. Holy completed research! Plus gobs of other goodies. Company histories, Chiefs of Departments, fire horses, fireboats, notable fires, and more. Exceptionally robust web site. And it gives Yours Truly some good ideas for his history pages, and the Raleigh Fire Museum site. (Yes, someday those sites will be merged.) Check it out!

Guardians of The City Fire Department
 GuardiansOfTheCity.org

1870 FIRE MUSEUM & SERVICE TRAINING CENTER
 1100 Beach Street (at Franklin)
 San Francisco, CA 94109-0101

ADMISSION IS FREE!
 Donations are Appreciated!

HOURS:
 Thursday through Sunday 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM (with parking) (check for [LGBTQ+ Activities & Groups](#))

As the museum is staffed by volunteers, please call to verify open hours prior to your visit!
 Phone: During Museum Hours: 415-263-5830
 After Hours Volunteer: 415-266-2248

[Visit Our Neighb. Historic 1898 Great Earthquake & Fire Index](#)

A FEW DAYS AFTER THE 1906 GREAT EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE
 Front and Reentry Streets

CAN YOU HELP US IDENTIFY THEM AND IF SO WHICH?
 A. 1926 Firehouse Queen Fire Engine, 1st class, No. 115
 B. 1927 Firehouse Queen Fire Engine, 2nd class, No. 240
 C. 1927 Firehouse Queen Fire Engine, 1st class, No. 271

This is not a quiz. We do not issue the rules, only that it was done at these angles. Always displayed in The Fire.

[Click here for additional photos and information.](#)

POPULAR FEATURES!
 Read About:
[The Volunteer Club](#)
 August 22, 1942 - July 22, 1948
 In our [Service Record](#) Section.

In Memory Of All The Firefighters Who Gave Their Lives

© 2013 by Fire Museum Fire Department (open) - [View from previous version: 2/21/2013](#)

AutoStitch Phone App

08/23/13 179 W, 2 I - + 4 - 5

Newer models of the iPhone have a feature on their camera app that takes panoramic photos. Works great, except that the saved images don't have terribly high resolution. I'm now trying the AutoStitch app, which costs \$1.99, was installed yesterday, and that produced this image taken this morning at Hillsborough Street and Glenwood Avenue. Unlike the iPhone camera's panorama mode, AutoStitch requires frame-by-frame shooting. This is a good advantage if there are moving objects in the frame. Below are pre- and post-PhotoShop versions, so you can see "right out of the camera phone" looks like.¹ These are full resolution at maximum settings in the app, by the way. Large files. Click once or twice to enlarge. No safety vests were harmed in the making of these pictures...



¹Yeah, there are a couple defects. One of the stitched images has some blur. Probably camera shake. There's a ghost person on the far right of the frame, as well. And there's an idiot directly behind the camera, though he's not pictured. Next time will do better.

Was the signal malfunctioning? ... the cross-street signal is yellow with the through-movement as green?

Jason Schronce - 08/23/13 - 08:42

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Panoramic Photo of Training Center

08/24/13 74 W, 2 I - + 5 - 5

Here's a panoramic photo of the Keeter Training Center, created from a series of images taken atop the five-story training tower. Camera is a Canon 7D with 18mm focal length. Manual setting, to ensure consistency of exposure. Stitched into single image using Photoshop Elements 10, and the PhotoMerge feature. [See more photos from the facility](#), mostly apparatus and vehicles. Click to enlarge:



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

Comment:

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Reader Question - How Many Phone Photos Are You Posting?

08/24/13 782 W - + 6 - 4

Was asked this question this week. How many phone photos are you posting these days, instead of with your DSLR camera? The answer depends. For starters, there are precious few phone photos included in the galleries posted on www.legeros.com/firepics. What phone photos do appear are usually panoramic images. Any posted phone photos will contain "-phone" or sometimes "-pano" in the file name. (But not every panoramic image is a phone photo, as the prior posting indicates.)

That said, I also take one or two or a handful of phone photos at incidents and events. These are usually posted in (almost) real-time to my personal Facebook page. Once I'm back at my computer, I'll remove any that don't look good in "regular size." (Small screens make phone photos look great, don't they?) Some may later surface on www.legeros.com/firepics as well.

See, here's the problem. When I'm shooting on scene and switch to my phone--for the purpose of a real-time posting--there's a chance I'll forget to take the shot again using my DSLR camera. It's like my brain links "okay, that's been photographed, move to the next thing." I've tried a couple things to combat this problem. First and easiest is only shoot with my phone *after* using my DSLR camera for the same shot. Second change is abstaining from phone-shooting and post-shooting at the same time. Too disruptive to the creative flow. I'll do the second part a bit later, at a break in the action, or right before leaving. Not quite real-time, but sufficient for my purposes.

Now for a big fat exception. For the last year or two, I've been using my phone instead of DSLR camera when shooting when traveling. Same for some fire service events. The pictures are initially posted to my personal Facebook page, either in real-time or later that day/night. Maybe even later, I'll pull the best of the bunch (e.g., non-crappy in "regular size") and post on one of my web sites (see below). I'm turning away from this approach, however. The ease of point-and-shoot-and-share is offset on a number of fronts, including heavy battery usage (and a lot of repeated recharging) and the lower quality of mid- and low-light photos.

Here's a primer on my photo sites and contents therein:

Web Site	Subject Matter	Frequency of Updates	Camera(s) Used	Retention of Posted Photos	Notes
legeros.com/firepics	Local incident and event photos, plus (mostly) related travel photos.	Every few days.	DSLR, almost always.	Three or four years.	Also includes links to photos by Lee Wilson, and occasionally guest contributors.
legeros.com/photos	Travel and stuff photos.	Very rarely.	DSLR, mainly.	Forever.	Travel and stuff photos, minimally updated. Retained indefinitely. DSLR images, mainly
flickr.com/legeros	Historic firehouses, fire museums, travel photos, local explorations, other stuff.	Occasionally	DSLR, almost always.	Forever.	Occasionally updated. Retained indefinitely. DSLR images, almost always. This is the place to find collections of galleries including yearly " best of fire photos ," which is the closest thing I have to a portfolio of my fire photography.
facebook/legeros	Life stuff and fire stuff, posted to separate monthly albums.	Daily or abouts.	Phone, mainly.	Six months or so.	Plus one-off albums of both DSLR images and phone photos. Some travel. Some fire/event stuff, with people tagged.

Notes

- [JAlbum](#) is the program that creates the photo galleries on legeros.com. Been using for, say, seven years. Every gallery is manually built using the application, and manually installed on the site. HTML by hand via web editor, FTP transfers, etc.
- [Flickr](#) has been my photo site choice for years. Place to post "permanent" photos, and perhaps make them a little easier for the general public to find. Low-resolution versions only, which is the same as what's posted to legeros.com. The site's improved its usability over the years, and recently underwent a radical upgrade. A person's "photostream" and individual photo sets (or galleries) are probably more pleasing to the eye. Site-wide navigation is still tricky, depending upon your browser and connection speed. And there's no tree-based or hierarchical structures available, unlike, say, SmugMug. That's a demerit that's always driven me nuts.
- DSLR cameras are a Canon 7D with an 18-55mm F4 lens, and a Canon 50D with a 70-200mm F4 lens. Phone is an iPhone 4S. Post-processing software is Canon Digital Photo Professional for nearly everything, plus PhotoShop Elements 10 for some things. Plus IfanView image viewer for quick/sundry edits, at any time.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Johnston County Foam Unit in Action

08/24/13 102 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Here's a picture of Johnston County's foam unit in action at a recycling yard fire in Clayton yesterday. [See more photos](#) from Jason Thompson at Jcofire.com. He also has video forthcoming. The unit is a 2007 Hino with a 2,000 GPM foam monitor and 1,500 gallons of foam in containers on two pallets. [See prior posting](#). Maybe readers can detail the unit's full equipment and response protocols. Next question, how many foam units do we have in the area these days? RDU airport. Raleigh, Apex with trailers. Johnston County/Selma. Who else?



Jason Thompson/Jcofire.com photo

The Foam Unit is owned by the County and housed and operated by the Selma Fire Department. The Foam is owned by the Town of Selma and was acquired through a joint purchase with funding from several Petroleum Companies and the Town. The unit carries 6 – 265 gallon totes of Thunderstorm 1×3 AR_AFFF Foam Concentrate. Its capabilities include: 2 hand line foam eductors for 2 1/2 and 1 1/2, a 2000GPM Master stream with a self educting nozzle, and an around the pump proportioner capable of turning any fire pump into a foam pumper. The Unit is available to anyone who requests it and will respond with 2 firefighters. Call Selma if you would like some training with the Unit. We also converted the old Unit to transport 4 totes of foam.

McDaniel - 08/27/13 - 17:03

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Monster Brush Truck - Benton County, WA

08/25/13 83 W, 1 I - + 12 - 5

Found this while cruising the [Pierce Flickr site](#), a monster brush truck (or maybe it's an off-road tanker) for Benton County Fire District #4, which is located in West Richland, WA. That's one tough-looking off-road chassis, and with dual monitors atop the bumper. The slot in the forward section of the sealed (?) body appears to contain a booster reel. That's an Oshkosh chassis, correct? [See larger versions of the photo.](#)



Looks a lot like this one in VA: <http://www.vafirenews.com/2009/02/virgin..> (Oshkosh MTRV/Pierce Hawk Extreme fire truck)

JCollins - 08/25/13 - 22:23

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Monster Sutphens

08/25/13 92 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

Also found these on the [Sutphen new deliveries site](#), a couple of industrial rigs of large proportions. Top is an industrial aerial for IMTT in Bayonne, NJ. Equipped with a 3000 GPM pump, 500 gallon water tank, 1,000 gallon foam tank, and a 75-foot aerial ladder. Bottom is a industrial pumper for Motiva Enterprises in Houston, TX. That baby's got a 3000 GPM pumper, 1,000 gallon tank, and 5,000 GPM deck gun. Are there many industrial rigs around North Carolina? Tempted to think they're few and far between, but maybe readers know. Click to enlarge:



I don't believe there are any industrial rigs similar to these serving in NC; SC is a different story. The only place I could think of that might have rigs like these would be the Brunswick Nuclear Power Plant or Sunny Point Ammo Depot? Most of the industrial fire brigades I'm aware of run hand-me-down engines, smaller mini-pumpers or golf carts for in plant fire protection.

BFD1151 - 08/26/13 - 20:03

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Back to School with Bus Crashes

08/26/13 111 W - + 9 - 1

The yellow buses started rolling in Wake County this morning. Four, count 'em four, school bus accidents were reported today. No students were injured in any of the incidents. From [this WRAL story](#), they were:

- Trawick Road and Skycrest Drive. Bus versus van. No injuries reported, but two students taken to hospital by parents as a precaution. Reported about 8:00 a.m.
- Evans Drive, 4200 block. Bus versus sedan. No injuries. Reported about 8:30 a.m.
- East Cary Middle School, near the school. Bus versus vehicle. No students were aboard. Reported this afternoon.
- Lake Wheeler Road and Carolina Pines Avenue, near the intersection. No injuries. Reported this afternoon.

Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Stoney Point Fire Chief*« Back to School with B... » Bay Leaf on Twitter and Two Fayetteville Fire Captain Receive National Honors

Stoney Point Fire Chief and Two Fayetteville Fire Captain Receive National Honors

08/27/13 272 W, 2 I - + 13 - 3

In case you missed these stories on FireNews.net and/or in the *Fayetteville Observer*, a Fire Chief and two Captains from Cumberland County were recently honored in Chicago at the Fire-Rescue International conference, and by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Fire Chief Freddy L. Johnson Sr. of the Stoney Point Volunteer Fire Department was named the 2013 Volunteer Fire Chief of the year. He's been a firefighter since 1975, and a member of SPFD since 1976. He's a retired member of the United States Army, a former Cumberland County Sheriff's Office Captain, and presently the Emergency Services Director in Hoke County. He was recognized last year by the North Carolina Association of Fire Chief's as its Volunteer Chief of the Year. [Read about Chief Johnson at FireNews.net.](#)



Fayetteville Observer photo

Captain Zahra M. Harvey of the Fayetteville Fire Department was named Fire-Rescue Magazine's Company Office of the Year, also at Fire-Rescue International in Chicago earlier this month. Captain Harvey has been a firefighter since 1996, starting as a volunteer. She joined FFD in 1997 and was promoted to Captain in 2005. [Read about Captain Harvey on FireNews.net.](#)

Captain Vince Lewis, also of the Fayetteville Fire Department, was named National Firefighter of the Year by the Veteran of Foreign Wars. He was selected as Firefighter of the Year by local VFW Post 10630 in Hope Mills. He received district and state honors before winning the national title. Capt. Lewis has been a member of FFD since 1995. Read about both Capt. Harvey and Capt. Lewis in [this Fayetteville Observer story.](#)



Fayetteville Observer photo

Robert, I believe that Erwin/Duke is a Class 4. Congrats to Chief Johnson tho he has worked for many improvements here in Cumberland county.

2406 - 08/28/13 - 23:33

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Bay Leaf on Twitter

08/28/13 113 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

The [Bay Leaf Volunteer Fire Department](#) has signed onto Twitter. Very cool. What other local fire departments are tweeting these days? And what are you tweeting about/how are you using Twitter? Also, how widely are you announcing your channel? Are you linked on your web site, citing in e-mail signatures, redesigning printed collateral, etc.? Here's Bay Leaf's [Twitter profile page](#). Feel free to engage in optional discussion on pros and cons (or, if you prefer, value or liability) of social media or communication technology. Retroactive sneering also permitted. e.g., "the fire service doesn't need such things as e-mail."



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Tunnels to Towers 5K* < [Bay Leaf on Twitter](#) > [Drive-Thru or Drive T... Run and Walk in Raleigh on Saturday, September 21](#)

Tunnels to Towers 5K Run and Walk in Raleigh on Saturday, September 21

08/28/13 507 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Press release. The Stephen Siller Tunnel To Towers Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring first responders and military service personnel, is proud to announce its national Tunnel To Towers 5K Run & Walk series will stop at PNC Arena in Raleigh, NC on September 21, 2013. Proceeds from the Triangle area run will benefit Building America's Bravest program and help build two specially-adapted "Smart Homes" in Fayetteville, NC for military members returning home with devastating injuries.

"These technologically advanced homes are designed and built specifically for each wounded veteran's needs, thus allowing them to live in the freedom they deserve, the same freedom they served and protected for each of us," said Lisa Bender, Tunnel to Towers Foundation Assistant Regional Director. "Every day, in every community, our first responders serve, save and sacrifice on the behalf of all Triangle citizens; through honoring their heroism, the Tunnel To Towers Triangle event honors our debts to our bravest veterans."

Stephen Siller, an off-duty FDNY firefighter and father of five, was on his way to play golf with his brothers on September 11, 2001. When he heard what was happening in lower Manhattan on his scanner, he bravely turned his truck towards the terror. After getting stuck in traffic, Siller ran from the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel to the Twin Towers with 65 pounds of gear. He was last seen helping others escape. The Siller family created the Stephen Siller Tunnel To Towers Foundation to honor Stephen's legacy and follow in his footsteps by supporting families who lost loved ones on 9/11 and military members who have been seriously injured in the line of duty.

The Tunnel To Towers Run is a living, breathing memorial tribute to the memory of the heroic life and death of Stephen Siller, the 343 firefighters, and for all who perished and sacrificed their life on 9/11. The Triangle area run will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 21, at PNC Arena. Registration is now open and only \$25 per adult and \$20 per child. Special rates are available for firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMS and military personnel. Participants will receive a t-shirt and can receive other awards and prizes with greater pledge contributions. [Click to enlarge:](#)

RUN | WALK | HONOR
OUR FIRST RESPONDERS & MILITARY HEROES!

The Tunnel To Towers 5K Run & Walk
THE TRIANGLE

Saturday, September 21, 2013, 9:00 am
PNC Arena
Prizes for top finishers. Great Fundraising Incentives!

Stephen Siller
Tunnel to Towers
5K RUN & WALK
THE TRIANGLE

Register Now: T2Trun.org/TheTriangle

The Tunnel to Towers Runs across the country will benefit the Building for America's Bravest program, which is committed to building homes for amputees and our most severely wounded service members. Smart Homes are custom designed, on a case-by-case basis, specifically adapted to address each service members' individual needs. The 5K Run & Walk at PNC Arena will fund two Smart Homes to be built in

Fayetteville, NC.

For more information about the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, please visit www.TunnelToTowers.org. To register and for more information about the 5K Run & Walk at PNC Arena, please visit www.t2trun.org. For more information about Building for America's Bravest, please visit www.ourbravest.org.

Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

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/ [Textile](#)

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Drive-Thru or Drive Through?

08/28/13 42 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

That's the [WRAL headline to this story](#) about a minivan that drove into the Wendy's restaurant on New Bern Avenue in Raleigh this afternoon. No serious injuries were reported.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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

Last Night's House Fire in Apex

08/29/13 178 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Flames heavily damaged a home in Apex last night. Heavy fire was showing from the roof of 2007 Graybark Court upon arrival of firefighters. No one was home at the time of the blaze, which is believed to have started in the bedroom. The two-story, wood-frame residence with 1,560 square-feet was built in 1994. The fire was reported around 9:00 a.m. Apex (E3, E1, E4, L4, B1, C1), Fairview (E1), and Cary (E4) fire departments were among the agencies on scene. Both the [WRAL](#) and [WTVD](#) stories contain brief footage of the fire.

Is there a unique, unusual, or unconventional aspect to this story, worth noting this morning? How about... why are we (meaning me) always citing WRAL and WTVD, but rarely WNCN or News 14? Well, frankly and even though my name is Mike, those are the two news sites (TV news) that I'll browse on a regular basis. Not saying that I'm regular, mind you. Just that they're the most frequently viewed by me. Will work on doing better.



WRAL photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Raw Video of Car Fire with Citizen Commentary

08/30/13 48 W - + 6 - 3

Found via YouTube searching, a car fire video posted by Clay Stewart on October 20, 2012. Location not noted, but readers can probably ID within seconds. (Is that Falls of Neuse at Durant, with Engine 22?) Colorful citizen commentary as a bonus.

Funny how HOLLYWOOD creates questions and fear on the most basic fires and emergencies.
Otherwise, pretty good video.

Buckwheat - 08/30/13 - 10:58

Looks like the shopping center off wake forest rd near Trader joes. Filmed from burgerfi it appears.

Chris - 08/30/13 - 23:44

The video is being taken from the front of BurgerFi on Wake Forest rd. @ I-440. Should be E9 and E11.

Rescue Ranger - 08/30/13 - 23:47

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Ladder 1 > Station 16

08/31/13 124 W, 1 I - + 9 - 7

Yes, that's a ladder truck parked behind Station 16 on Lead Mine Road. Ladder 1 has been relocated for a couple weeks, while apron work is performed at Station 4. Since Station 16 is also having apron work finished, all vehicles were parked in the rear earlier this week: Engine 16, Mini 1, and Car 420, the on-shift Deputy Fire Marshal. For decades, the Lead Mine Road fire station housed a ladder company. Truck 16 was placed in service on June 8, 1979, with a 1964 GMC service ladder truck. Two years ladder, it was upgraded to an aerial ladder on September 16, 2001, a 1961 American LaFrance midmount. On August 21, 2006, the company was renamed Ladder 16. On January 6, 2009, the unit was moved to Station 17. [Read more company histories](#) (PDF).



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Video of Gorman Crossings Apartment Fire, 2011

09/01/13 168 W - + 7 - 4

You've probably figured out my pattern for these postings. Random YouTube searches on "Raleigh fire" or "Raleigh apartment fire" or such. Found this one this morning. From two years ago, the two-bagger at Gorman Crossings Apartments on July 19, 2011. [Here's our blog posting](#) about that incident, complete with forty-one comments including tactical smack. (Write a letter on that moderator, he must've been out to lunch..) Unsure why we haven't come across this video before. The fire happened as Mr. Blogger was driving to Baltimore for the Fire Expo. That's a suitable excuse. This video by Jeremy Gilchrist is 5:31, was shot from Division A, and includes citizen commentary. Anyway, expect cameras. Everyone has them and more than few people are posting to YouTube. Just read comments are your own peril. You can't un-see something once you've seen (or read) it. (That's is, Mike? The best you've got on this subject? Yes, feeling succinct this morning.) [Watch the video](#).

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](#))

Meet Wendell Fire Chief Brian Staples

09/01/13 161 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Eastern Wake News has posted a nice profile of incoming Wendell Fire Chief Brian Staples. Written by Paul A. Specht, he traces the career of Chief Staples. He his full-time fire service tenure about thirteen years ago. After selling insurance by day and volunteering with the Wendell Fire Department (see their [Facebook page](#)), he joined the Durham Fire Department. Six years later, he took a job with Wendell as a Lieutenant. He was promoted to Captain in 2008, and named interim Fire Chief in April 2013, after the retirement of longtime Fire Chief (and father-in-law) Tom Vaughn. ([See related posting](#) on Wake County's longest-serving fire chiefs.) He assumed official duties as Wendell Fire Chief on August 1. He's forty-six years old and supervises a staff of forty people (half employees, half volunteers). His department responded to 1,880 calls last year, and operates with a budget over \$1 million. [Read the entire story.](#)



News & Observer/Paul A. Specht photo

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Carolina Air Care Maintenance Vehicle

09/01/13 150 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

Saw this on Saturday, parked at their facility at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. The building is a former Wake County EMS station, built by the airport in 1997. Currently houses a pair of CAC ground units. Housed EMS 6 until late 2005. The unit was removed from airport-area service. (UNC moved into the facility in January 2006.) Six Forks EMS later installed an airport-area unit, in an airport-owned warehouse on Mt. Herman Road. After the disillusion of SFEMS in 2011, the county placed EMS 34 in service at the location. ([See related posting.](#)) The original airport-unit, EMS 6, operated at the old airport manager's house, which was located about a quarter-mile north on the right side of Airport Boulevard. Placed in service at that location in December 1990. [See more photos](#) of the CAC facility, plus a few other airport explorations.



Last Night's House Fires

09/02/13 391 W, 3 I - + 6 - 6

Early-evening thunderstorms and super awesome heavy rain brought predictable problems around Raleigh and Wake County. Flash flooding struck in all the usual places, such as Glenwood Avenue near Millbrook Road in Raleigh. The total rainfall in Capital City was just over an inch. [According to this WRAL story](#) (with numerous viewer photos), Louisburg won that bet with 2.7 inches of rain. There was one water rescue in Raleigh, in the 8500 block of Glenwood Avenue. Stranded motorist(s). Numerous lightning strikes were reported, and working fire house fires happened in Raleigh (Hinton Street), Garner (Tavernier Knoll Lane), and Fuquay-Varina (Judd Parkway).

In Fuquay-Varina this morning, an abandoned house burned on Judd Parkway behind the Walmart. The was reported just before 3:00 a.m. Fuquay-Varina, Holly Springs, and Fairview fire departments were on scene. Apex FD was also dispatched, but returned to service. Three firefighters were transported, two with heat-related injuries and one with a back injury. All injuries were minor, and all three have been released. [See this WNCN story](#). Readers can add incident details.

In Garner last night, units arrived at 1405 Tavernier Knoll Drive and found heavy fire in the attic of a one-story, wood-frame residence with 2,081 square-feet. Built in 2008. Two additional engines and three additional tankers were soon requested, so we'll call this a second-alarm equivalent. Units on scene included Garner E3, E9, E5, Tanker 7, Tanker 12, R1, B1, Fairview E2, E8, Tanker 6, Tanker 7; Fuquay-Varina E3. The fire was reported around 8:30 p.m. (correct?). No news reports have surfaced so far. Readers can add incident details.

Also last night in Raleigh, Engine 18 was dispatched to a medical call at 2505 Hinton Street around 9:10 p.m., and instead found a working house fire. Flames erupted from the attic of a two-story, wood-frame structure with 3,304 square-feet, and built in 1992. Crews made their way inside, while Ladder 1 was deployed. Once the aerial stream started, the fire was quickly contained. Units on scene included E18, E4, E17, E23, L1, L3, Sq15, Sq14, R1, B4, B5, A1, C20, C420, C401, EMS 6, EMS 22, EMS 35, D4. (Was a "normal" run card, compared to the west side-wide dispatches and detours of two hours earlier.) See [more photos](#) and a [very short video](#) from Mike Legeros.



More details on the Garner fire. Heavy fire in a loft above the garage. Heavy fire through the roof on Garner E-2's arrival(literally 1/2 mile from station), fire was contained to the loft. Resident was out of town at the time of the fire. Only units I believe you missed were Garner E-2 and Car 5. Cleveland Fire was also requested mutual aid for tanker but not exactly sure what they brought.

EngineCapt - 09/02/13 - 19:06

Fuquays house fire had a ceiling collapse and trapped three firefighters but all escaped safely and were all released with only minor injuries

W/O - 09/02/13 - 20:55

Great example of transitional attack! Trouble getting to it from interior due to renovations. They slowed it down with outside streams that didn't flow for very long at all (minute or less) and then went right back at it from the interior. The old saying that water pushes fire just doesn't cut it anymore. The faster the wet stuff hits the red stuff (whether interior or able to hit the seed of fire from exterior) the quicker the overall temps decrease. period! Different tactics from Camden Apts, better results as far as fire damage to structure. It could have easily burned the roof off and more if not slowed down. Number 1 thing at both fires, no major injuries.

namelessfornow - 09/02/13 - 21:01

Fairview Engine 1 also responded, but was sent to Garner station 2 for coverage. Swift Creek Tankers 2 and 6 responded. Also Holly Springs Engine 1 covered Fairview on the Garne fire.

FF8 - 09/02/13 - 23:22

I think E18's call was dispatched as an electrocution, then changed to house fire, but they weren't told about the update until they pulled up! Nice surprise there.

listener - 09/04/13 - 09:55

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Bystanders Rescue Wilson's Mills Police Officer From Burning Car

09/03/13 101 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

[Here's a nice story](#) from WRAL about a group of people who rescued a Wilson's Mills police officer late Sunday morning. They came upon his patrol car in a ditch on Wilson's Mills Road about 11:00 a.m. [As shown in this cellphone video](#), smoke was coming from under the hood. Flames were reportedly spotted under the car, as the growing group of people worked to pry the car door open. They removed the dazed officer, who suffered no serious injuries, and was recovering at home on Monday.



Kathy Hoffman/WRAL photo

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'?

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

Wendell and New Hope's New Tankers

09/05/13 95 W, 2 I - + 5 - 1

Photographer Lee Wilson this week photographed two of the new tankers recently delivered in Wake County. The 2013 International/KME tankers-with-pumps (500/2000) were delivered to Bay Leaf, New Hope, ~~Wake Forest~~, and Wendell fire departments. A fourth and final is awaiting delivery to Wake Forest. Wendell Tanker 117 and New Hope Tanker 10 are shown below. What apparatus are these replacing? Let's let readers report on that. Second question, for you number-ologists. How many tankers are serving in front-line service in Wake County? Twenty-some? More? [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photos

NH tanker 10 will be replacing tanker 12

Dopple - 09/08/13 - 11:01

Meet Brustus

09/05/13 168 W, 2 I - + 6 - 4

Also photographed by Lee Wilson this week is "Brustus," a five-ton M35 (?) military truck converted to a brush truck by the North Carolina Forestry Service. The truck's motor and the pump are dated circa mid-1980s. Same was received by the New Hope Fire Department in 2010, and was last [photographed by Lee](#) in November 2012. The thing's been since painted more thoroughly. [See a couple more photos.](#)

The apparatus was obtained through a program where excess military property is provided to fire department through the forestry service. Here's a [federal web site](#) about the program. (There's also this [state web site](#), which isn't just short 'n' sweet.) Recently the Apex Fire Department also received such a truck. What other departments in our area are operating such vehicles? Military conversions have a long history in Wake County, as they served as the first units and first tankers for most or maybe all of the rural-serving fire departments in our county.



Lee Wilson photos

Flickr and Twitter

09/06/13 194 W, 2 I - + 5 - 5

Been fiddling around with my Flickr site lately. New additions include...

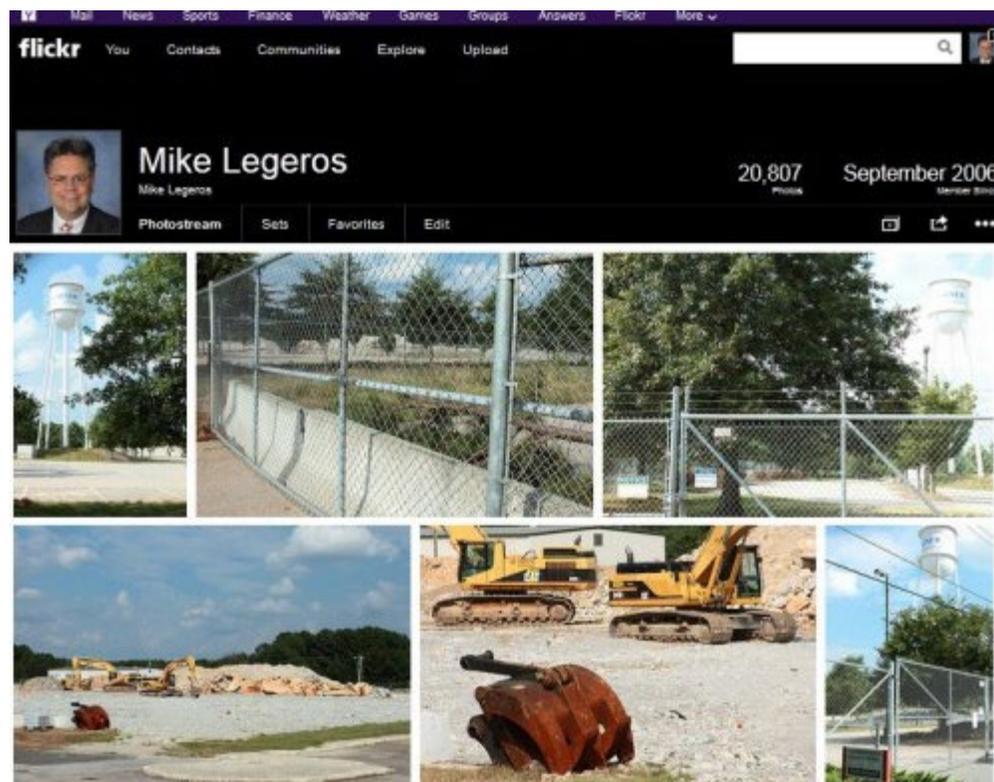
Photo sets:

- [African-American Cultural Festival](#) - Photographed on Saturday
- [Atlantic Beach trip](#) - November 2011
- [Beacon Lake](#) - December 2010
- [ConAgra Foods demolition](#) - Photographed on Monday
- [Forest City \(NC\) antique fire engine](#) - October 2009
- [Norfolk trip](#) - May 2005
- [Old Trolley Tracks on Glenwood Avenue](#) - June 2010
- [Walnut Terrace before its demolition](#) - November 2010
- [Washington DC explorations](#) - July 2011
- [Weeksville \(NC\) old naval blimp hangar](#) - May 2005

Plus one new photo collection:

- [Hidden Raleigh](#)

Watch for more additions, as am planning updated photos and explorations of these [Hidden Raleigh sites](#).



Also been busy on Twitter. Follow me, baby, it's easy! [@legeros](#)

My types of tweets are:

- Notifications of posted photos to www.legeros.com/firepics
- Notifications of blog posts to www.legeros.com/blog
- Notifications of videos posted www.youtube.com/legeros
- Other stuff, on very rare occasion. Not much of a retweeter or commenter. Have tweeted the occasional web story that I've enjoyed, or posted a real-time photo of something. Need to use the thing more.

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 1 Sep
Hinton Street house fire, scene photo, E18, E4, E17, E23, L1, L3, Sq15, Sq14, R1, B4, B5, etc. pic.twitter.com/VmoFd9QNeh
[View photo](#)

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 1 Sep
Carolina Air Care Maintenance Vehicle, Legeros Fire Blog, tinyurl.com/n6yj2ky
[Expand](#)

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 1 Sep
Meet Wendell Fire Chief Brian Staples, Legeros Fire Blog from Eastern Wake News, tinyurl.com/pjqyt22
[Expand](#)

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 1 Sep
Video of Gorman Crossings Apartment Fire, 2011, tinyurl.com/yf8pvco
[Expand](#)

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Day with the Raleigh Fire* < Flickr and Twitter > *Cloudy Versus Sunny* *Department and Raleigh Fire Museum, Saturday, Sep. 14*

Day with the Raleigh Fire Department and Raleigh Fire Museum, Saturday, Sep. 14

09/07/13 308 W - + 6 - 1

Press release. On Saturday, September 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Raleigh Fire Museum and the Raleigh Fire Department will present a "Day with the Raleigh Fire Department." This outdoor event will be held at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive in Raleigh.

This free event for the public will include tours of the Raleigh Fire Museum, which is located in a classroom building at the training center. The museum is a collection of artifacts and images representing over 150 years of firefighting in the Capitol City.

Live demonstrations of firefighting equipment will be conducted during the day, along with behind-the-scenes tours of the training center including the six-story drill tower. Fire apparatus will be displayed for exploration, and fire safety materials will be available. Learn about this year's theme for Fire Prevention Week in October: Prevent Kitchen Fires.

Visitors can also learn about careers with the Raleigh Fire Department. Applications for the position of Firefighter will be accepted in October. Free food will also be provided at this all-ages event, with hot dogs, popcorn, and sno-cones.

This event is jointly sponsored by the [City of Raleigh Fire Department](#) and the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#).

The Raleigh Fire Museum is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that works to preserve and present the history of the Raleigh Fire Department and the men and women that have served and supported the organization. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Learn more about the museum and the organization at www.raleighfiremuseum.org.

For more information on "A Day with the Raleigh Fire Department", please contact Asst. Fire Marshal Tim Henshaw at 919-996-6392. View this press release at <http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org/news/2013-09-07.html>.

Hope to see you all there.

trh - 09/12/13 - 22:16

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Cloudy Versus Sunny

09/07/13 81 W, 2 I - + 7 - 4

Morrisville's Rescue 1 as photographed at Station 2, under partly cloudy (top) and sunny (bottom) skies. Makes all the difference in the world. And explains why some of our well-known expert apparatus photographs (cough, cough, Lee Wilson) decline to shoot apparatus until cloudy conditions pass. These were shot with a Canon 7D with 100 ISO in RAW format. Auto white balance, standard picture setting, and only sharpness added.



Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Big Media Equals Big Drives

09/08/13 351 W - + 7 - 3

Major media upgrade at Blog Central this week. Converting my four-drive media storage system to a single drive. I've always used a second disk drive for storing my media, e.g. my digital camera files, my historical photo scans, and such. One drive for the computer's operating system and applications files, and a second for my media. Way back when, that second drive was external. Some years later, moved to an internal drive. Then added a second internal drive. Then a third. So far?

Earlier this year, I bought a new Dell desktop computer. Also upgraded from Windows XP to Windows 7 Pro. At the time of upgrade, my drives consisted of one (system) and three (media). Two were mounted internally, and two were mounted externally using hard drive docking stations. Total storage for media was around 2.5 TB. With the new Dell, three of those were mounted internally. Bought another 1TB drive, and moved a mess of files around. They totaled maybe 3 TB, with total storage available of 3.5 TB or so. Still with me?

This weekend, we changed the system again. Merged the content from those four (!) media drives into a single 4 TB drive. My drives now consist of one (system) and one (media). Next, we'll be adding a second 4 TB drive. Again internal, but as a mirror of the media drive using the RAID capabilities in Windows 7 Pro. This will result in two drives with identical data, and a grand redundancy in the event of hard drive failure. For further protection, a third 4 TB drive will be connected via docking station. This will be a periodic manual copy of the media drive, which will be stored off-site.

And we'll do the same thing with the system drive, using another 1 TB drive and cloning (versus copying) the system drive. That way, if the system drive fails, the cloned copy is inserted and all the programs and application data is already there. Haven't deciding upon the software for that function just that. Will also make that copy on a periodic basis, and store off-site.

Isn't technology great?

Suddenly, all pocket protectors within sight of this blog are at attention! So whats after a terabyte?

Napster - 09/09/13 - 00:16

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Wake County Fire Department News - September 8, 2013

09/08/13 354 W - + 6 - 2

Apex FD has started a [Flickr site](#), and are experimenting with posting photos to same. Any other fire departments using Flickr around here?

Bay Leaf FD is nearly finished with their new Station 1. They'll have an open house on October 20 at 2:00 p.m. They also placed a full-time crew in service at Station 1 on September 3.

Also noted in a [prior posting](#), Bay Leaf FD has started using Twitter. Their handle is @BayLeafVFD.

Durham Highway FD's annual Public Safety Day is Saturday, September 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. See [Facebook page](#).

Eastern Wake FD has hired David Cates as their new Fire Chief. He's a veteran fire service instructor and Fire Chief at Western Wake FD. He announced his resignation last week.

Knightdale FD is hiring for firefighters. [The job opening](#) was posted on September 3.

Morrisville FD has moved their new rescue truck to Station 2. The 2013 Spartan MetroStar/Rescue 1 was delivered in June. It's staffed with two people.

Raleigh FD will begin hiring next month for their next recruit academy. Applications will be accepted during the month of October. Watch their [recruitment site](#).

The Raleigh FD and the Raleigh Fire Museum are hosting a "Day with the Raleigh Fire Department" at the training center on Saturday, September 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Read that press release](#).

Also on Saturday, September 14, [Raleigh Fire Explorer Post 108](#) will hold their banquet dinner and fireground simulation. The event starts at 6:00 p.m.

The Raleigh FD also recently (or a bit longer ago) redesigned [their web site](#). Really nice collection of information about the department's services and its organization.

Stony Hill FD has their annual open house on Sunday, September 29, at Station 1. The event is from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wake Tech Community College will hold a 9/11 commemoration in Room 1425 on the Public Safety Education Campus on Wednesday, September 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. See [this web site](#).

Wendell FD is one of four Wake County fire departments receiving 2013 International/KME tankers, along with Bay Leaf, New Hope, and Wake Forest. See this [prior posting](#).

Mo'ville is also beginning the process of purchasing a new quint for station 1. The money was in this years budget.

Lozinsky - 09/08/13 - 21:41

Stony Hill FD has their annual open house this month. It's on Sunday, September 29, at Station 1. From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

LJM - 09/09/13 - 09:58

Cary FD has ordered a Pierce Velocity to replace Engine 4. It will feature a low hose bed. They have also ordered a new Rescue truck to replace Rescue 7. It will be the same as the current Rescue 2 and 4.

Design plans for the new Station 2 located on E. Chatham at Reedy Creek are in their final approval stages. Land acquisition for a new station to be located on Walnut Street near US 1 are ongoing.

The recently published *Boston Globe* article "Plenty of firefighters, but where are the fires?" opens with:

Is there such a thing as too many heroes?

Walking past a neighborhood fire station can be one of the most deeply reassuring experiences of city life—a reminder that there are people in our midst ready to pull on their helmets and stride into danger whenever and where something goes wrong.

But as a [recent Globe story](#) reported, city records show that major fires are becoming vanishingly rare. In 1975, there were 417 of them. Last year, there were 40. That's a decline of more than 90 percent. A city that was once a tinderbox of wooden houses has become—thanks to better building codes, automatic sprinkler systems, and more careful behavior—a much less vulnerable place.

[Read entire story.](#)

Dave Statter at Statter911 responded with "How Do You Fight The Concept of 'Too Many Heroes?'" His posting opens with:

As we know, the economists and statisticians over the last decade have been presenting a different view of firefighting that has been embraced by a lot of jurisdictions across the country. The findings of the academics are often pushed forward by those who believe in smaller government and/or large reductions in the taxes we pay.

For some departments it has meant a reinvention into what this article by Leon Neyfakh in the Ideas section of The Boston Globe calls "all-purpose urban response squads". Other departments have been able to mostly hold the line and continue in the roles defined by the long tradition of firefighting. But many of those are doing so with a lot fewer firefighters and resources.

Whether we like anything in this article or not, it is the reality of the 21st Century and a force that most departments have dealt with or are dealing with in some form or another. Being prepared to address all of these issues is a crucial role of labor leaders and the modern fire chief, whether career or volunteer.

[Read entire post.](#)

Legeros offers this response, posted via Facebook:

This is complicated stuff, I think, because firefighters are both (a.) everyday/every-hazard service providers, and (b.) an insurance policy for the community. The former is the most visible piece, and maybe the easiest for editorial and social commentary. So easy to just run with change-based speculation or scenarios. Change truck sizes. Change station locations. Change response types. Change staffing. Change saturation. Etcetera.

This gets further complicated, I think, by a couple truths of the fire service. First, the majority of the public doesn't really or fully understand what the fire service does, and why it's important. There isn't the priority or saturation of public education or fire service marketing that could help on this front. It's getting better though, and digital imagery and social media are vastly improving the ability of communities to "know about" their firefighters. Second, something goes here. [Hey, it's early. Got distracted by my closing paragraph.]

So it's complicated, when those outside are looking inside and with ideas of change. And yet, they're the ones with the keys to the kingdom. They're the elected officials and the taxpayers, and the people who paying for/supporting the service that they benefit from.

This all makes me think of Harry Carter's crystal ball predictions last week, <http://tinyurl.com/ng5dwkb>. He offers a vision where fire suppression operations are rare, and firefighters or the fire service is performing "full service" fire-prevention projects, public education, and property inspection. A future where even more fires are prevented, and even fewer fires are fought. Okay, maybe a really far future. (Though some countries are doing that already, no? Isn't that the ethos of the fire service in Japan?)

Yeah, I know. Change. Scary.

Change is...inevitable...except from a vending machine.

DJ - 09/09/13 - 12:30

I gotta say...I find this post interesting. Yet, as a full-time Captain in the Fire Department, I agree. However, there are a few items that we need to look at. Yep, fire related calls are down thanks to FIREFIGHTERS. Fire related deaths (civilians) are down...thanks to firefighters. Let's just break it down a bit. In the 60's, 70's, and 80's there was fire prevention but, crappy fire prevention. Years ago, they would go to schools, pop in a VHS tape, and let the kiddos watch a strange cartoon character play with matches that were BAD. But, starting in the 90's, the growing trend of concentrating on fire prevention specialists grew. Now, those kids are older and practicing what we have preached for years. That's a GREAT thing!! Take away firefighters, deal with more fires in the future. Pretty simple. Change is inevitable and in many ways are good. But, in some ways can be very very bad and I am concerned. The future looks grim. Take away your educators and the world gets dumb/ignorant. It is going to work in full circle (just my opinion). New homes are growing old and old homes are getting older as the population of this world grows bigger. I could go on. Obviously I am partial to the fire service because I see it from the inside and I have seen results from our work>

Dman ([Email](#)) - 09/09/13 - 15:36

First question: What is the definition of a "major fire"? While the number of fires is definitely down from the 70s (which is a horrible comparison, you don't compare data by looking at extreme outliers), it's possible that major fires are down because of changes in tactics and staffing. Something else that irked me about the article is that it starts by mentioning the slower houses in the department. Anyone with a basic understanding of big city politics knows that if houses close, it won't be the slow houses in affluent areas, it will be the poor urban areas that will suffer.

On another post I mentioned the need for public education, but I didn't really elaborate or articulate what I meant. To be more accurate, the fire service may someday find itself in need of the dreaded Public Relations industry. Political campaigns, PACs, and non-profits employ staffers whose job is to pitch the media on stories that they would like to see covered, and I think it wouldn't be a bad idea if every department or union in the country had someone like that as well. I'm not talking about someone who briefs reporters who show up to an emergency scene, or someone who makes up or embellishes facts, but a Communications staffer whose sole job is to push everyday for a different news outlet to cover the work the local FD is doing.

For example, if a FD responds to a kitchen fire in an apartment and quickly stops it before it can spread to other rooms, that story is probably not going to get covered by the press by itself but there is still an opportunity to talk about how the fire would've been worse if the first due engine didn't exist, the homeowners can talk about their possessions that were saved, etc. In other words, if the public only hears about the FD when an entire apartment building or warehouse burns down, the fire service will likely face many of the same cuts that other industries have faced recently.

Public Affairs Officers already do some of this work, but in this political climate and with all of the resources that social media provides, a lot more could be done.

Chris - 09/09/13 - 17:08

Fire Prevention saves lives. Firefighting VERY RARELY does. Mitigation is the key. I believe it truly starts with Performance Based Fire Codes: [http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/..](http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/) . Education and residential sprinklers are certainly necessary efforts, but many firefighters are comfortable with what they are initially introduced to... firefighting; therefore the minimized "mitigative" advocacy is culturally developed from an early age in our culture.

A.C. Rich - 09/09/13 - 19:03

...and I add... the public is certainly more aware and knowledgeable of our activities than we think. We need to "re-imagine" ourselves and our approaches often as change and public perception go hand-in-hand and is inevitable.

A.C. Rich - 09/09/13 - 19:14

Wake Tech Public Safety Special Event, Wednesday, Sep 11

09/10/13 56 W, 1 I - + 6 - 1

Wake Tech Community College is holding a special event on Wednesday, September 11, to celebrate fifty years of their public safety education programs. The event will be held at the Public Safety Education Campus at 321 Chapanoke Road in Raleigh, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

UPDATED: Upcoming Events - September/October

09/19/13 358 W - + 4 - 7

Saturday, Sep. 14

- Day with Raleigh Fire Department (and Raleigh Fire Museum), Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Read that press release.](#)

Friday, Sep. 20

- Greater Raleigh Chamber/ Wells Fargo First Responders Appreciation Breakfast, Raleigh Marriott City Center, 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. [See web site.](#)
- Tunnels to Towers "Never Forget 9/11 Mobile Exhibit", PNC Arena, Raleigh, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. [News & Observer story.](#)

Saturday, Sep. 21

- Durham Highway Fire Department Public Safety Day, Leesville Road High School, 8409 Leesville Road, Raleigh, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Facebook page.](#)
- Tunnels to Towers 5K Run and Walk, PNC Arena, Raleigh, 9:00 a.m. [Web site.](#)
- Tunnels to Towers "Never Forget 9/11 Mobile Exhibit", PNC Arena, Raleigh, 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. [News & Observer story.](#)

Saturday, Sep. 28

- Bailey Fire Department 65th Anniversary Celebration, includes open house from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and firefighter games. Bailey, NC. [Facebook page.](#)
- Hopkins Fire Department Community Day, 8933 Fowler Rd, Zebulon, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. [Facebook page.](#)
- Warren County Fireman's Day including attempt at breaking world's record for longest fire truck parade. Warrenton, NC. Parade starts at 11:00 p.m. Fireman's games follow. [Facebook page.](#)

Sunday, Sep. 29

- Stony Hill Fire Department open house, Station 1, 7045 Stony Hill Road, Wake Forest, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 5

- Garner Fireman's Day, Garner Fire Station 1, 503 W. Main Street. 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. [See web site.](#)
- Morrisville Fire Safety Day, Park West Village Target, Bristol Creek Drive, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8

- Zebulon Night Out, Zebulon Municipal Complex, Arendell Avenue, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

- Creedmoor Fireman's Day, Main Street parade at 2:30 p.m., Brunswick Stew Dinner following parade at South Granville High School. [See web site.](#)
- Fuquay-Varina Fire Department Open House, Station 1, 301 S. Fuquay Avenue, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. [See web site.](#)
- Parkwood Fire Department Barbecue Cookoff, Station 1, 1409 Seaton Road, Durham, 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. [See web site.](#)

Friday, October 18

- Brogden Fire Department (Johnson County), barbecue and bake sale.

Sunday, October 20

- Bay Leaf Fire Department Station 1 grand opening, 11713 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, 2:00 p.m.

Hopkins is having a community day, according to Facebook anyway. Sept 28th, 11-3.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/155695301294754/>

PJ - 09/10/13 - 11:17

Fuquay open house info. <http://www.fuquay-varina.org/departments..>

fvfd - 09/20/13 - 13:46

Township Seven Fire and Rescue in New Bern is having its Open House on October 20th at the main fire house on old cherry point road

township 7 - 09/22/13 - 14:17

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'?

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Wilmington Firefighters Memorial Dedication, Wednesday, September 11

09/10/13 153 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

The Wilmington Firefighters Memorial will be dedicated tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. The memorial is located at Station 2, at 3403 Park Avenue at Empie Park. The station opened last year on the site of a former fire station. The memorial has been constructed to honor the seven city firefighters who have died in the line of duty, and the 343 firefighters of New York City who perished on September 11, 2001. Its centerpiece is a steel artifact recovered from the rubble of the World Trade Center. Firefighters have been working around the clock, getting the site ready for tomorrow. The project still needs money. They're about \$25,000 short on the total funds required. Pavers (walkway sections inscribed with text) can still be purchased on the [memorial web site](#). Or see their [Facebook page](#) for the latest updates and photos. Here's an artist's rendering of the site:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Vehicle Versus Building on Charles Drive

09/10/13 40 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

This happened around corner from Blog Central on Monday. Sport-utility vehicle versus apartment building on Charles Drive. Engine 16 responded. No injuries. Scene tape deployed. [See more photos.](#)



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.

Update on Bay Leaf Station 1

09/11/13 280 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

The Bay Leaf Fire Department is occupying their new Station 1 this week. Either today or tomorrow at the latest. Several punch list items remain to be completed over the next few weeks, including removal of the temporary facilities behind the station. Plus grading and adding concrete to the rear of the project. The grand opening is Sunday, October 20, at 2:00 p.m.

The two-story facility is fully sprinklered.¹ The 16,407 square-foot includes administrative staff offices (Fire Chief, part-time Administrative Assistant, shift Captains), four bedrooms (with three beds per room), exercise room, conference room, training/community room, day room, kitchen, IT room, decon room, radio room, and a maintenance shop. There are seven apparatus bays, and built-in training props.

On September 3, the fire department transitioned to a new staffing plan. They now have a twenty-hour crew of three at Station 1, with a part-time member on weekdays and volunteer duty-crew members on weeknights and weekends. Station 2 is staffed with a four-person career crew from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Weeknights and weekends are still staffed with a volunteer duty-crew. Station 3 is a volunteer station with no staffing. The new staffing plan utilized the same number of employees, with no new positions.

Station 1 was previously staffed with three daytime career crews including one twenty-four position. Lee Wilson swing by the station last week and took this photo. See more shots. Thanks to Bay Leaf Fire Chief Tim Pope for the information. Looking forward to a tour!



Lee Wilson photo

¹The two-story fire station is still a rarity in our area. Apex #3. Bay Leaf #1. Holly Springs #1. Raleigh #1, #3, #6. Others? And how many firehouses also have sprinklers these days?

Nice looking station. Just wondering since the district is big and the dept has a large apparatus fleet, what is the practicality of keeping station 3 and it's equipment roster?

charlie - 09/11/13 - 13:02

Isn't Cary sta 8 going to be 2 stories?

Garner station 2 is 2 stories, so is Fairview sta 1 and Bay Leaf stas 2&3

Mike - 09/11/13 - 14:07

Congratulations to my friends "across the river!!" This station is LONG overdue and a much needed addition to the community.

A.C. Rich - 09/11/13 - 15:34

Durham Highway Station 1 is 2 Story

DHFD 16 House - 09/11/13 - 19:58

Cary station 8 is 2 stories and has been open for a few months. The new Station 2 in Cary will also be 2 stories.

Robert - 09/13/13 - 16:44

Swift Creek is 2 stories as well. At least I think I remember attending class in an upstairs portion.

Cary Firehouses 1 and 7 have rooms on a second level for storage and/or projects.

shevais - 09/14/13 - 10:41

Well then Raleigh #23 could be considered 2-story as well.

Rescue Ranger - 09/14/13 - 22:15

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.

Today is September 11

09/11/13 10 W - + 6 - 2

Share your reflections as desired.

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.

You Might Be Having a Bad Day...

09/12/13 85 W, 2 I - + 5 - 3

...if you see this approaching your front door. That's an armored vehicle operated by the Wake County Sheriff's Department. Built by Lenco and probably of recent model year. Was displayed at the Wake Tech Public Safety Campus on Wednesday, September 11. It and other local emergency vehicles were displayed as part of an event celebrating fifty years of the school's public safety training. [See more photos.](#)



Now that's bad a\$\$.

Buckwheat - 09/13/13 - 10:56

Here's Fayetteville PD's Bearcat: <http://i.imgur.com/IYEmsCv.jpg>

Frick - 09/13/13 - 12:01

Wohoo! City Directories Available Online!

09/13/13 475 W, 3 I - + 5 - 0

One of the best resources for historical research is [now available online](#). A century's worth of the state's city directories have been digitized and made available from the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center (NCDHC). The collection features 939 directories from 108 cities in 64 counties, from 1860 to 1963.

What are city directories? These were hardcover books that listed every resident of a city, including their address, phone number, spouse's name, *and* occupation. They also listed businesses, as well as aspects of the local government. Such as the fire station locations, and even the company officer's name. [See this posting](#) showing some directory pages from Raleigh, from early decades.

There was also a street index, that listed the residences or business at each address, along with cross streets. Thus allowing a reverse search of "who lived" or "what was located" at a particular address or on a particular street, during a particular timeframe. ([See this posting](#) about using same to learn when a business moved after a fire.)

They also contained "yellow page" style business listings, which in more recent decades, contained such categories as "ambulance services" (see [this posting](#)) and "fire departments." (Old phone books are an equally good source in this regard. Unsure if they're archived online. [Here's a posting](#) about that.)

I've used the Raleigh directories in ways as simple as verifying that someone was a member of the fire department. Such as when finding a new name in a historical roster. I'll check the directories over several years, as a way to approximate when the person was listed with a career of "city firefighter." Not an exact science, mind you, but still helpful.

These digital archives will take some getting used to. The research process isn't as speedy as, say, having a shelf of the physical books to rapidly look through. But a physical trip to a local library is no longer required. That's the *huge* benefit, as collections of city directories are typically only found in a local library. Want to research Wilmington. Then travel to Wilmington. (The big universities may have multi-city collections, however. That's probably how the digital collection was created.)

My best advice for commencing usage? Download and store the PDF versions to your local computer. Rinse and repeat for every year that you want, and for each city that you want. Then access from your computer. Way faster.

Below are some examples of these directories. See if you can guess the year (ha) or era for each. Top to bottom is Wilmington, Charlotte, and Salisbury. Big thanks to Mrs. Blogger, who surfaced to me [the news](#) of this great new digital collection.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Chief—Martin Newman.
 Assistant Chief—John M. Cazaux.

Wilmington Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1, Foreman, W. N. Jacobs; First Assistant Foreman, C. H. White; Second Assistant Foreman, M. T. Davis; Engineer, E. G. Parmele; President, W. P. Oldham; Vice President, John L. Dudley; Secretary and Treasurer, W. C. Craft.

Howard Relief, No. 1, Foreman, H. H. Gieschen; First Assistant Foreman, J. W. Duls; Second Assistant Foreman, G. W. Rivenbark; Engineer, A. Möss; President, John G. Oldenbuttel; Vice President, M. Rathjen; Secretary and Treasurer, J. G. L. Gieschen.

Wilmington Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, Foreman, H. L. Fennell; First Assistant Foreman, Ed. Daniels; Second Assistant Foreman, J. D. Kelley; President, T. G. Pickett; Vice President, S. S. Satchwell; Secretary and Treasurer, W. H. Northrop, Jr.

Stedman Hook and Ladder Company, Foreman, J. G. Swann; First Assistant, J. Canady; Second Assistant, W. T. Watkins; President, G. W. Gafford; Vice President, M. G. Silvea; Secretary and Treasurer, Oscar Kennedy.

★ Cape Fear Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 3, Foreman, J. N. McDuffie; First Assistant Foreman, Isaac Brinkley; Second Assistant Foreman, Elias Campbell; Engineer, Parish Jones; President, George W. McGary; Secretary and Treasurer, Godfrey Willis.

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, J O	Peeler, H L Sloan, F E Motley, F C	
(Inc),	Smith and V K Hart), 6 w 7th—	
sec-	phone 3-1131	
	Charlotte Film Board of Trade, 203	
Bre-	Latta Arcade, Mrs M G Wrenn sec	
Vare-	CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT,	
18th	headquarters and Sta No 1 9 s Da-	
nston	vidson, W H Palmer chf, J H Wentz	
Wil-	and C M Griswold asst chfs; Sta No	
efield	2 S Boulevard cor Templeton; No 3	
	Belmont av cor Allen; No 4 416 w	
	5th; No 5 Tuckaseege rd cor Walnut	
	av; No 6 Vail av cor Eastover	
CON-	Charlotte Fish & Oyster Co, whol 601	
state,	w 9th, W M Lesley mngr	
h. ofc	Charlotte Franklin Co 815 e Trade. C	

Engineer Paul B Williams 2d flr 115-17 W
Fisher
**FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION NO 1 Chas L
Burkett Chief, Garland Michael Asst Chief,
Fred A Shipton Asst Chief 117 S Lee —
ME 6-2211**
Fire Department Station No 2 John H Cross
capt, W Archie Lyerly Capt 1402 S Main —
ME 3-2411
Fire Department Station No 3 Marvin L Stone
capt, Robt L Yarbrough capt 1604 W Innes
Garage Murry Michael formn 201 W Frank-
lin
Housing Authority City of Salisbury Deadrick
C Dungan executive dir ofc W 15th cor
N Fulton
**MANAGER Chas L Lineback Mgr 1st flr 115-17
W Fisher**

WATER DEPART
flr 115-17 W Fis
WATER DEPAR
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Salisbury Civitan C
pm Yadkin Hotel
Salisbury Civitan I
fore the 4th Thu
Hotel
Salisbury Cleaners
Fisher — ME 3-95
Salisbury Command
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Salisbury Crafts Inc
G Woodard v-pres
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Name: (real name
preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Grain, Grain or Ladders Last Night on Blount Street

09/14/13 144 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Ladder action on Blount Street last night at the Cargill plant. Fire in a grain dryer, extinguished by sprinkler system. Ladder 7 and Ladder ± 4 shown on the Blount Street side of the tracks. Two hydrants were also caught and supply lines charged on the street. The railroads (plural?) were notified so any trains would be halted. Dispatched at 8:45 p.m. Units on scene included E1, E3, E13, E2, L7, L2, L4, R1, Squad 14, B2, B3, A1, C20, C420, C401, EMS 1, EMS 19, D4. Some of those had been released by the time your crack fire photographer arrived and shot his first photo at 9:20 p.m. Wonder how many notable fires have happened at that location? Recall two alarms on October 24, 2002. And a fire in the silo a couple years later.



Would that be Lad 7 and Lad 4 since Lad 1 wasn't shown on the 1st alarm?

stretch - 09/14/13 - 14:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

CORRECTION: Wake County Fire Commission Meeting - September 19, 2013

09/17/13 211 W - + 7 - 4

September 17

Corrected location. This meeting will be held in the Wake County Office Building, 337 S. Salisbury Street, in Room G31.

September 15

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, September 19, 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](#).~~

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
 - Invocation
 - Roll of Members Present
- Items of Business
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes for July 18, 2013 Regular Meeting
 - Radio System Replacement Update
- Regular Agenda
 - Consider support for Recommended Amendments to Fire Protection Agreement Section 20, Standardcs of Performance
 - Consider support for Recommended General Amendents to Fire Protection Agreement
- Information Agenda
 - Apparatus Committee Update
 - Facilities Committee Update
 - Compensation Committee Update
 - Fire Training Center Update
 - Fire Tax Financial Report
 - Chair Report
 - Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
 - Comments from the public will be received at the time appointment by the Chairman of the Fire Commission for 30 minutes maximum time allotted, with a maximum of three minutes per person. A signup sheet for those who wish to speak during the public comments section of the meeting is located at the entrance of the meeting room.
- Adjournment - Next Meeting November 21, 2013.

Documents

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Firefighters as Police Against Dangerous Drivers?

09/15/13 161 W - + 8 - 1

These stories have been making the rounds, about a recent decision by the North Carolina State of Appeals, about a case involving the encounter between an erratic (and as charged later, intoxicated) driver and a Chapel Hill fire engine. The details of the incident and the subsequent case are detailed in the links below. In the larger matter of "what are the rights of firefighters, when they intervene or outright attempt to apprehend dangerous drives," FireLaw blogger Curt Varone posts a host of intrigue questions on the matter, from "does a firefighter have the legal authority to use red lights and siren to stop a civilian vehicle?" to "can a firefighter be held liable to a third party killed or injured by a dangerous driver, if had the means to stop them but failed to stop the vehicle?"

Read about the case. Discuss as desired.

- [FireRescue1.com](#)
- [FoxNews](#)
- [FireLaw](#)

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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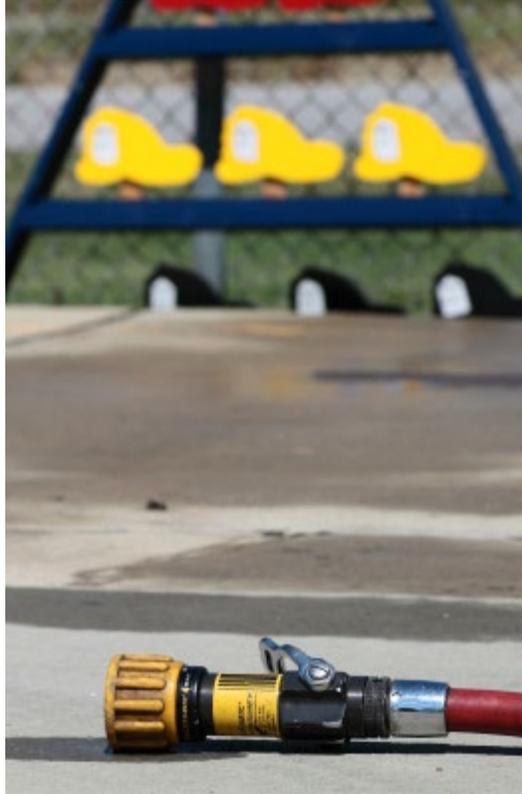
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Starting Them Young

09/15/13 105 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Scene from Saturday afternoon at the training center, where the Raleigh Fire Department and the Raleigh Fire Museum presented a "Day with the Raleigh Fire Department." The event was scheduled during the museum's regular second-Saturday-of-each-month opening. There were apparatus displays, museum tours, and activities for children. That's a booster line from Mini 2, with the always popular "knock it down" attraction. (Wetting an officer's helmet is a crucial skill to be mastered early.) Large time was had by all. Hope to hold again next year. Thanks for everyone's help. [See more photos.](#)



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

New Wheels For District 5

09/16/13 49 W, 2 I - + 6 - 4

Cary EMS has placed a new District Chief's vehicle in service. This 2013 Chevrolet/SSV was activated on Friday, September 13. The prior unit, a 2008 (?) Ford, has been placed reserve. New and old are shown top and bottom. Slight differences. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photos

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Fatal Fire Pit Explosion in Fayetteville

09/16/13 180 W - + 7 - 1

[This Fayetteville Observer story](#) has details on the fatal fire pit explosion on Saturday night. One person was killed and four people were injured when an explosion occurred at a fire pit in the driveway at 6544 St. Louis Street. The blast occurred about 8:30 p.m. and when some seven adults and ten children were sitting around the pit.

The resulting shrapnel killed an adult male, 28 years old. He was pronounced dead the scene. Three other adults and one child were transported to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries. Others also received various injuries, it appears, but were not transported. Damage to surrounding property included a Ford Taurus parked nearby that was heavily damaged.

No cause has been identified by officials, though it is believed to have been accidental. Neighbors described the explosion as sounding like an artillery blast from Fort Bragg. See also [this second Observer story](#). Next question, what are fire pits, how do they work, and how dangerous are they? Perhaps one of our readers will tackle that one.

Mike, fire pits can be purchased at most home improvement stores or garden shops. Originally most were metal round tubs about 4 or 5 feet across with short legs and a wire mesh dome that fits on the top. They were used to burn wood in , out in the yard or on your patio on cool nights giving you that campfire effect folks could sit around but in a safer more controlled manner. Several years ago stores started selling fire pits that were fueled by LP gas, same purpose, just less work and I guess safer in some ways especially when used on wooded decks or during dry outdoor conditions, LP gas also allowed the makers to introduce various designs that would not be possible with burning wood. We've had a wood burning one for years they are very popular up here in the mountains were the nights are already getting cool. I've never heard of an incident up here involving a fire pit .

Galax,Va - 09/16/13 - 10:57

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.

Naval District Washington Fire Department

09/17/13 155 W, 2 I - + 5 - 2

Here are a couple Associated Press (AP) photos from yesterday's active shooter incident at the Navy Yard in the District of Columbia, and showing the multitude of apparatus and emergency vehicles that were likely there. The top-shot is particularly well-composed. The ladder truck and engine are from the Naval District Washington Fire Department. According to this [Federal Fire Departments blog post](#), the Central Division of the NDWFD has three firehouses: Station 1 at Bolling AFB (E41, T21), Station 2 at Washington Navy Yard (E42), and Station 3 at Naval Research Laboratory (E43, HM43). Other units in the photo include a mobile ambulance bus, ~~which may be from Arlington County, VA:~~ from DCFD. There's also a Metropolitan Police armored vehicle, with an interesting roof-rack or assembly. What's that for, second-story rapid entry? (See [this Flickr image](#) of the unit from Mike Cole.) We'll look for a run card for the incident.



AP photos

It's a MARS (Mobile Adjustable Ramp System) setup. Made by a company called Patriot3. As you guessed it's used for elevated entry; there's 2 ramps which can go to different heights.

<http://www.hendonpub.com/assets/articles..>

Paul - 09/17/13 - 09:40

If only police units within 5 miles responded, you'd still have a dozen agencies on scene. There are TONS of alphabet-soup small police

agencies in DC.

rfburns - 09/17/13 - 21:05

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Your Morning Hot Shot

09/18/13 88 W, 1 I - + 5 - 1

As posted to FireNews.net , that's a strong image from Bob Bartosz of what's left of a tractor-trailer near mile marker 144 on Interstate 95 on Friday. Red Oak and Battleboro fire departments responded. Interstate highways can make for some good shooting, though scene safety and situational awareness are mandatory. Timing is also crucial as getting there can be no small feat. Once traffic starts backing up, you're often, well, hosed. [See more photos](#) and read more about the incident.



Bob Bartosz/FireNews.net photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Seaside Heights Boardwalk Fire Footage, 1955

09/18/13 130 W - + 5 - 4

This video was [surfaced last week by Statter911](#). Compare this film footage with what you watched of last week's Seaside Heights fire. What a difference a half-century makes, and, yet, doesn't. Wind looks stronger, or much stronger. What's that, gale force at times? (Yes, they were 50 mph winds!) Minimal fire apparatus and what looks like a handful of hose streams. Curious camera operation. The thing never stops moving! [This NBC10 story](#) recounts the blaze of June 9, 1955. The fire destroyed three blocks of the Seaside Heights boardwalk. Eighty-five buildings were lost and with an estimated \$4 million in damages. Here are some more links about the fire from the [Seaside Heights Volunteer Fire Company Museum](#). (And a neat site itself!) Google for more historical perspectives.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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USFA Firefighter Fatality Report For 2012

09/19/13 276 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

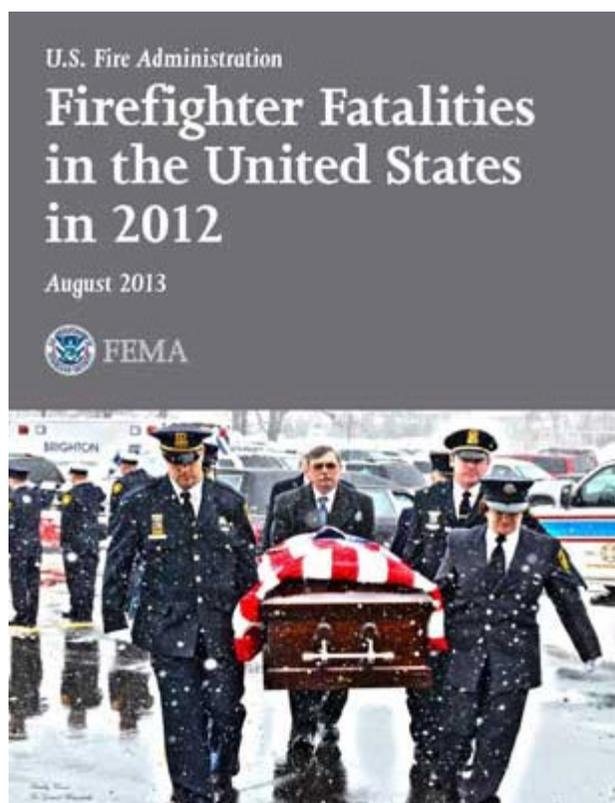
The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has released their 2012 annual report on firefighter fatalities. Some stats that they note:

- Includes 42 volunteer, 28 career, and 11 wildland agency firefighters.
- Four multiple firefighter fatality incidents claiming a total of ten firefighters.
- Fifteen firefighters died in duties associated with wildland fires.
- Emergency incident activities resulted in the deaths of 45 firefighters.
- Twenty-two firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.
- Seventeen firefighters died while responding to or returning from 16 emergency incidents.
- Eighteen firefighters died as the result of 14 vehicle crashes, including POV, apparatus, and air crashes.
- Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death with 39 firefighter deaths.
- Eight firefighters died while they were engaged in training activities.
- Twelve firefighters died after the conclusion of their on-duty activity.

Nine of last year's firefighter fatalities in the report were from North Carolina, which tied with Pennsylvania as the highest in the country:

- Jan. 8 - Samuel Butler Sr, Fire Chief, age 52, Evans Crossroads FD, MVA
- Jun. 10 - Donald L. Suggs, Asst. Chief, age 55, Summerville Bunnlevel FD, cardiac
- Jul. 1 - Paul K. Mikeal, Lt. Col./Pilot, age 42, NC ANG, air crash
- Jul. 1 - Joseph M. McCormick, Major/Pilot, age 36, NC ANG, air crash
- Jul. 1 - Ryan S. David, Major/Navigator, age 35, NC ANG, air crash
- Jul. 1 - Robert S. Cannon, Sr. Master Sgt./Flight Engineer, age 50, NC ANG, air crash
- Nov. 3 - John M. Hall, Deputy Fire Chief, age 48, Clarkton FD, cardiac
- Nov. 5 - David M. Tatum, Lieutenant, age 55, White Oak FD, illness
- Nov. 6 - Walter M. Summerville III, Fire Chief, age 55, Kernersville FD, cardiac

[Read the report.](#)



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

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Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Future of This Blog (Platform)?

09/20/13 221 W - + 6 - 2

Any web heads here? I'd love some input on the future of this blog's platform. That is, the software that runs the thing. Presently, I'm using Pivot 1.40.5 or something. Prior version of Pivot X. Way old. Manual everything. Stores as flat files. Thousands of entries dating to 2009. It's a bit fugly, and certainly lacks such useful bells and whistles as tag clouds, Facebook integration, and SQL storage. The time is ripe for an upgrade or a replacement. Here some options I'm considering:

- Upgrade to Pivot X, which requires SQL, and which is still manual-everything. But, get this, Pivot X is no longer being developed. That team's doing something now called Bolt.
- Skip Pivot X and investigate Bolt.
- Switch to Wordpress, which everyone seems to love. Manual installation again, but way more automated in operation. Lots of great features there.
- Consider the Fire/EMS blogs platform/system/site, if they'd have me. Their IT does the heavy lifting. But would have to have ads.

Second question in here:

- You like starting fresh, with no imports of old content? Just link to the old site and let those old entries remain live?
- Or import everything (if it can be done), and kill the old blog.

Meet the new blog, same as the old blog.

Thanks for any perspectives.

DISCLAIMER: I'm not really an expert. I do, however, know enough to be dangerous.

I'd vote for Wordpress in that setup isn't a big deal, depending on your web host. I've been getting my fingers into Wordpress, and the community has tons of support. I think you'd be able to set up a new site/blog AND be able to keep your legacy site. That might be the most pragmatic course to take, but of course it would be cool to import your old posts. Not sure if the effort would be worthwhile.

Not familiar with Bolt. Fire/EMS blogs is an interesting idea.

You're welcome to PM me if you want to bounce more ideas around.

jcollins ([Web Site](#)) - 09/27/13 - 13:02

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

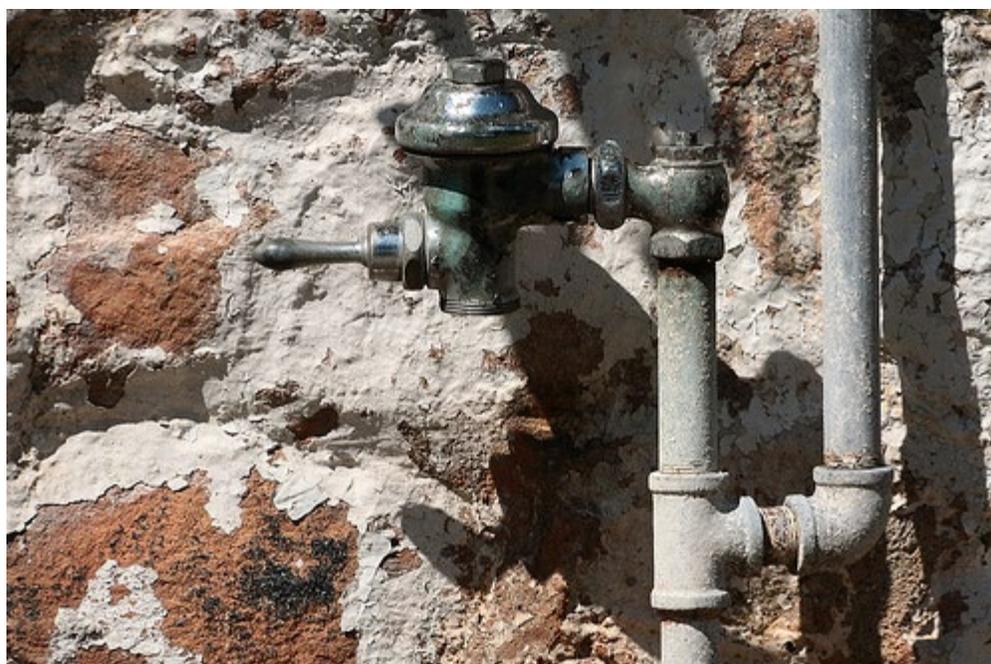
No

/ [Textile](#)

Re-Uncovering Hidden Raleigh

09/20/13 129 W, 3 I - + 6 - 3

About a decade ago, Yours Truly commenced an exploration of interesting things around town. Notably these were buildings or structures or infrastructure of historical nature. Some things still standing, some things long-gone. The pictures and maps and notes were posted to a site called [Hidden Raleigh](#). And nothing much more was done. Fast-forward to present day (catch your breath, please), and Photo Boy is back on assignments. Urban exploration of the Capitol City has resumed, and the results are being posted to [this Flickr collection](#). (Disclaimer: Said project is subject to cessation at any time. The perils of juggled hobbies.) See if you recognize these three places:





Top – Lassiter Mill? Middle – flush valve of a toilet somewhere. Bottom – old railroad trestle next to Hargett st.?

Rescue Ranger - 09/21/13 - 23:03

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Chamber Names Raleigh Officer "Hero of the Year"

09/22/13 170 W - + 6 - 3

Here's a [News & Observer story](#) about yesterday's Greater Raleigh Chamber/Wells Fargo 2013 [First Responders Appreciation Breakfast](#), during which members from Wake County fire, EMS, law enforcement, and emergency communications agencies were honored. Raleigh Police Department Officer Mike M. Harmon was honored as Hero of the Year. He was wounded last year when he encountered an armed murder suspect in Northwest Raleigh. The ceremony was held at the Marriott City Center. The guest speaker was Raleigh Fire Chief John McGrath. See also this [News 14 story](#). Here's what should be a full list of those that were honored:

Outstanding Service Awards

- Captain S. Scott White (Raleigh FD)
- Senior Officer Mike M. Harmon (Raleigh PD)
- Deputy Anthony Locklear, Deputy Jim Martin (Wake County SO)
- Christopher Walker, Mark Andrews, Andy Hill (Wake County EMS)
- Trooper Joshua Cockerham (NC SHP, Troop C, District III)

Hero of the Year

- Senior Officer Mike M. Harmon (Raleigh PD)

Friends of First Responders

- Barry Doyle, Barry's Cafe

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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Garner Places Fifth Staffed Company in Service

09/22/13 32 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

From the Garner Fire Department's [Twitter feed](#), they've placed their fifth staffed company in service today with Rescue 1:



Garner Fire-Rescue
@GarnerFire



Garner Fire puts 5th staffed company in service tomorrow. #rescue1
pic.twitter.com/JJWhDJLMx

Reply Retweet Favorite More



6
RETWEETS

2
FAVORITES



8:17 PM - 21 Sep 13

Flag media

Congratulations to Garner on getting another company in service! It is always great news to see any department increasing their service delivery capabilities.

I could be wrong, but isn't Garner the only department besides Raleigh and Cary to have a staffed rescue? I know that several departments have cross-staffed units like we do at AFD, where the ladder crew swaps to the rescue as needed, and some also have engine/rescue combinations (AFD/RFD/KFD); I am talking about a dedicated rescue.

Bob P. - 09/23/13 - 13:47

For those that may ask about staffing. It has a 3 person crew assigned to it (Capt, Lt and a FF), with minimum staffing being 2 people. This crew will also cross staff our ladder truck.

Mike - 09/23/13 - 14:21

Thanks for the information Mike. Cross-staffing is better than no staffing!

I think Mo'ville has a staffed rescue now too...

Bob P. - 09/23/13 - 17:20

Bob our guys will actually be doing the opposite of Apex. For the most part they will staff the rescue and then only swap to the ladder for certain incidents.

Wake Forest has a staffed ladder with 4 I believe.

Mike - 09/24/13 - 00:05

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.

Schedule for Saturday in Warrenton

09/23/13 210 W - + 5 - 4

There's a heck of an apparatus parade planned on Saturday in Warren County. For the occasion of the thirtieth annual Fireman's Day, they'll attempt to break the world's record for longest fire engine parade. They'll need over 220 pieces of apparatus to make a new record. The estimated ninety minute parade will start at the fire station in Warrenton and continue for two miles north on Main Street/Warren Plains Road. The Grand Marshal will be North Carolina Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Wayne Goodwin. The parade will be followed by a firefighter competition at the Warren County Recreational Complex. Read more in this [FireNews.net story](#), which includes contact information. There's still time to enter! Here's the schedule for Saturday. Look for Mr. Blogger and maybe Mrs. Blogger there.

- 07:30 – Staging Area Opens (Warren County Armory)
- 07:30 – Apparatus Judging Registration (Mariam Boyd School)
- 07:30 – Breakfast available by Chick-Fil-A (Warrenton Rural VFD)
- 08:00 – Apparatus Judging Begins (Mariam Boyd School)
- 10:30 – Drivers Meeting (Warren County Armory)
- 10:45 – Apparatus Move-Up from Staging Area to Parade Starting Line
- 11:00 – Parade Starts. Guinness World Record attempt.
- 12:45 – Competition Team Captains Meeting (Warren County Recreation Complex)
- 13:00 – Firefighter Competition (Warren County Recreation Complex)
- 17:00 – Awards Ceremony after completion of competition

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

Remember personal info?

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No

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Eastern Wake's New Fire Chief

09/24/13 244 W, 1 I - + 5 - 7

David L. Cates has been appointed as the new Fire Chief/Administrator of Eastern Wake Fire Rescue. He took office on August 1. Chief Cates is a veteran firefighter and longtime fire instructor. He entered the fire service in October 1987, as a volunteer of the Parkwood Fire Department in Durham County. He served for almost fifteen years, as a volunteer, resident volunteer, part-time firefighter, and Board member. He held ranks including Captain and Training Captain. His first "real job" was selling ambulances and fire engines with Emergency Apparatus Inc. from 1990 to 1993.

He became certified as a fire instructor in 1993, with course instructor Greg Grayson. He was hired as a curriculum instructor at Wilson Community College in 1994. Cates worked as an instructor until 2013. During that time he completed the Masters Degree program from Oklahoma State University, with a Masters in Political Science with specialization in Fire and Emergency Services Administrator. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from North Carolina State University. Go Pack.

Cates moved to Wake County in 2002, and started volunteering at Western Wake Fire Rescue in October 2002. He was appointed Assistant Chief in early 2005, and as Fire Chief in January 2007. During that period he has served on the Wake County Fire Commission. Chief Cates is forty-six years old. He's married and has three children, all boys. He affectionately calls them his Chief and his engine company.



Lee Wilson photo

Congratulations to Chief Cates and EWFD!

A.C. Rich - 09/25/13 - 10:31

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Bali Hai Burns on Wake Forest Road

09/24/13 229 W, 1 I - + 5 - 0

The beloved Asian eatery Bali Hai burned yesterday. Engine 11 was first on scene at 2414 Wake Forest Road, arriving at a one-story, wood-and-brick restaurant with 2,800 square feet. Built in 1964. Heavy smoke and fire were showing. Crews commenced an interior attack, but were withdrawn within about fifteen minutes due to deteriorating roof conditions. Ladder 2 on the B side and Ladder 4 on the C side deployed as aerial streams, along with a pair of portable monitors on the A and C sides.

Three hydrants were caught, with Engine 9 supplying Engine 11 from west side of Wake Forest Road, Engine 6 supplying Ladder 2 from Wake Forest Road and Hodges Street, and Engine 7 supplying Ladder 4 from Paula Drive. Command was located in the A/B corner of the building in the parking lot. Rehab was located in the A/B corner on Wake Forest Road. Alarm time (Call received? Call dispatched?) was 6:37 a.m. Controlled at 7:20 a.m. No injuries were reported. Cause was determined as accidental.

Wake Forest Road was closed between Creekside Drive and McNeill Street. Units on scene included E11, E9, E6, E7, L2, L4, R1, Sq15, B5, B2, A1, C20, C420, C401, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, EMS 11, D1, T1. [See more photos](#), which start about twenty-minutes into the incident. Or watch a [very short video](#) below.



This was a favorite lunch spot for much of Raleigh's public safety community. It will be missed!

Skip Kirkwood - 09/24/13 - 20:43

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Old Rex Hospital - Photo Tour

09/25/13 170 W, 5 I - + 4 - 3

Let's take a photo tour of old Rex Hospital, which is located at the corner of St. Mary's Street and Wade Avenue. Specifically, 700 Wade Avenue. Opened in 1937, moved to present location in 1980. [Read about moving day](#). Current campus is state-owned, and the buildings connect with the nursing school dormitory buildings in the back. Click to enlarge this 1949 Sanborn fire insurance map, and it's overlay with a Wake County iMaps map:



When were the two buildings joined? No idea. Presume that the southwest wing was also added while the building was still a hospital. Readers can add their memories or perhaps provided historical details. Same was explored on a Sunday afternoon, though with more wide shots than detail photos. Will return for more closer examination. [See more pictures](#). And here's a [prior posting](#), showing a postcard view from back in the day.





need to get some interior pic's!

lee - 09/26/13 - 00:34

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

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Raleigh Fire Department Hiring in October

09/26/13 60 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

The Raleigh Fire Department will be hiring in October. The application process opens October 1. Visit the [recruitment web site](#) on that date for application materials. You can also get information at any [Raleigh fire station](#) or at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive. They'll be hiring for Recruit Academy 39. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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North Wilkesboro Firefighter Killed in Wall Collapse - October 21, 1958

09/26/13 123 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

From the October 1958 issue of *Hose & Nozzle* magazine, here's a newly discovered (to me) fallen firefighter report. North Wilkesboro volunteer firefighter Roy T. Cashion was killed when the front wall of a burning hosiery mill collapsed on October 21, 1958. He died of head injuries at Wilkes County General Hospital. The Elizabeth Hosiery Mill on Highway 268 in east Wilkesboro was reported ablaze about 5:00 a.m. Cashion was the owner and operator of a service station, and also the Wilkes County Civil Defense Director. Will add this to my Fallen Firefighters Database, and forward to the state and national fallen firefighters organizations. Here's some more information about him from [Find a Grave](#). Click to enlarge:



Scene shows collapsed wall which fell on Roy Cashion and other North Wilkesboro men

North Wilkesboro Fireman Killed As Blazing Mill Wall Collapses

Wilkes County Civil Defense Director Roy Cashion was killed October 21 when the front wall of a blazing hosiery mill building fell on him.

Cashion, 37, a son of Major A. A. Dick's Cashion of North Wilkesboro, was one of a number of volunteer firemen who rushed at 2 a. m. to the Elizabeth Hosiery Mill on Highway 268 in east Wilkesboro.

The building was a mass of flames when the flames arrived.

Cashion, in front, and Assistant Fire Chief Charles Ray rushed to hose fire to the right front of the building.

Conley Call and Harold Brown, on another nozzle, were beside them.

Roof Wall Falls

Just as Ray reached the blazing structure, the entire front wall collapsed on them.

"Roy was buried," said Brown, pointing to a pile of bricks and rubble.

"My helmet was knocked off and my leg was hit, but I wasn't hurt bad. I saw another fellow lying there, so I put it on and tried to drag him out.

"Conley had a broken arm, but Charles wasn't hurt much.

"We finally got Roy out."

He was rushed to Wilkes County General Hospital, where he died at 7:21 a. m. of head injuries. His torso was clean. He never regained consciousness.

October 1958

The station was owner and operator of hosiery service station in North Wilkesboro.

The masonry building was described by Truman T. H. Walker as a complete loss.

Damage to the structure was estimated at \$25,000. No estimate of damage to mill equipment was available.

The owner of the building, John Adams, and his family, who lived in the second story, escaped partially clad, but unharmed.

No Workers On Job

Elizabeth Hosiery Mill, employing about 13 workers, has occupied the building for six months. No workers were on the job when the fire broke out.

Owner of the mill is C. T. Cullins of Winston-Salem.

Cashion is survived by his wife, the former Ardine Vanhook of North Wilkesboro, and four children, Carol, 13, Virginia, 10, Marie, 8, and Archie Cashion, 2.

Also surviving are his parents, Major and Mrs. A. A. Cashion of North Wilkesboro; four brothers, Neil Cashion of Coopers, S. C.; Paul Cashion of North Wilkesboro; Ray Cashion of Winston-Salem, and John Cashion of Fort Payne, Ala.; and one sister, Mrs. J. A. Robertson of Hickory.

The next of kin of the man who was seen in a doorway—the rest of coverage when we are in a network.



Roy Cashion

\$125,000 Damage In Pine Level Fire

Fire which started from an electric motor destroyed a seed house of the Pine Level (N. C.) Cotton (M. Mill) Co. October 1, causing damage estimated at \$125,000.

Pine Level Fire Chief Chester Wilkins said it was the worst fire in Pine Level in 38 years. His forces were assisted by departments from Selma, Southfield and Rockledge.

Doc Rand Oliver, president of the company, said the loss was covered by insurance. The building contained about 1,500 tons of cotton seed stored for processing.

13

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

/ [Textile](#)

Thieves Strike Conetoe Fire Department in Edgecombe County

09/27/13 141 W - + 5 - 0

From a reader, here's a [FireNews.net story](#) about a theft of equipment from the Conetoe Fire Department in Edgecombe County. Thieves struck the department twice earlier this week. The robbers apparently left in a truck, or a car pulling a trailer. Among the items stolen were:

- 1 Hurst Hydraulic Power unit Honda Motor Dual control
- 2 Hurst Hydraulic Chrome hose reels with 100' each hose
- 1 K-12 Power Saw
- 1 Saw Field Kit
- 1 Orange box light
- 1 Partner Chain saw for Roof Ventilations
- 1 RED 5 gallon Gas can
- 2 Pairs of Bolt Cutters

The Conetoe Volunteer Fire Department is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Edgecombe County Sheriff's office at 252-641-7911. See also this [Rocky Mount Telegram story](#). Thanks, Bob!

What lowlifes! I wish I had info. I don't even want any reward, just the opportunity to give them a beat-down before the law gets them.

Bob - 09/27/13 - 15:02

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

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No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Video Tour of Durham Fire Station 2

09/28/13 48 W - + 7 - 5

Posted on YouTube this week, here's a nifty educational video from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. Forensics (!) instructors Candice Chambers and Amy Garrett take a tour of Station 2 in Durham, with Firefighter Mike Shaffer as their tour guide.

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.

See You in Warrenton

09/28/13 27 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

World's record attempt at [world's longest fire engine parade](#). Starts at 11:00 a.m. See you there.



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.

Reporting From Warrenton

09/29/13 301 W, 3 I - + 7 - 8

Here's a preview of my photos from Warrenton, where a world's record was attempted for longest fire engine parade as part of the annual Warren County Fireman's Day. Alas, they weren't able to secure enough trucks for the thing. Hearing that about 120 pieces of firefighting (e.g., can pump or could pump) apparatus appeared, with about 144 total fire department vehicles. Was probably the event's longest parade to date, however, and it made a splendid start to the day's activities. The parade was followed by firefighter games at the Warren County Recreational Complex.

Saw apparatus from as far away as Mecklenburg and Craven counties. Plus trucks from closer environs, including Wake, Durham, Johnston, and Nash counties. Plus an appearance by Raleigh's 1905 American LaFrance steamer, with the legendary fire service instructor Capt. Wilbert "Tramp" Dunn (retired Raleigh Fire Department) in the saddle. We'll keep an eye on FireNews.net for the inevitable recap from their area buff and photographer John Franks.

What's the story on the light blue apparatus? That's Soul City Fire Department, which we've [blogged about before](#). (They also had a red-and-white pumper in the parade. Was bought from another department and a repaint is pending.) How many pictures did the Hawaiian Shirt Guy take? Total count was 1,376. Have reduced by half, but still culling the keepers. Give me a day or so to get those posted. [See this short set of preview pictures](#). Watch for tons of more photos and probably a few videos from other folks, including the one below.





And here's a twenty-eight minute video by Jason Thompson, watching the whole the thing from across the street from the fire station:

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

The New Chargers Are Here

09/29/13 62 W, 4 I - + 6 - 8

The Raleigh Police Department's new Dodge Chargers have arrived, and are awaiting painting and lettering. Just a handful have been purchased, if memory serves. Here's a preview of same, along with some now-painted Ford Explorers that should be soon hitting the streets. Pay no attention to the lurking man in the Hawaiian Shirt. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
Yes
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Comment:

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Vintage Advertisement - Atlas Water Supply Apparatus

09/29/13 51 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Back in the day when fire trucks were built in Raleigh. This one was displayed on the back cover of *Hose & Nozzle* magazine of November/December 1977. Here's a [prior post about Atlas](#) (including another ad) from last year. Click to enlarge:



ATLAS
WATER SUPPLY APPARATUS

ATLAS units exceed NFPA Pamphlet 19, Article 5200 specifications.



The "ATLAS MOBILE WATER SUPPLY APPARATUS" is available in 500, 750, 1000, 1200 and 1500 gallon capacities, depending on department needs and chassis-cab to be used. All units are designed with the ease of equipment installation in mind.

STANDARD EQUIPMENT ITEMS	OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Chrome-Plated Lighting ■ Polished Stainless Ladders ■ Stainless Door Hinges ■ Vertical Rear Handrails ■ Double Panel Galvanized Doors ■ Individually-Lighted Compartments ■ "Zincalata" Coated Tank ■ Full Undercoating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Suction Hose Carries ■ Ladder Brackets ■ Red Warning Lamps ■ Folding Brass Steps ■ Water Level Indicator ■ Chrom. Hose Lamps ■ Rear Personnel Bar ■ Painting to Specs. ■ Quick Dump Systems ■ Many More

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ATLAS Steel Products Company
BOX 17246 • NEW HOPE CHURCH ROAD • RALEIGH, N. C. 27609

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Web Site: (optional)

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Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

See You in Emmitsburg... Somewhere

09/30/13 331 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Travelling this weekend to Emmitsburg, MD, to work as a volunteer at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. This is my first real visit to the memorial, which is located on the grounds of the National Emergency Training Center, also known as the National Fire Academy. Yours Truly will be assisting the social media team, and serving as a photographer for still shots and maybe video that's transmitting during the weekend. Due to the pending possible federal government shutdown, the logistics of the weekend are still in flux. This morning, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is moving its operations off-campus. That will ensure operational continuity in the event that the campus (and the memorial grounds) are closed. Eighty-one firefighters will be honored this weekend. Below is this morning's press release. See you there, somewhere.



MEDIA ALERT

Possible government shutdown forces relocation Monday of National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

Ceremonies will occur even if national memorial is off limits

Emmitsburg, MD – Due to the likelihood of a Federal government shutdown, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) will move its operations Monday off of the campus of the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The campus houses the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial where next weekend's ceremonies to honor 81 firefighters are scheduled to occur. The move will make certain that these firefighters and their survivors are honored even if a shutdown makes the national memorial at the Department of Homeland Security facility off limits.

In addition to the hundreds of survivors attending, the annual events are made possible by the efforts of more than 1,000 firefighters and others from around the country.

Recruits from the Anne Arundel County Fire Department will move items to support the weekend from the NFFF offices beginning at 9 am Eastern Time. The foundation will have senior staff and returning survivors available to answer any questions. The campus is located at 16825 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Picture of a Picture of a Picture

09/30/13 58 W, 1 I - + 8 - 7

How many photographers do you see? That's Main Street, USA, and specifically Warrenton, NC. The parade was the world's record attempt on Saturday, as part of the annual Warren County Fireman's Day. [Read that recap](#), and [see those photos](#) as they're slowly getting posted.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Firefighter Chefs Got Cooking on Sunday

10/01/13 126 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

That's Morrisville Battalion Chief Cliff Cates (left) and Raleigh Senoir Firefighter James Jones (right) at the Southern Ideal Home Show at the State Fairgrounds on Sunday. They participated in a Local Heroes Cooking Competition to raise money for the [Wake County Firefighters' Burned Children's Fund](#). Cates prepared salmon, red potatoes, and brussels sprouts, while Jones cooked ribs, baked beans, and macaroni and cheese. Jones won for taste, while Cates won with most donated monies. The event's host was Fire Prevention Specialist (and retired Raleigh Fire Educator) Jan Parker. The head-to-head competitions took place over three days, with firefighters from Raleigh, Durham, and Morrisville. [See more photos](#) and please don't drool on your keyboard.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

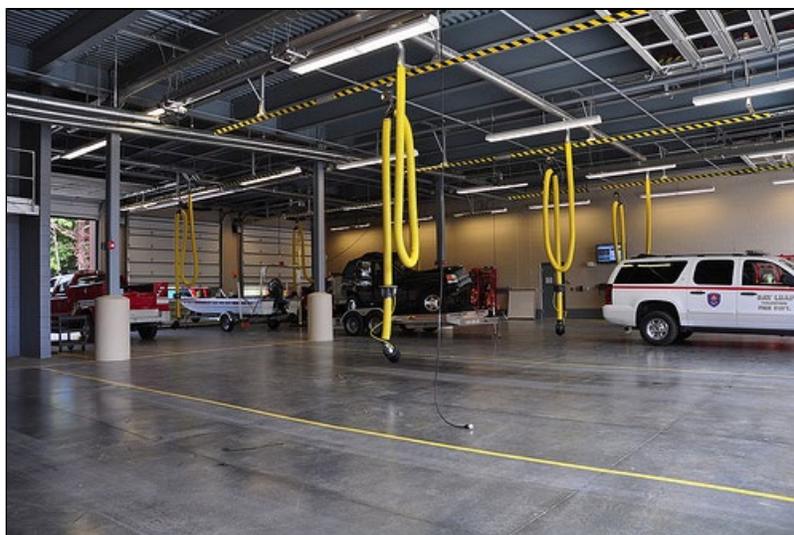
/ [Textile](#)

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Take a Tour of Bay Leaf's New Fire Station

10/01/13 104 W, 3 I - + 6 - 3

Photographer Lee Wilson this week took a peek inside Bay Leaf's new Headquarters Fire Station at 11713 Six Forks Road. The 16,407 square-foot, two-story facility opened on September 11 (correct?), after a year of construction and several years of planning. It replaced a prior structure built in 1983 at the same location, and is just up the road from their first "real" fire station at 11617 Six Forks Road. That was built in 1967. [See more photos from Lee](#). And make plans to attend the grand opening on Sunday, October 20, at 2:00 p.m.





Lee Wilson photos

Can someone explain what this is? Other than an odd set of stairs

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/1..>

Paul - 10/02/13 - 09:45

Alternating Tread Stairs

<http://www.treehugger.com/corporate-resp..>

Mike - 10/02/13 - 11:00

Name: (real name
preferred)

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Hose & Nozzle Stories of Fallen Firefighters, 1976 to 1978

10/01/13 685 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

These three stories appeared in *Hose & Nozzle* magazine between 1976 and 1978. Learn more about North Carolina fallen firefighters on [my history pages](#), which includes a database, vital records, and other information. Learn more about *Hose & Nozzle* on a [new project page](#) of mine.

H&N - March/April 1976

Fireman Killed

Two injured

ASHEBORO, N.C. - West Side volunteer fireman Carlos Dale Dorsett was killed [on March 13, 1976] when the tanker truck he was driving to a fire overturned on Fuller's Mill Road, 14 mile west of Asheboro. Two other firemen, Paul Chaney and Barry Bunting, were injured and taken to Randolph Hospital where they were treated and released. West Side chief Bill Black said the tanker, along with two other fire vehicles were responding to a 1:55 p.m. fire call to old Fuller's Mill when the accident happened on a sharp curve.

Black said the tanker truck was trailing the other vehicles along the winding and hilly road when it went out of control. Patrolman B. F. Tesh of the Highway Patrol said the tanker truck loaded with water went out of control on the curve, with the right front wheels leaving the pavement, the truck careening back across the left side of the highway, as the driver attempted to steer it straight.

Large holes were gouged out of the pavement as the truck turned over and rolled against a high bank on the left of the road. Dorsett, 28, was dead on arrive at Randolph Hospital. Dorsett had been a volunteer fireman for about 18 months. West Side officials said no insurance was carried on the tanker, "because due to the money situation we could not have insurance on all equipment." Author Henry King.

Click to enlarge this image that appeared on the issu'es cover:



H&N - July/August 1977

Volunteer Loses Life in Truck Accident

Two injured when tanker overturns

RANLO, N.C. - A volunteer fireman was killed and his son injured when their truck overturned while on the way to a fire [on July 12, 1977]. Officials say the boy's presence in the emergency vehicle was an apparent violation of departmental policy. Killed was 42-year-old Billy Ray Fulbright of 50-A Ranlo Ave. A truck driver for Burlington Industries in Cramerton, Fulbright had been with the Ranlo Volunteer Fire Department since its organization six years ago. Fulbright's son, 10-year-old Billy Ray Jr., received rib injuries in the accident.

Also injured in the crash was the truck driver, Bobby Whisnant, 18, of 10 Maple Ave., in Ranlo. According to reports from Ranlo Fire Chief Dean Stillwell and State Highway Patrol, Whisnant was traveling north on Lewis Road when the truck's tires went off the road on a curve and sank in soft sand, causing the water load to shift and the truck to overturn. The elder Fulbright was thrown from the vehicle and it rolled over onto him. He died at the scene. "He's really going to be missed," said Chief Stillwell. "We all loved him."

Stillwell said regulations of the Ranlo Fire and Rescue departments prohibit anyone under the age of 16 from riding in an emergency vehicle. He said an investigation is underway to determine why the boy was aboard the truck. The 1,000-gallon pumper, which had been converted from a 26-year-old oil tanker, was en route to a fire when it overturned. The Highway Patrol said there would be no charges in connection with the truck accident. The truck was traveling at an estimated 25 miles per hour in a 55 mph zone when it over turned. Author Bo Perkins.

H&N - January/February 1978

Chief Passes Away

FALLSTON, N.C. - Carl Beam, 46, assistant fire chief and a member of the Fallston Volunteer Fire Dept. since it began nearly 20 years ago, died of a heart attack while fighting a fire [on December 24, 1977]. Chief Cecil Wright said Beam was standing beside the tanker truck when stricken. "The doctors said the attack was so massive that there was nothing they could do," said Wright, who was also at the scene.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

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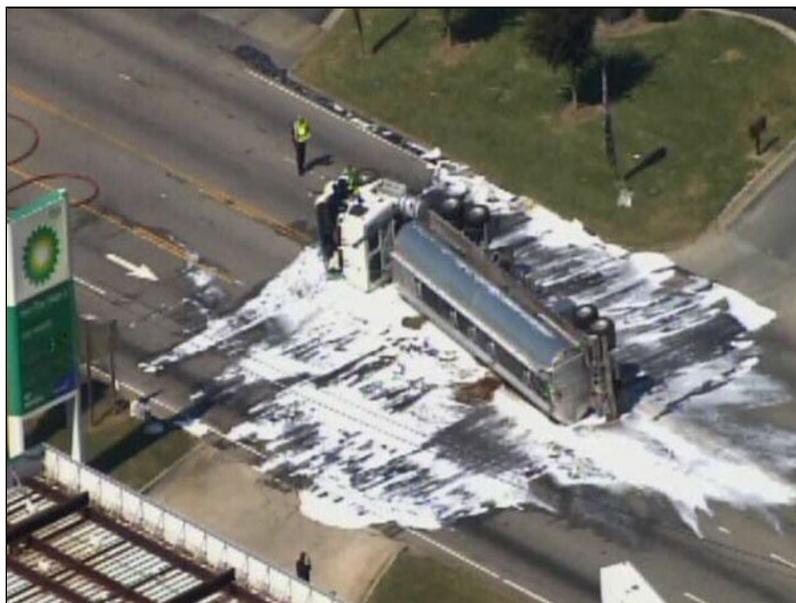
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Yesterday's Overturned Fuel Tanker in Selma

10/02/13 94 W, 2 I - + 4 - 4

[WTVD](#) has posted [aerial photos](#) of yesterday's fuel tanker incident in Selma, when a tractor-trailer truck carrying 8,000 gallons of ethanol fuel overturned on Highway 70 near Highway 301. Foam was flowed as a precaution, though none of the load leaked. The driver suffered minor injuries. Readers can advise the run card for the thing. Big load equals big foam. And it seems an age since an airport crash truck was required for such incidents, such as this [vintage photo](#) showing a tanker incident in Garner in 1989.



WTVD photos

Cary Firefighter Fundraiser: Shave For Shane

10/03/13 212 W, 1 I - + 5 - 7

From Capital Area FOOLS President and Cary firefighter Craig McDowell comes word of a fundraiser for one of their town. Shane Austin (Cary Ladder Co. 1 B-Shift and Capital Area FOOLS charter member) has been diagnosed with cancer. He has two non-operable tumors in his brain, and has begun treatments to slow/stop the cancer. A fundraiser has been established to help Shane and his family with some of the expenses they are incurring. [Below is a flyer](#) for "Shave for Shane" on Saturday, October 12 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at The Corner Tavern at 1301 NW Maynard Road in Cary.

Shaves will be a \$20.00 donation, t-shirts are \$20.00, and they'll have raffle tickets for sale at \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00. The grand prize is a black N6A leather fire helmet. They are also soliciting for additional raffle prizes. Any items donated will be greatly appreciated. For more information see the [Shave for Shane Facebook page](#). For raffle tickets please see the contacts below. All proceeds will go directly to The Austin family.

Contacts:

Craig McDowell - CFD Engine 6 A
craig.mcdowell@me.com
919-291-2878

Ritch Moore - CFD Rescue 2 A
cfd0172@aol.com
315-529-0576

Shave for Shane

Fundraiser





**The Corner
Tavern & Grill
Cary
1301 NW Maynard
Rd**

**Saturday
Oct. 12th**

1pm-6pm

Shane Austin is one of the good guys. Recently Shane was diagnosed with 2 brain tumors which are a form of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. As a sign of solidarity and Brotherhood his co-workers and Fire Service

Brothers have decided to shave their heads in support.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Raffles to include a Grand Prize Leather Fire Helmet * 50/50 Drawing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Fun for the whole Family * Music * T-Shirts
--	---

Forest Hill Fire Department - November 1957

10/03/13 226 W, 2 I - + 10 - 4

From the December 1957 issue of *Hose & Nozzle* magazine comes this vintage graphic of the Forest Hill Fire Department outside Winston-Salem in Forsyth County. The picture appears on the cover of their annual report, of which was reprinted in the magazine. [View that document](#) (PDF). The department's new fire station at 4619 N. Cherry Street is shown, along with three vehicles, including a home-built ladder truck (!). (We've seen some of those "short ladders" around the state. Beaufort Fire Department had one. [See prior posting.](#)) Also note the ambulance, which was an atypical piece of equipment for rural departments back in those days. (Well, was atypical in these parts, where funeral homes handled such duties. Does the statement hold water statewide? Will think on that.) Click to enlarge:



As for FHFD, they were organized in 1953 under the guidance of the Forest Hill Civic Club. They operated in Forsyth County until 2007, when they relocated to Stokes County. They ceased operations within a year. Their old station on Cherry Street is still standing, as Google Street View shows. If memory serves, it's presently owned by someone (or some organization) that owns a number of antique fire engines. Some years ago, when passing through there, said trucks were stored inside. Perhaps readers know more.



Vance County Fire Station Catches Fire

10/03/13 186 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

[This Daily Dispatch story](#) reports that Vance County Station 3 at 188 Bickett Street caught fire on Wednesday morning. Firefighters had departed their quarters about 8:00 a.m. for a tobacco barn blaze. At least two medical units there had also left the station, responding to unrelated medical emergencies. Left behind was a "pan breakfast with potatoes frying in grease." The Henderson Fire Department was called to the station shortly after 8:30 a.m.

Fire damaged some of the kitchen area, while smoke produced more extensive damage to the facility. Total estimate damages are upward of \$50,000. The fire station will continue in operation, using a mobile command unit. One of the ambulances and its crew has been relocated to a city station downtown. They'll also be open for Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is... prevent kitchen fires.

And the lesson remains a good one, as articulated by Henderson Fire Chief Danny Wilkerson, "No one is immune to the danger of a kitchen fire." Glad that the damage wasn't worse. Go easy on the busting-of-chops.



Google Street View photo

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'?

Need More Lights

10/04/13 81 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

Seen last weekend in Warrenton at the annual fireman's day activities ([see my photos](#)), Lake Gaston Fire Department's old Pirsch pumper. Presume the thing served elsewhere, and maybe somewhere to the north and east? Maybe our readers can tell more. Next question, what other departments would win awards around our state for "most lights and sirens?" And/or, how many have Roto-Rays?



Pepper Spray Day at Police Academy

10/08/13 140 W, 3 I - + 3 - 7

These Howard County, MD, fire units were photographed on Friday at the county public safety center, where a police academy was underway. The day's activities included pepper spray training. Thus the presence of the Howard County Fire/Rescue mobile contamination unit. Decon 13 is a 2005 Pierce Enforcer/ACSI. Yours Truly was paying a photo visit, as the facility was serving as emergency lodging for staff and workers of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend. See more photos at www.legeros.com/nfff. Meanwhile, maybe some of our law officer readers will share their experiences on the subject of being "maced" as a part of training. Some of us, um, haven't had the privledge.





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

Remember personal info?

Yes
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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.

Car Versus Fire Station and Fire Engine

10/08/13 139 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Would you believe a car chase that ended in the bay of a fire station? Found this one via the [FireNews.net Twitter feed](#). Happened this afternoon in downtown Lenoir. The driver of a police-pursued convertible lost control of their car and crashed through the bay doors of the Harper Avenue fire station. The car collided with such force, notes the WSOC-TV story, that a "30,000-pound fire truck" was pushed back several feet. The crews at the downtown station apparently saw the collision coming. They "ran for their lives" as the car careened toward them. No firefighters were hurt, though both of the vehicles occupants suffered serious injuries. One was airlifted to Carolinas Medical Center. [Read/watch the story](#), which has a couple more photos.



WSOC-TV photo

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Scenes From Emmitsburg

10/09/13 123 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Had the privilege and pleasure this weekend of serving at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend. The location was Emmitsburg, MD. The locations included alternate and emergency facilities for the candlelight service, the memorial service, food service, and lodging. My role was photographer, part of the social media team. Took pictures Friday afternoon through Sunday morning. Both behind the scenes and at survivor events. (How many, you ask? Looks like 4765.) More on that later. Will document. For now, enjoy a few photos from the weekend. Four sets so far: preview, favorites, memorial visit, and Vigilant Hose Company. They're posted to a Flickr collection, which is easily accessed from www.legeros.com/nfff.



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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Taking Fire Photography to New Heights

10/09/13 90 W - + 8 - 4

From a reader a couple weeks ago, check out this YouTube clip from [itvdetroit](#). Aerial video via drone of a tanker incident on I-95 in Detroit. How cool is this? Haven't researched the thing, to learn the context of the operation. Presumably the local crews are familiar with the thing? The clip concludes with the thing flying at, what?, fifteen or twenty feet. Nobody bats an eye, or at least during the footage that's shown. Would love to know more. Thanks Chad!

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
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Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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

Fire Prevention Week in Raleigh

10/09/13 201 W - + 9 - 6

Fire Prevention Week 2013 is underway. This year's theme is "Prevent Kitchen Fires." More house fires are started in the kitchen than anywhere else. Learn more [from the NFPA](#). The Raleigh Fire Department will feature both public fire education and fire department recruitment displays at Crabtree Valley Mall during regular mall hours on October 10-12. All city of Raleigh fire stations will be open for visitors during Fire Prevention Week. The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) will also be open on Saturday, October 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 10

- Fire education and fire department recruitment at Crabtree Valley Mall, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday, October 11

- Fire education and fire department recruitment displays at Crabtree Valley Mall, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

- Fire education and fire department recruitment displays at Crabtree Valley Mall, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) open, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located at 105 Keeter Center Drive. Admission is free.

All Week

- Fire station tours at all City of Raleigh fire stations. Residents are encouraged to stop by their neighborhood fire station, and speak with firefighters about fire safety.

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](#))

Mike Wright Named as New Director of Wake County Fire Services

10/09/13 189 W, 1 I - + 12 - 2

Press release. Michael Wright has been selected as the Director of Wake County Fire Services. Wright will be responsible for the County's Fire Services Department and Fire Training Center, including fire code enforcement, fire investigations, the Emergency Response and Hazardous Materials program, and the Suppression and Rescue Administration programs. He will also act as the liaison between contracting fire departments and the County and coordinate the County's work with the Wake County Fire Commission. Wright is scheduled to start in his new role Tuesday, November 12, 2013.

Wright currently serves as the Deputy Director of the Guilford County Department of Emergency Services. His primary responsibilities there include management of the Fire Services Division, which includes operations, training, inspections investigations, and the coordination of fire service delivery to 24 fire service districts. Mike has held this position since 2004. Prior to that, he served as Fire Chief for the Colfax Fire Department. He also has worked for the City of Greensboro Fire Department as a Firefighter, Firefighter II and Fire Equipment Operator.

[Read entire press release.](#)



Good luck, brother!

Skip Kirkwood ([Email](#)) - 10/14/13 - 22:08

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Raleigh Renames Haz-Mat Units

10/09/13 262 W - + 9 - 6

The Raleigh Fire Department has renamed a couple of its haz-mat units, effective October 8.

Changes:

- SR 3 at Station 22 has been renamed Haz-Mat 4.
- SR 1 at Station 2 has been renamed Haz-Mat 5.
- Tractor/decon trailer at KTC has been named Haz-Mat 6.

Note: SR 2 at Station 8 was renamed Haz-Mat 3 earlier this year (right?).

Here's the summary of the department's haz-mat resources, including North Carolina Regional Response Team 4 assets:

Station 2

- Units staffed by Engine 2.
- HM1 –2006 Freightliner/Hackney tractor-drawn unit - Full haz-mat response capabilities.
- HM5 –2002 International/SVI former rescue unit, pulling 2012 _____ foam/deluge trailer – Major spill / Foam unit – Equipped with 550 gal foam unit, absorbent booms, damming and diking equipment.

Note: Haz-Mat 5 is not automatically dispatched and must be special called.

Station 27

- Unit staffed by Engine 27.
- HM2 / RRT 4 – 2013 Freightliner/1995 Hackney tractor-drawn unit - Full haz-mat response capabilities.

Station 8

- Unit staffed by Engine 8.
- HM3 / RRT 4 – 2008 Ford F-350 Super Duty with walk-in compartment, plus cargo trailer - Advanced air monitoring, special chemical identification response capabilities, and spill containment equipment in trailer.

Note: Spill containment capabilities are not automatically included in dispatch and must be special called.

Station 22

- Unit staffed by Ladder 5.
- HM4 / RRT 4 – 2005 Ford F-550 prime mover plus fifth-wheel decontamination trailer.

Training Center

- Unit staffed by special called personnel.
- HM6 – 1995 International tractor (RRT reserve) and fifth-wheel trailer with decon equipment, for multi-patient incidents and non-ambulatory patients.
- Foam Supply Trailer – Additional of 875 gallons of AR-AFFF on trailer. No unit number assigned.

Note: Haz-Mat 6 is not automatically dispatched and must be special called.

New Wheels For District 1

10/10/13 54 W, 2 I - + 11 - 7

Seen on scene last week and delivered about a month ago. That's District 1 as operated by Wake County EMS, and housed at the "Headquarters EMS Station" in downtown Raleigh. Nice lighting above the rear window!



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Relocating Cary Station 2

10/11/13 107 W, 1 I - + 11 - 2

Found on the web, here's a picture of Cary's planned Station 2 replacement. It'll be located at [601 E. Chatham Street](#), just up the road from the old Circus restaurant. The two-story, two-bay station will replace an older and considerably smaller facility at 875 SE Maynard Road. And which was once the location of the fire department-operated town sign shop, for your morning trivia. It currently houses Engine 2 and Rescue 2. [Here's the project site](#) for the new station. (Absolutely love the town of Cary's transparency with such projects, and public information posted therein.) Construction is planned for spring 2014, with completion in spring/summer 2015. Click to enlarge:



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

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Comment:

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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.

Cary Fire Chief to Shave for Shane

10/11/13 179 W - + 7 - 5

From Capital Area FOOLS President and Cary firefighter Craig McDowell comes this update on the Shave for Shane fundraiser (see [prior posting](#)):

Cary Fire Department Fire Chief Allan Cain has agreed to Shave For Shane! He has agreed to do this if we are able to raise \$2,500 by 0800 hours on Thursday, October 17.

Donations can be made at [Shane's SquareUp page](#).

Reminder also of our Shave for Shane event this Saturday, October 12, from 1300 to 1800 hours, at The Corner Tavern and Grill in Cary at 1301 NW Maynard Road.

If you are unable to attend on Saturday and want to show your support by shaving your head, please consider [making a \\$20.00 donation](#) towards the cause. Do us a favor and send us a picture of your shaved head, or post it to our [Shave for Shane Facebook page](#) so we can share it with Shane.

For questions or further information, please contact:

Craig McDowell - CFD Engine 6 A
craig.mcdowell@me.com
919-291-2878

Ritch Moore - CFD Rescue 2 A
cfd0172@aol.com
315-529-0576

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Lots of Pipes

10/12/13 119 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

Still working my way through my photos from the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend last weekend. Just posted the [photos from the memorial service](#), which was held at the PNC Arena of Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MA. They shot with a pair of Canon "L" lens, 18-55mm f/4 and 70-200mm f/4. The telephoto shots turned out pretty good, all things considered. The predominant setting was Aperture-Priority AE with 1/250 shutter and 5.0 aperture. Next time will take (and rent) an f/2.8 lens, to see what happens. See those and other photos at www.legeros.com/nfff. Still more coming, seven more sets and about 500 shots.



Hey I made the bottom of the picture

Mike - 10/12/13 - 13:14

Sign your full name and the fame will last longer...

Legeros - 10/12/13 - 13:24

Ha ha I'm not that vain but I can show you the videos that I made it into this year. Ha ha

Mike - 10/12/13 - 14:42

That's cool, I was never one to worry who my comments offended anyways. Thanks for the work at the memorial last week. You were definitely always on the move. How many total pictures did you end up taking?

Mike Bishop - 10/13/13 - 11:31

Parkwood Ambulance > Durham Police Unit

10/13/13 53 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Seen in downtown Durham last night, here's the Selective Enforcement Unit's unit. We're told that this is a former Parkwood ambulance. Maybe readers can advise make and model. [See prior posting](#) about Durham special police vehicles, as well as [this Flickr gallery](#) of mine of such trucks.



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?

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No

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

From The Washington Post: Cold Air. Then Heat. Then Terror

10/13/13 330 W, 2 I - + 9 - 4

You may have already heard about this (Statter911.com, Firefighter Close Calls, etc.), but yesterday's *Washington Post* published a superb story by J. Freedom du Lac about Kevin O'Toole and Ethan Sorrell. They're the firefighters from Bladensburg, MD, who were badly injured in February 2012, in a house fire in Riverdale Heights. (See [prior posting](#) about the incident, which injured five other firefighters.) The *Post* story recaps the incident (and with a seven-part diagram of what happened), the treatments endured by O'Toole and Sorrell, and their status and conditions today.

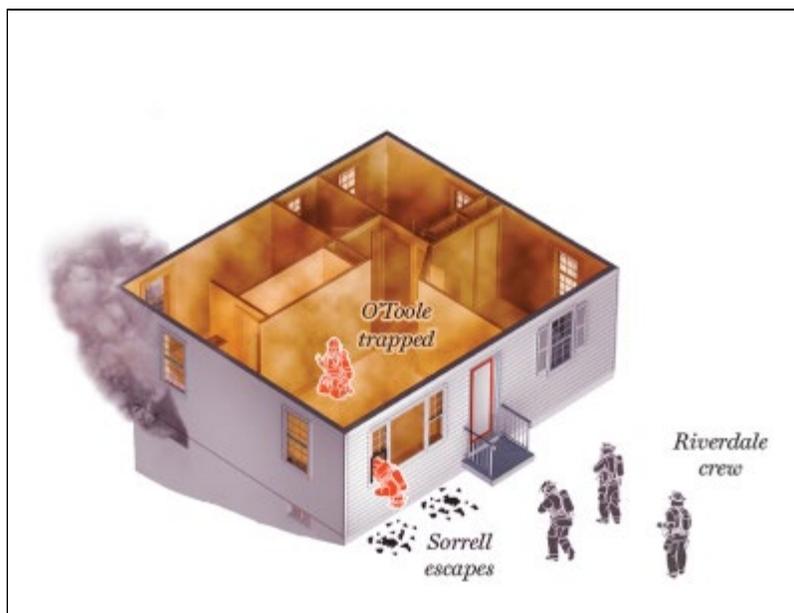
O'Toole, who suffered the worst injuries from the intentionally-set fire, has undergone thirteen operations. Mostly recently, they've been reconstructing his hands. He's living in Long Island and still recovering, and is still hoping for a career in the fire service. He's 22 years-old. Sorrell, a native from our state, survived inhalation burns, and first- and second-degree burns around his head, arms, chest, and back. He was released from the burn center after four days, but soon returned to be by O'Toole's side for the rest of his stay. He moved back to his parents home in Buis Creek, and was hired as a career firefighter by the Fuquay-Varina Fire Department here in Wake County.

When off-duty, Sorrell works part-time in construction and landscape. He also tries to take volunteer shifts both at Buies Creek Fire Department and back at Bladensburg. There's a plaque at the firehouse inscribed with his and O'Toole's names. The date and details of the fire are also listed. Mounted above the plaque are the flat-headed axe and Halligan bar that O'Toole carried through the burning house. As the story notes, the plaque reads "These irons serve as a constant reminder that anything can happen without notice" [and] "every incident is the call of your career until proven otherwise."

[Read the *Washington Post* story.](#)



Ricky Carioti/Washington Post photo



Washington Post graphic

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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/ [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.

UPDATED: New Hanover County Fire Captain Dies During Training

10/19/13 306 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

October 19

A memorial service for Captain Heath will be conducted today, Saturday, in Wilmington. The service starts at 1:00 p.m. at the Port City Community Church at 250 Vision Drive. Apparatus planning on attending should arrive by 11:30 a.m. After the service, Capt. Heath will be transported to Concord, NC. The route will pass Raleigh. Numerous fire departments along the route are planning to position apparatus at overpasses.

Captain Heath will be buried tomorrow, Sunday. The service starts at 3:00 p.m. at First Assembly Church, 150 Warren C. Coleman, Concord. All honor guard members and apparatus attending are to be at the church by 1:30 p.m.

See [this FireNews.net story](#) for contact numbers, as well as travel maps. The route past Raleigh includes a fuel stop in Mebane.

October 14

From [this FireNews.net story](#), New Hanover County Fire Department Captain David A. Heath died of an apparent heart attack during a training exercise today. He collapsed shortly after 4:00 p.m. His colleagues immediately performed CPR, applied a defibrillator, and instituted advance life support measures. Heath was 48 years old, and a ten-year veteran of the department. He was assigned to the Professional Development Division, and assigned to Station 17.

Prior to his tenure in New Hanover County, Heath was a career member of the Morrisville Fire Department. He held the rank of the Lieutenant and Engineer. He also worked as a firefighter for the City of Wilson, and was a member of the Raleigh Fire Department from January 8, 1996, to March 11, 1999. He also volunteered with Durham Highway and Six Forks fire departments.

See also similar stories from the [Star-News](#) and [WWAY-TV](#), both of which are based on the [press release](#) from New Hanover County.



Funeral arrangements Saturday.

<http://www.wect.com/story/23688810/firef..>

Ryan - 10/17/13 - 19:20

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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/ [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Dash Cam Drive*« From The Washington P... » Raleigh Fire Departme...
By of Extrication Scene

Dash Cam Drive By of Extrication Scene

10/15/13 61 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Submitted by a reader, here's a [dash cam video](#) of a driver passing an extrication scene at Hammond Road and Rush Street yesterday. Units at the scene included E2 (?), L4, R1, EMS 16, EMS 18, EMS 1, EMS 62, and D1. The video isn't embedded, so click to view. The YouTube user is [NC DashVids](#). Thanks Chad!



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

The Fall 2013 edition of the Raleigh Fire Department newsletter has been posted to www.raleighfirenews.org. This quarter's contents include New Fireground Procedures; Two Alarms on Manor Valley Court; Services Updates; IT Updates; Staff Changes; Promotions; Firefighters, Troopers Honored; Capt. Scott White Honored; Training Updates; Meet the New Firefighters; Photo Gallery; Fire Safety for College Campuses; Memorial Stair Climbers; Thirty-Five Years of Service. The newsletter is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. The editor is Historian Mike Legeros. Many thanks to Mrs. Legeros for proofreading and fact-checking, and other folks who helped with story content and review. [Read the new issue](#) (PDF).



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?
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Ten Most Dangerous Intersections in Raleigh

10/17/13 93 W - + 10 - 3

From WTVD, [here's a short story](#) about a list published by the city of the dangerous intersections in Raleigh. That's based on property damage, severity of injuries or fatalities, and frequency. And they've compared the list to last year, and the state's ranking of those intersections. And that's about it. Drive safely. [See the list](#) (PDF).

The ten most dangerous intersections in Raleigh are:

1. Poole/New Hope
2. I-440/Poole
3. Glenwood/Lumley
4. Duraleigh/Pleasant Valley
5. Wade/Edwards Mill
6. Wilmington/Tryon
7. Glenwood/Wade
8. I-540/Capital
9. I-40/Saunders
10. Glenwood/Hillsborough

Hmmm, very interesting. Next analysis is which intersections in the City have moved to what positions from year to year.

Ex: 2012, Hillsborough & Pullen was #1, now it's #24.

Can't find 2012's #2, or else I'm blind.

#3, Glenwood(70) and Lumley stayed the same.

2012's #4, I-440/Wake Forest Road is now down to #15.

Course, the list doesn't detail the type of accident, the exact location, or vehicles involved. But very interesting!

Chuk Gleason - 10/22/13 - 21:05

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Best/Worst Halloween Display Ever?

10/19/13 112 W, 2 I - + 12 - 5

Let's turn to the national news, for a holiday story. The pictures tell everything with this one, from Mustang, OK. [Here's the original story](#) from the Oklahoma City *Oklahoman*. [Here's one of many](#) (*Daily Mail*) national and global stories that have since resulted. Let's look to the [Law Officer Magazine Facebook](#) page for reactions from the law enforcement community. [Here's their posting](#). That page is a great place to learn about the issues faced by the law enforcement community, and personal perspectives therein. No Facebook login/account required to read!



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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Salem's Old Steamer on Display

10/19/13 113 W, 2 I - + 9 - 2

Reporting from the road. Pay a visit to the Old Salem Visitor's Center (exceptionally nice building) in Winston-Salem and you'll see this beauty on display, a 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, fourth-size. Serial number 512. This was the second steamer operated by the Salem Fire Department. The first was an 1886 Button, fifth-size. Both were still on the roster (with the Button as reserve unit) when the town's of Winston and Salem merged. (The Winston Fire Department had three steam engines.) [Read more about North Carolina's steam fire engines.](#) Real photos forthcoming.



Now Featuring Twitter

10/22/13 252 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Look on the right side of this page. See that widget in the right column? That's displaying the latest "tweets" from my Twitter account. e.g., [@legeros](#). Effective yesterday, the range of my tweeting has expanded. I've started posting links to other sites, and other content that's caught my interest. Previously, my tweeting was nearly exclusively cross-posting from this blog and [my photo site](#). *How does the widget work?* Simple, it displays my most recent tweets. You'll have to refresh the page to refresh the widget, however. *How often will you be tweeting?* Watch for tweets first-thing each day, and maybe in the evening. Weekends and holidays and vacations might be more, might be less. We'll see. Making this up as we go along. *What is a tweet?* That's a text message that's limited to 140 characters. It's sent and received via Twitter, a social media service. Tweets are public and can be viewed by anyone on the planet. They can't be edited, but they can be deleted. They can also include links to pictures. *Why are you tweeting?* That one's easy. To more quickly and more easily share things, but without resorting to a blog posting. *Where can you read tweets?* There are all sorts of applications for receiving tweets, as well as the [Twitter web site](#) itself. *Are you secretly a public information officer?* Nope, nor do I play one on television.



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Rocky Mount's New Rescue

10/26/13 34 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Recently placed in service in Rocky Mount in this 2013 E-One heavy rescue. [See a couple more photos](#), including a view of the cascade system that's aboard. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Civility, Psychology, Online Comments and The New Yorker

10/27/13 946 W - + 10 - 2

You may have noticed that the *News & Observer* (along with all McClatchy news sites) recently changed their reader comments to a Facebook-based interface. The change was made to promote greater civility, as this [story of theirs](#) stated. Their prior technology didn't require readers to use their real names. And without such accountability, the comments sections of stories too often became "pits of mudslinging and abuse" that scared off those "who want a rational conversation."

Of course, it certainly also attracted others who sought to read and/or participate in such pits. The open incivility of online forums has its own exciting appeal. But you have to have a thick skin, or be willing to grow one. It's like Thunderdome, to paraphrase an exasperated George Costanza from a classic episode of *Seinfeld*. There are no rules, relatively speaking.

Anyway, the changes have been made at our local paper's web site. And to echo one reader's recent comment (don't remember to which story), the now Facebook-based comments of *N&O* stories are better all around. More civil and more comprehensible. Better language, e.g. grammar and spelling. There's something magical about simple accountability, isn't there?

Did the *News & Observer* moderate its old-style comments? Believe so, but only post-posting. That is, your comment appeared at the time it was posted, but was subject to removal as needed. Versus, say, the WRAL site, where comments are only approved during business hours and on weekdays. That last requirement remains most curious. You'd think the draw for site visitors--and advertiser revenue--outside of those parameters would compel them to hire at least one weekend person to approve comments. But maybe the numbers don't add up.

WRAL doesn't use Facebook for comments, by the way, nor requires readers to use real names. So there's a bit of apples to oranges in there.

In the world of fire blogs, both anonymous commenting and moderated comments are the norm. But there are some exceptions, notably at [Backstep Firefighter](#).

As their comment policy notes, they require either a real name or a real department. [Captain Anonymous doesn't ride here](#), they once posted. By posting a name or a department, they wrote, "It's one of the best ways we can all learn from each other in this increasingly technological age." They also added, it "shows your true grit."

On this blog, anonymous comments have a long and curious history.

For the first few years, remarks were a wild west of sorts. Outright personal attacks were removed. Pure vulgarity didn't pass muster, either. No approval was needed, though. Comments were posted when they were posted. Then Mr. Blogger would endure any heartburn as needed, as particular conversations--often around what someone/some department did/didn't do on the fireground--became more pointed or heated. He'd delete particular remarks as needed, and maybe attempt editorial guidance.

Comments on this blog became moderated in [can't find even the rough date, let's say a couple years ago].

This was a great move for Legeros, who saw a marked reduction in "blogger's heartburn." This was also a win for fans of civility and rational discourse, though, to be fair, things were pretty good on the blog by that time. The days of the occasional, er, flame wars were long gone.

What was lost? Well, a couple things.

The total number of reader comments, across all postings, commenced a reduction. There was less conversation and less participation and, presumably, less readership of the blog. This might've been a "good riddance" for those who stayed behind, and who are comfortable using their real name and/or coloring within more civil lines of conversation. But even "rough and tumble" interactions can be useful, and provide valuable learning lessons. That's proven in the fire service every day.

The *New Yorker* this week addressed this topic, in a superb posting by Maria Konnikova titled [The Psychology of Blog Comments](#).

Their context was an announcement from *Popular Science* several weeks ago, that the magazine's web site was banishing user comments. No more conversation, period. (The decision makes me think of a great comment recently said by someone, to the effect of "you can afford to spend all your time creating great content, or curating great conversation, but not both.")

What's the best choice, then? Facebook comments? Anonymous comments? Approved comments? No comments?

Well, the aforementioned *New Yorker* looks at these things, and through citations of assorted research results. Here are some (simply sketched) notes on their conclusions:

- Younger people most more anonymously than older people.
- Anonymity encourages incivility.
- Anonymity also encourages participation.
- And can boost certain kinds of creative thinking and improved problem-solving.
- Forums with anonymous comments "can be remarkably self-regulating."
- But there's still the "nasty effect." The more nasty the comments, the more polarized readers can become about the content (the issue).
- Banning comments might move them elsewhere. Instead of being based around a community that's centered on the particular "thing," they're moved to a larger group environment. And with fewer ties to the "thing," the participants may become less compelled to act responsibility toward "the thing." (Got that?)
- Banning comments also impacts the experience of reading, including the sharing of same and its impact on our "shared reality" with others.

What's my conclusion to their conclusions? Well, it certainly makes (and thus has made) for a nifty blog posting by some fire blogger in Raleigh, N.C.

Read the [New Yorker story](#), it's pretty good.

Mr. Blogger, having worked with you while you were employed for the city I have my personal opinion as to why you left and your recent changes to your blog adding moderation to reduce/eliminate the "trash talk" confirms them. I'm sorry but you will never be able to change the mindset of a firefighter and their tendency to "talk trash". Firehouse life will never be "politically-correct" nor do we live in "corporate America". Please understand I do appreciate your time and effort for us but, come on, some things gotta be let go.

Rescue Ranger - 10/27/13 - 12:45

Thanks for your comment, Rescue Ranger. Someone could write a good paper on the psychology of Legeros, as exemplified by his relationships and actions with the Raleigh Fire Department since 1989, and including his very brief years as a firefighter. (Or least have a few good day room discussions.) Let me know when it's published. I'd like to read it. Until then, the topic's fine food for conversation over a cold beverage.

As for trash talk, well, yes, it does seem to be part of the deal.

Legeros - 10/27/13 - 12:57

Maybe some who visit Legeros.com should focus on "logical discussion" rather than trash talking and uncivil behavior. That is my encouragement and I believe the practice will demonstrate maturity, not only as a firefighter but as a person. I see the blog as an excellent educational and informational tool for all. Hey, who cares if the poster is anonymous, just be nice! Historically, ones that are anonymous posters generally are: (1) in fear of expressing themselves or asking a sensitive question, or (2) are generally inclined to stir the pot and driven to create disturbance. "2" seems to be the most common behavior from my vantage point. In the end, all one needs to be is "nice!"

A.C. Rich - 10/27/13 - 14:39

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Raleigh Firefighter Application Process Closes on October 30

10/28/13 123 W - + 9 - 3

This is the last week that the Raleigh Fire Department is accepting applications for Firefighter. The application period closes on Wednesday, October 30, at 4:00 p.m. EST.

The [recruitment web site](#) has complete details on the process, beginning with the application packet itself. From there, you can attend optional orientation days at the Keeter Training Center on October 31 through November 2.

This year, the written aptitude test will be administered first, on December 3 at the Raleigh Convention Center. (Took mine at the Raleigh Civic Center, back in the day.) Physical agility tests will be subsequently administered, on December 4 through December 7.

The city is hiring for Recruit Academy 39. The twenty-seven week training program is planned to start in March.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Behind the Tape - San Francisco

10/30/13 295 W, 5 I - + 9 - 7

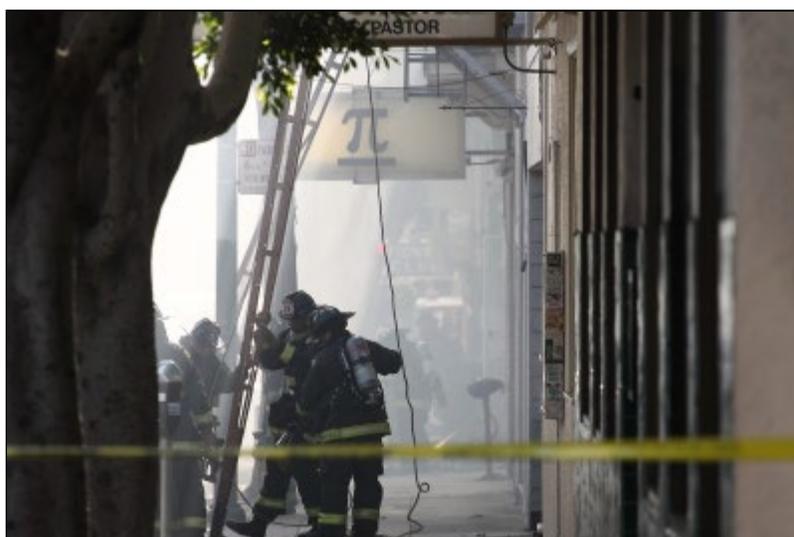
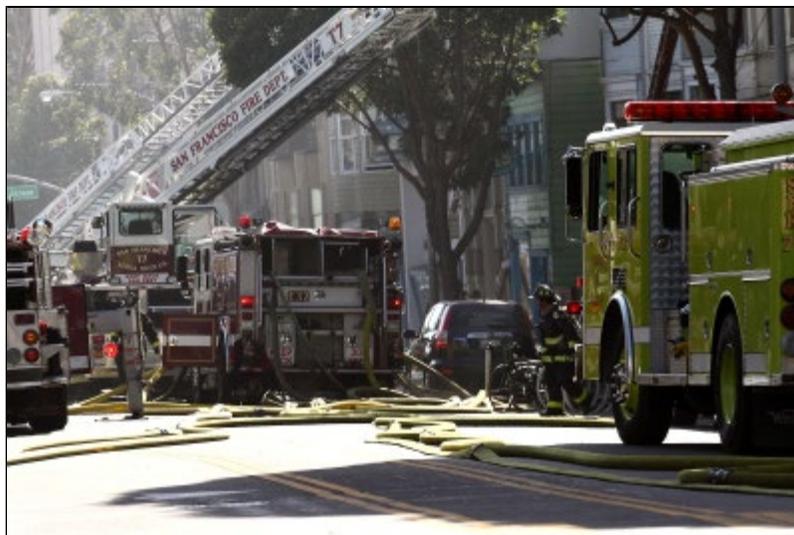
Reporting from the road. Caught this "worker" while visiting San Francisco on Monday. Three alarms in the 1400 block of Valencia Street. Arrived about forty minutes after dispatch. Police lines were everywhere, as well as orders to "please stay on the sidewalk and out of the street, sir." Such enforcement was relaxed (a bit) after the fire had been controlled, but not before Yours Truly had circled several blocks. And, alas, took a counter-clockwise route, and didn't find the best vantage point (parking lot almost across the street) until the very end.

What's a visiting fire photographer to do, if he can't get inside the fire lines? Why, do what every other non-official photog is doing. Stand and shoot, or find a better vantage point. Here's a map showing my approximate path. The dots indicated shooting locations. There were cameras everywhere, of course. Mostly phones and point-and-shoots. Plus a number of "real" cameras, in the hands of what looked like journalists and fire buffs. Click to enlarge:



[See the photos](#), which are posted to Flickr but linked from my photo site. They're aftermath photos, and often shot into the sun. Thus the crazy colors and shadows. They're also great examples of "outside the tape" photography. And validate the value of "inside the tape" shots, and the role of official photographers. Still, was able to get some good ones, both near and far. See below. Google for incident details from news reports.

Greatly enjoyed both visiting the scene, and the experience of getting there. Rushing to a fire in Raleigh is a comparable piece of cake.





Any info on the "Reserve" FF's?

Marcus - 10/30/13 - 21:13

Was wondering the same thing, Marcus.

Google is our friend, <http://sffd-fire-reserve.org/>

Legeros - 10/31/13 - 01:07

Love the SFFD photos Mike! Especially the shots you got of Rescue 1 and the CBRNE unit. Did you have a chance while in SF to visit the new Rescue 1 quarters (R1, T1 and E1)?

-Trevor

Trevor James ([Web Site](#)) - 10/31/13 - 10:40

Mike,

Any info on the green lenses, mainly on the truck co's? I saw that alot on my visit, but didn't get a chance to ask.

Charlie - 11/01/13 - 11:00

Thanks! Haven't seen green lenses since I lived in CT as a teenager. The ambulance volunteers ran with green. Vol fire blue.

Charlie - 11/02/13 - 20:13

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

Bumper Barrier

10/31/13 72 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

Reporting from the road. Saw this siren attachment on an engine in Monterey, CA. Protects the siren from things that go bump, and expensive dents caused therein. The problem can also be solved with recessed bumper mounts, seen in the second photo from Berkeley, CA. Who uses bumper inset sirens in our area or region?



Engine 33 in Mount holly, NC has the protective bars over their bumper mounted Q.

rocket33 - 10/31/13 - 15:47

Fuquay engine 1, 2, 3, and 4 and tankers 1 and 4 with out guards though.

FV - 10/31/13 - 21:47

the old YRAC Grummans had them recessed in the grill, a classy look!

YRAC - 10/31/13 - 23:42

Shaving Heads and Kissing Lips / Morning Reading - October 31, 2013

10/31/13 364 W - + 9 - 5

Happy Halloween, Raleigh. Reporting from the road, and after six days spent in northern California. Pictures coming of fire museums in Monterey, Salinas, and San Francisco. Some apparatus shots as well, including a stop at the Golden Gate city's fireboat station. Plus the three-alarm fire pictures already posted and [blogged about](#). Back tonight. Still kept an eye on local news, and caught these two stories being shared on Facebook:

- [Cary firefighters shave their heads for cancer-stricken comrade](#) - *Cary News* story about the dozens of firefighters who have been showing their solidarity for Shane Austin. The Cary firefighter was diagnosed on September 13 with a pair of brain tumors associated with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. On October 12, more than 100 people shaved their heads at a fundraising event. One week later, Cary Fire Chief Allan Cain went under the blade. He pledged his locks if \$2,500 was raised by the end of the month. They did and more, raising \$7,400. The donations total \$16,000 since Shane's diagnosis. The money will help pay his medical expenses. [See photos of both shaving events](#) from Lee Wilson, or visit the [Shave for Shane Facebook page](#).
- [Wake Forest EMS deserves a kiss on the lips](#) - *Wake Forest News* (brand new site?) story that's pretty nifty, and starting with a headline that'll make you do a double-take. Wake Forest EMS? That agency's been defunct a few years. Kissing on the lips? That's an enthusiastic response and then some! The article is a comprehensive overview on the emergency medical services provided by Wake County EMS, and the paramedic units stationed in Wake Forest. They also talk about the entire Wake County EMS system, such as the other EMS agencies that may respond in Wake Forest. The article covers a lot of ground, from tips for those calling 911 to which hospital has the best food. Thus it's a lengthy piece, with nearly 3,500 words. (Might be the meatiest of any "about them" stories I've read in some time. Thoughts?) And it's written in a conversational style that's jaunty and even a bit playful at times. (Maybe too playful for some readers? Thoughts?) Take a read.

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](#))

Charleston's New Tiller

11/01/13 527 W, 1 I - + 19 - 6

From the Pierce Flickr site, here's company photo of Charleston's new tractor-drawn aerial ladder. The tiller is the first for the department since the late 1940s. Numbered Ladder 104, it'll be placed in service at Station 15 in mid-December. How many other departments in South Carolina also operate tillers? We're getting one more in North Carolina, with Wilmington awaiting completion of a Pierce build with a Velocity cab. It'll join Raleigh, High Point, and Cornelius-Lemley as the only active tillers in the state. Saw numerous tillers in northern California this week, from Monterey to Berkeley to San Francisco. Of course, those are the lands of dense cities and tight streets. [See larger versions of this picture.](#)



From the Charleston Fire Department's [Facebook page](#), here's a notice about the new truck:

Charleston, SC (October 22, 2013): The Charleston Fire Department is proud to introduce a new addition to its fleet with the arrival of a custom built tiller ladder truck. This 57-foot long tiller ladder was built by Pierce Manufacturing and features a 100 foot steel ladder, seating for 5 firefighters, 249 feet of ground ladders and an array of vehicle extrication equipment and tools. This new apparatus will be housed at Station 15, located at 162 Coming Street on the Charleston Peninsula, and have the call sign of Ladder 104.

The tiller aerial has an extensive history in the American fire service that dates back to the late 1800's when larger cities like New York, Boston, and San Francisco needed to navigate narrow city streets to access multi-story buildings. These highly maneuverable vehicles are driven by two drivers operating independent suspensions. One driver sits in the front cab, or "tractor", and steers the front of the apparatus while one driver sits in the "tiller" seat, at the rear, and drives the rear of the apparatus. The drivers work in tandem to steer the apparatus through City streets. The Charleston Fire Department featured a tiller aerial in its fleet in the early 1930's to the late 1940's.

The Charleston Fire Department will conduct extensive training with the tiller before the unit is placed into service. The Forsyth County (GA) Fire Department has partnered with the Charleston Fire Department to provide training and guidance on tiller operations. Several members of the CFD previously traveled to Forsyth County for initial training and now instructors from

Forsyth are in Charleston providing training on the new vehicle. This training will assist with the skill development from experienced members of Forsyth County who currently operate two tiller drawn aerials apparatus. The CFD Training Division has developed a task book for each crew member to complete before operating the tiller.

Other features of Ladder 104 include a 500 horsepower engine, light tower with 4 – 1500 watt flood lights, hydraulic generator, 3 positive pressure fans, rope rescue gear, 2 thermal imaging cameras, and a full complement of firefighter tools and equipment.

The tiller will be placed in service in mid-December upon successful training of all crew members. A specific service date and a ceremony to welcome the apparatus to the fleet will be announced at a later date.

I believe Hilton Head is the only other one in South Carolina. The frontline unit is an old Atlanta unit Crimson refurbished with a new tractor in the last few years. The reserve is the ALF chassis refurb they bought from Northeast Fire Apparatus I believe. Georgia has a bunch (20+) mostly in the Atlanta area and 2 in Savannah.

Gfireman - 11/01/13 - 20:28

Speaking of tillers, word around the camp fire is the structural modification to #11 is expected to exceed \$1M. This modification is necessary to allow room for a replacement of L-2. It has been learned that instead of replacing L-2 with a rear-mount platform a tiller truck could be had for not much more. By doing so the mods to #11 would be cut in half due to not having to deal with the break-over point exiting the bay since a tiller truck is less likely to drag due to the spacing of axles.

Rescue Ranger - 11/01/13 - 22:23

I heard possibly two tillers. Platform is already ordered, might replace old L-1.

RFD O.V. - 11/01/13 - 23:36

Charleston just ordered their second tiller. This one will be a quint similar to the Raleigh units.

Gfireman - 08/01/15 - 20:35

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Adventures in Public Information < LAFD

11/01/13 69 W, 1 I - + 16 - 3

Here's the Tweet of the day, from the Los Angeles Fire Department, from their @LAFDTalk Twitter feed. Life in the land of Hollywood is indeed different! Check out @LAFDTalk. It's a two-way conversation channel, separate from @LAFD. Pretty interesting. Next question, how many other fire departments have separate "announcement" and "conversation" Twitter feeds?



LAFD Conversation @LAFDTalk

7h

...calls [plural] from tabloid media: "Can you provide names of celebrities who may have witnessed the #LAXshooting" || *sigh* ^BH

[Expand](#)

[← Reply](#) [↻ Retweet](#) [★ Favorite](#) [⋮ More](#)

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.

One Night Only - Wake & District on November 23

11/02/13 101 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

Here's the latest concert announcement from [Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums](#) and a grand parody of the poster seen in *The Blues Brothers*, a beloved movie of my generation. From their [Facebook page](#):

Saturday, November 23rd, one night only, the fabulous Wake and District pipers and drummers. Bagpipe and Drum review. Tir Na Nog. 218 South Blount Street. Raleigh. The fabulous Wake and District pipe band and review. Free parking. Four dollar cover charge only folks. That's a lot of entertainment. For four dollars.



Thanks for posting Mike. Should be a fabulous evening ;)

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/02/13 - 10:14

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Little Orange Bag

11/02/13 84 W, 1 I - + 5 - 10

Found this at Target a few weeks ago. Located in the luggage section. For laptop computer accessories. The bright color is considerably better than stylish black, which is the customer color for sundry accessory totes. High-visibility means easily spotted in such darker-lit situations as classrooms, or darker-furnished environments like hotel rooms. Readers probably have a preferred vendor for such items in the services or public safety sector. Target worked for me, on the fly.



I'm a fan of both....the hidden gems such as this at Target/Home Depot and love 5.11 products.

Silver - 11/02/13 - 12:44

Typically REI store brand or LA Rescue. and ditto on the above on 5.11 products

shevais - 11/03/13 - 17:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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

Durham Public Safety Officer Duty Death, February 1978

11/03/13 428 W - + 6 - 0

Speaking of public safety officers, the March-April 1978 issue of *Hose & Nozzle* published this account of the death of Durham Public Safety Officer Gary Fletcher. He died on February 14, 1978, from injuries sustained at a fire on February 5. ([My fallen firefighter database](#) cites the date as February 6. Memo to self, correct same. His [death certificate](#) [PDF] confirms the February 5 date in the story.)

FREAK ACCIDENT PROVES FATAL TO DURHAM PSO

Hose Couple Comes Loose From Hydrant

DURHAM, N.C. - Public Safety Officer Gary Fletcher, who died [on Feb. 14] of injuries received while fighting a fire on Feb. 5, was described as a dedicated officer who was the victim of a freak accident. The terms were used by Fire Chief J. A. Letzing, who gave a report on what he believed to be the cause of the accident to the City Council public safety review committee.

Struck by Hose

Letzing's conclusion was the same as that drawn by other fire and public safety officials after their preliminary investigations: Fletcher was struck by a fire hose after a malfunction caused the hose to pull away from a fire hydrant at tremendous force. Fletcher suffered broken legs and head injuries when the fire hose struck him as he stood by a fire hydrant at East End and Angier avenues.

Fletcher had attached the hose to the hydrant and was standing by to turn on the water when the hose was run to the fire, which was in a house at 300 East End Ave. Letzing said his investigation showed that the hose wedged in a small gap between the wooden slats on which the hose rested and the side of the hose bed.

Unrolling Hosing

Letzing said Fletcher signaled the driver of the fire truck to proceed and that the truck then started toward the fire, unrolling the hose as it went. When the hose was [played] out to the point at which it was binding, Letzing said, it pulled away from the hydrant "with terrific force."

Fletcher was thrown into the air when the hose struck him, Letzing said. It was not clear whether his injuries were caused by the impact of the hose, the impact of his body striking the ground or both.

Once the probable cause of the accident had been determined, Letzing said, all fire trucks were examined to determine if they had similar gaps in the hose bed. None did, he said, adding that the defect had been remedied in the truck involved in the fatal accident.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

How To Make Your Own Movies

11/03/13 683 W - + 8 - 7

Here's how to record, edit, and broadcast your own video clips using your smart phone. Why do such a thing, you ask? Because moving pictures tell thousands of words, and particularly if they're narrated. Need to communicate something, but in a method more robust than words or words plus a couple pictures? Try making a video. Really, it's easy. Have to demonstrate something to someone? Don't relish the prospect of writing a short "manual?" Try making a video. Just tape thing as you speak.

The steps in general:

1. Create one or more narrated video clips, using your smart phone.
2. Transfer the video file(s) to your computer.
3. Edit the video file using software on your computer.
4. Upload the video to a network or YouTube or such.

Notes: Step 2 and Step 3 can perhaps be bypassed. Your smart phone video record may have some editing capabilities. Or you may have a video editing app installed on your smart phone. And/or, you can perhaps upload your clip to a network or YouTube straight from your phone. Since this is a Legeros-based set of instructions, here's how he does it.

Step 1 - Record the clip(s)

Have your phone in hand? Switch the camera to video mode. Aim the thing. Press record.

Okay, you'll probably want some preparation. Walk through your narration ahead of time. Maybe jot some notes, or write a script. And you'll probably want a second person to hold the phone, if you're demonstrating something with your hands. Or if you're part of the demonstration!

Step 2 - Transfer the clip(s)

Connect the phone to your computer. Use whatever you use to transfer the movie file(s) from the phone, to the computer.

My method involves dragging and dropping the files, from the Windows Explorer view of my phone, to the destination folder on my desktop.

Step 3 - Edit the clip(s)

We'll probably want to edit our clip, even if just to tighten the timing. Maybe trim a few seconds at the start, before the "action" had started happening. Or maybe we'll combine two clips into a single movie. Or multiple clips, for a longer segment.

One simple and free tool is [Windows Movie Maker](#), which is available for Windows 7, which is Mr. Blogger's computer platform. Once downloaded, start playing with the thing. Import your first video file. Look at your options, including "split" to divide the thing into two pieces. There's a title option, where you can a "slide" with text. There's timing for the "slide," where you can control the number of seconds it's

displayed.

Once you've finished you're edits, save the project file. Then, export the clip as a new video file, which you'll use for the final step.

Step 4 - Upload the clip(s)

Final step is sharing this clip with others. [Mine are uploaded to YouTube](#), which is a widely popular video delivery service. Accounts are free. Each video can be private, public-but-unlisted, or public (and found by people searching on YouTube). Uploading takes time, however. Many minutes or even hours, depending upon the length.

There are other options, from other video delivery web sites (such as Vimeo) to private or personal networks. If your fire department has an internal computer network (or intranet), and you're producing videos for personnel, you could upload them there. That keeps them out of the public domain, or at least off of someone's servers other than your own.

Obviously, you can also share videos the old-fashioned way, by send the files as attachments in e-mail messages (size permitting). Or copying them to flash drives, or burning on to CDs or DVDs, for physical transfer.

Examples

Here's an unedited clip, e.g. just raw footage of a single shot:

Here's the same clip, but with footage deleted from the beginning and end:

Here's that clip, combined with a second clip. Think of this as a very short movie, consisting of two shots.

Easy peasy, no?

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

UPDATED: Three Asheville Firefighters Killed in 1891

11/16/13 182 W - + 6 - 10

November 16

Date correction. This incident occurred on August 27, 1891, versus the same date in 1892, as cited in error in my August 2010 posting.

November 4

Updating some of my [fallen firefighter information](#). Came across this [blog post from August 2010](#), about a railroad trestle in Iredell County. That was where two people were struck, and one was killed, by a train traveling over the trestle at 2:45 a.m. The bridge was also the site of a deadline derailment one-hundred years earlier, and one that killed three members of the Asheville Fire Department on August 27, ~~1892~~ 1891. Three other firemen were injured. They were returning from the state fireman's tournament in Durham.

Killed:

- Perry Barnett
- Samuel Gorman
- W. E. Winslow

Injured:

- Will Bradford
- John Gaze
- Marshall Nix

Based on current criteria, do these qualify as duty deaths? And perhaps warrant inclusion in the state memorial? Good question. Will forward the information to the appropriate parties. These would be the earliest record duty deaths in the state's histories, occurring a decade earlier than the passing of Edward Peed at a warehouse fire in Washington.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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David Ogilvy on How to Be a Good Writer

11/05/13 73 W, 1 I - + 16 - 7

Passed along from a friend, here's a [Business Insider posting](#), about a famous memo issued by advertising agency founder David Ogilvy. Still applies today, and outside both the worlds of advertising and corporate America. We could do worse than adopt these tips, for paper- and electronic-based written communication. (Reader's can discuss/debate the importance of good writing in the fire service as desired.)

A memo drafted by David Ogilvy for the management to circulate as they saw fit:

September 7, 1982

How To Write

The better you write, the higher you will go in Ogilvy & Mather.
People who *think* well, *write* well.

Good writing is not a natural gift. You have to *learn* to write well.
Here are 10 hints:

- (1) Read the Roman-Raphaelson book on writing.* Read it three times.
- (2) Write the way you talk. Naturally.
- (3) Use short words, short sentences and short paragraphs
- (4) Never use jargon words like *reconceptualize*, *demassification*, *attitudinally*, *judgmentally*. They are hallmarks of a pretentious ass.
- (5) Never write more than two pages on any subject.
- (6) Check your quotations.
- (7) Never send a letter or a memo on the day you write it. Read it aloud the next morning—and then edit it.
- (8) If it is something important, get a colleague to improve it.
- (9) Before you send your letter or memo, make sure it is crystal clear what you want the recipient to do.
- (10) If you want ACTION, *don't write*. Go and tell the guy what you want.

David



*Writing That Works, Harper & Row, 1981

Facebook.com/Ogilvy

Funny... I have always read (and been taught) by/in academics that one should never write as they would talk. In my case, it would be too Redneck! To add, never compose an email or a blog post when you are MAD!! LOL!

A.C. Rich - 11/05/13 - 09:31

You: Can you help me write something, Mike?

Me: Tell me, in your own words, what you want to say.

You: Something something something something.

Me: Write that.

Or, if you prefer:

You: Something something something.

Me: Can you explain it a little bit better for me?

You: Something else, something else, something else.

Me: Write that.

Okay, is it really that simple to write? Just, speak through your pen (or keyboard). Yes, no, maybe.

My favorite advice on writing is talking. Read what you've written aloud, and using your full speaking voice. Like you're talking to another person in the room or across the room.

You'll quickly determine if what you've written passes muster.

Legeros - 11/05/13 - 09:48

ROFL

Rob Mitchell - 11/05/13 - 10:39

If I write like I talk (with ADHD), I would never finish a. you know

gen3fire - 11/05/13 - 11:24

K.C., I actually laughed out loud on that one....

Silver - 11/05/13 - 12:31

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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Historic and Former Firehouses of San Francisco

11/06/13 58 W, 1 I - + 11 - 2

Post-vacation play as compiled from these San Francisco Fire Department Museum [firehouse histories](#). Draft version of the document, to be finished and archived at [my history site](#) at a later time. These are all extant fire department structures that are fifty years of age or older. [View the document](#) (pdf).

Historic and Former Firehouses of San Francisco
 Draft version created November 5, 2013
 Full revision to be archived at www.legeros.com/history

Engine	Station	Address	Built	Opened	Closed	Notes	Picture
1. Engine 13		1450 Valencia Street		1883	1955	Housed Battalion 6 from 1918 to 1941. Housed Division 3 from 1941 to 1954. Engine 13 relocated to 3880 26 th Street on February 7, 1958. Sold in 1990. Privately owned	
2. Engine 14		1351 McAllister Street		1884	1991	Housed Chemical Engine 4 from 1888 to 1912. Housed Battalion 3 from 1918 to 1941. Engine 14 relocated to 100 Oak Street on May 2, 1991. Most of building demolished in 1990s. Remains of structure remains, addressed 1247 McAllister Street.	

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Durham's New Engines in Service

11/06/13 67 W, 2 I - + 5 - 9

Lee Wilson has photographed a pair of recently delivered engines in Durham. These 2013 Sutphen Shield 1500/500 pumpers were delivered in September. They were placed in service on October 21 (Engine 9) and October 24 (Engine 16). [See more photos](#). What's happening in the Bull City lately? Maybe our readers can inform. Construction of the new Station 9 should be well underway, for starters.



Lee Wilson photos

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, November 9

11/07/13 186 W, 1 I - + 4 - 11

The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) will be open this Saturday, November 9. That's the regular second-Saturday-of-each-month scheduled opening. The museum is located in a modular classroom at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Admission is free. Parking and restrooms are available. [Here's a two-minute video tour](#). Learn more about the museum, and the non-profit organization that operates it, at www.raleighfiremuseum.org.

Please note that antique fire engines are located elsewhere. Both the museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) and the city's [collection of antique fire apparatus](#) is housed at at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome. Or schedule a tour at www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours.

Swing by and say howdy. You'll see a familiar face or two. We also have merchandise for sale: Raleigh Fire Department challenge coins, centennial t-shirts (grey only), and a few remaining copies of the centennial history book. Here's our rack card that describes both the museum and the antiques at Station 28. Click to enlarge:

Experience the History of Firefighting in Raleigh



See antique fire engines at Fire Station 28
 3500 Forestville Road, Raleigh NC
 Visitors welcome




Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum
 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh NC
 Open second Saturday of each month, 10 to 2
 Admission is free
www.raleighfiremuseum.org

Fire Station 28

Fire Station 28 is located at 3500 Forestville Road in Raleigh, NC. It houses a 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, two 1953 rescue boats, a 1961 American LaFrance pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.




Raleigh Fire Museum

The Raleigh Fire Museum is located just a few blocks south of downtown Raleigh at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. It's open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 900 square-foot museum includes hundreds of artifacts and photographs. Major exhibits include the city's 1870 fire alarm bell, an early 19th century hose reel, and color film footage from 1950.




Schedule tours for both locations at
www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours

The Raleigh Fire Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to preserve and present the history of firefighting in North Carolina's Capital City. Learn how you can contribute. Contact our organization at contact@raleighfiremuseum.org or PO Box 31084, Raleigh, NC 27622. Our phone number is 919-964-1070.

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?
 Yes

TICKET DEADLINE EXTENDED: "Tramp" Dunn Appreciation Dinner - Saturday, Dec. 7

11/22/13 289 W, 2 I - + 14 - 9

November 22

The deadline for purchasing tickets to this has been extended to **Sunday, December 1.**

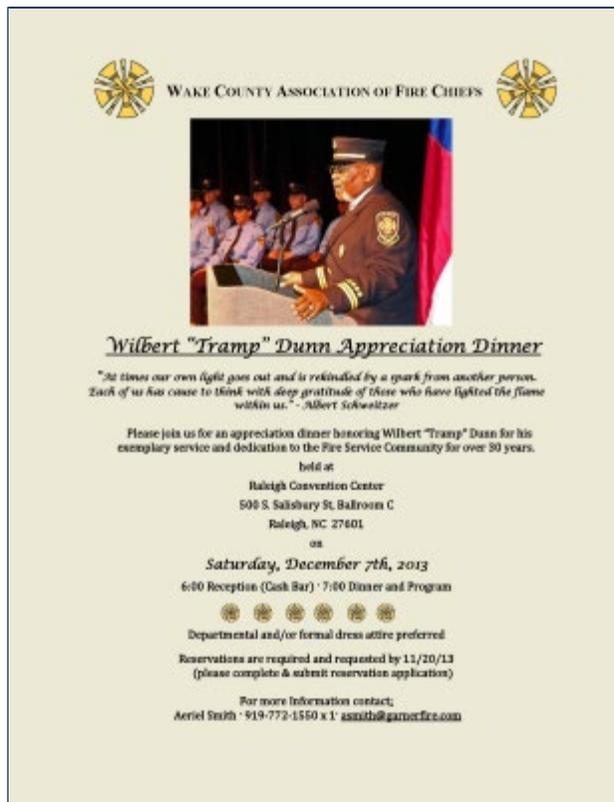
November 7

Tickets are still available for the event of a lifetime. On Saturday, December 7, you can celebrate the contributions of an icon in emergency services. An appreciation dinner will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center for retired Raleigh Fire Department Captain Wilbert "Tramp" Dunn. He served the department from 1974 to 2003, for starters. His impact in the department included the many recruit academies that he helped train (and tell the world's greatest stories to), including a certain crew of fresh-faced recruits that joined on February 15, 1989. We know who we are.

Tramp is a veteran of the Vietnam War, and has worked for Beacon Ambulance Service, Wake County EMS, Six Forks Fire Department, and Fairgrounds Fire Department. He was also the first paid Fire Chief at Fairgrounds FD. Tramp is also a long-time instructor and speaker and continues to travel throughout the state and touching the lives of responders young and old. He recently retired (again) from his role as Firefighter Academy Coordinator at the Central Carolina Community College in Lee County. [Click to enlarge:](#)



[View the flyer for the event](#) (pdf) on December 7, which is being sponsored by the Wake County Association of Fire Chiefs. The event starts at 6:00 p.m. with a reception and cash bar. The dinner and program begins at 7:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center, in Ballroom C. Tickets must be purchased by November 20. They cost \$50 per person, or \$400 for a table of eight. The dress code is formal, either personal or department attire. See you there!



The only word I have to describe this event is, amazing. Captain Tramp Dunn is an amazing man, who has done amazing things in the fire service in Wake County and around the great state of North Carolina. We are all better men and women, and the fire service is better thanks to Tramp. Thank you for your service, Captain!

Jonny - 12/08/13 - 10:24

Wonderful tribute to a great champion and leader for the North Carolina fire service!! The inspection line brought back great memories when he was part of the Raleigh recruit academies. Thanks to Chief Poole, Chief Hocutt, the Wake County firemans association and to everyone else who brought this event together. It was an honor just to be there and witness such humbleness, dedication and love from Tramp and to see the love returned to him from so many.

gen3fire - 12/08/13 - 15:46

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Falls Tanker 217 > Zebulon Pumper 96

11/07/13 123 W, 3 I - + 6 - 8

On Tuesday, the Zebulon Fire Department received their newly re-lettered and re-stripped pumper-tanker, a 2009 Pierce Contender 1250/1000 that formerly served the Falls Fire Department as Tanker 217. It replaced a 1997 Freightler/EEI pumper-tanker, that was sold to a fire department in Iowa. To help remember the heritage of the truck, and its former department, the Zebulon Fire Department mounted a plaque on the truck as shown below. The Falls Fire Department operated from 1970 until 2012, when it merged with the Wake Forest Fire Department. The former Falls station is presently Wake Forest Station 5. Thanks to Chief Perry for passing along the photos. See Lee Wilson's [photos of Tanker 217](#), taken in April 2009.

*Zebulon Fire Department photo**Lee Wilson photo*



Brotherhood. Thank you ZFD.

Marcus - 11/07/13 - 23:28

Kudos to ZFD for being a class act!

HD - 11/08/13 - 07:20

This was a great gesture on behalf of ZFD.

I have a question...are we going to see more of the apparatus transfer on an as needed basis through out the county?
Not trying to beat the ol horse here...just asking to see what talks or decisions have been made on this topic.

Buckwheat - 11/08/13 - 11:00

Buckwheat, I think you will see it where it makes the sense. In this case ZFD was on the replacement list for a truck. As part of the merger agreement Wake Forest agreed to give up 217 when they got their new Tanker in.. It's a big game of Twister... It saved the county many thousand dollars and Zebulon got a much needed replacement truck with still many miles left on it. I would think the county will start looking at stations with excess unused/un-staffed apparatus and moving them to areas that are in need of replacements... In the end, the county buys um, and the county can move um.

MG - 11/08/13 - 12:53

Curious where in Iowa their Freightliner/EEI went.

Eugene Beard ([Email](#)) - 11/08/13 - 15:12

Class act!

Gen3fire - 11/09/13 - 09:04

Zebulon has shown the true meaning of brotherhood. It really means a lot to this old Falls Fireman.

Graney - 11/09/13 - 20:16

This isn't the first time a vehicle has been reallocated from one county department to another. Maybe the first large apparatus. Western Wake, as part of the Station 2 closure, transferred one of the command suburbans to Swift Creek a few years back.

Not the first - 11/10/13 - 08:57

Eugene – The truck went to Welton, Iowa. There were several posts on social media as it was seen being transported from here to there. Sightings and comments were made from those familiar with Zebulon, NC and Zebulon, GA.

Zeb100 ([Email](#)) - 11/14/13 - 17:55

Also, thanks for all the kinds words. We simply meant this as a way to remember Falls FD and those who served that community. We appreciate all the thanks and kind words our department has received. We hope this serves to capture a piece of history.

Zeb100 - 11/14/13 - 18:08

Thanks Zeb100 about 60 miles from here. Will check it out. Not many EEI's around Iowa.

Eugene Beard ([Email](#)) - 11/15/13 - 10:05

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.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED: Social* « Falls Tanker 217 > Ze... » Video: Flugzeugschlep...
 Media Review - North Carolina Fire Departments

UPDATED: Social Media Review - North Carolina Fire Departments

11/07/13 421 W - + 5 - 10

[See part two of this series.](#)

For your evening amusement, here's a chart showing social media channels used by the state's largest municipal fire departments. (Based on city size. What city departments are missing, as well as county or institutional departments of comparable size?) Linked are web sites, Facebook pages, Twitter feeds, and Flickr sites. Plus "related" sites, of assorted sorts. (Current/active related sites. Didn't include any that haven't been updated in a while.) Please provide edits as needed. Curious about the size of each department's public information office. Which have full- (sole duties) versus part-time PIOs, and how many? Readers, please provide input. Send me a message, or post here. We'll update our chart accordingly.

Department	Web Site	Blog	Facebook	Twitter	Other	Related Sites	Public Information Officer
Asheville	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Flickr	AFD IAFF Local Asheville Fire Explorers Asheville FF Pipes & Drums (FB)	Yes, Senior Specialist who is combination PIO and public education leader. Bio.
Cary	Yes			Yes (public safety)			
Charlotte	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Flickr	CFD IAFF Local CFD IAFF Local (FB) CFD Station 16 (FB)	Yes, two Captains and firefighter comprise office. Web site. Bio #1. Bio #2.
Concord	Yes					CFD IAFF Local Concord Fire Explorers	
Durham	Yes		Yes			DFD IAFF Local DFD Station 2 (FB) DFD Unofficial	Yes, combination PIO and Public Education Coordinator.
Fayetteville	Yes		Yes			FFD IAFF Local FFD IAFF Local (FB)	
Gastonia	Yes					GFD Station 4 (FB)	Yes, combination Fire Inspector and PIO. Bio.
Greensboro	Yes		Yes	Yes		GFD IAFF Local GFD IAFF Local (FB) GFD Eastside Hose (FB group) GFD Station 10 (FB)	Yes, role performed by Asst. Chief/ Fire Marshal (?)
Greenville	Yes		Yes			GFD IAFF Local	
High Point	Yes		Yes			HPFD IAFF Local HPFD Unofficial	Yes, Captain who is combination PIO and Community Relations Officer. Web site.

Raleigh	Yes					RFD IAFF Local RFD Newsletter RFD Unofficial Raleigh Fire Explorers (FB) Raleigh Fire Museum Raleigh Fire Museum (FB)	Yes, role performed by Asst. Chief/ Fire Marshal
Rocky Mount	Yes		Yes	Yes			
Wilmington	Yes		Yes	Yes (Not very active)		WFD Station 2 (FB) WFD Station 7 (FB) WFD Station 9 (FB) Wilmington Firefighters Memorial	Yes, rank of Battalion Chief. Web site.
Winston-Salem	Yes					WSFD IAFF Local WSFD IAFF Local (FB) Winston-Salem Fire Explorers	

Chapel Hill Fire-Rescue

<http://www.townofchapelhill.org/fire>

Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/ChapelHillFireDepartment?ref=br_tf

no twitter feed yet, but we do provide an audio feed for the world to enjoy at:

<http://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/..>

CHFFA Local 2580 at:

<http://www.local2580.com>

As far as PIO, we have two, a primary and a back up. In their absence the Battalion Chief's or Shift Fire Marshal's handle interviews and press releases.

Sasser ([Email](#)) - 11/08/13 - 09:10

For inputs on public information officers, if possible, please indicate if those are sole duties of the person, or part of another role. Alas, there probably aren't too many full-time FD PIOs (who only perform as PIOs) in our state.

Legeros - 11/08/13 - 09:15

In the CHFD, the PIO is a shared job responsibility. It's not a full time position.

Sasser ([Email](#)) - 11/08/13 - 10:04

Wilmington Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WilmingtonFD>

Wilmington Twitter (Not Very Active)

<https://twitter.com/WilmingtonFD>

Station #9

<https://www.facebook.com/wfdstation9>

Station #7

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wilmington-Fire-house-7/177506778930699>

MCNelson ([Email](#)) - 11/11/13 - 15:49

Engine 3, Wilmington

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wilmington-Firehouse-3-NC/116267808398893>

Ryan - 11/18/13 - 20:43

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Video: Flugzeugschlepper Goldhofer AST-1

11/09/13 120 W - + 9 - 8

Here's your specialty vehicle video of the day, a Goldhofer AST-1 airplane tug. What's so special about this special vehicle? This was developed to help push/pull the Airbus A380, the new commercial jet that's larger and heavier than a Boeing 747. This specialized tractor can tow a craft that weighs over one million pounds when fully loaded. The video's in German, but still pretty cool. Check out the reversible driver's seat and console! Next question, what sort of aircraft rescue and firefighter techniques and/or equipment have had to evolve, to prepare for the A380? And how about some trivia? What famous science-fiction film featured a future military vehicle based on an airport tug?

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.

Jacksonville Airport Apparatus

11/09/13 107 W, 2 I - + 5 - 9

Found for sale on eBay are these 35mm slides of airport apparatus from Jacksonville and the Albert J. Ellis Airport. Top is Crash 2, a 2006 Oshkosh Striker 2000/1500/200 foam/500 dry chemical. Bottom is Crash 1, a 2001 E-One Titan HPR 2000/1500/200 foam/500 dry chemical/55-foot snozzle. Photographer not known.

The single-runway airport opened in 1971, says the Internet. Perhaps we have readers down south who tell about the history of the airport's fire department. Guessing these are probably their second- or third-generation of rigs. And just how many airport fire stations are scattered about the state? Check out [this page from FDmaps.com](#) for that information. Click to enlarge:



UPDATED: Social Media Review - Nation's Largest Fire Departments

11/10/13 473 W - + 6 - 6

[See part one of this series.](#)

Continuing our review of social media sites and public information sources, here's a review of the nation's largest fire departments. Yes, they vary considerably in the areas that they serve and the population sizes therein. CalFire is a particular apple to a whole bushel of oranges. The web experience is certainly interesting, going from site-to-site and Google result-from-result. Couple things jump out at me, from the various official home pages.

First, most sites don't have an obvious, screaming-at-you option for "click here to learn what's happened lately or read the latest news/news releases." Second, social media channels aren't always listed or visually obvious. Some sites use small icons to denote Facebook or Twitter pages. Some use *very* small icons. Again, nothing really screams at you. Maybe there's justified thinking that "those trying to find us on Twitter, know how to find us on Twitter."

Third, demographic and organizational profiles were sometimes buried, and sometimes seemingly absent. Thus, Wikipedia was my source for a number of personnel and station counts. Fourth, some of these sites and pages are a bit dated or worse.

Fifth, nearly everyone is using Twitter. Haven't taken time to read or compare tweets. Readers are welcome to correct my information and links below. And/or supply the names of departments that they particularly like, for social media usage and public information presentation.

Department	Stations	News Site	Facebook	Twitter	Flickr	YouTube	Members	Notes
Boston	35	Yes	Yes	Yes			1,611	
Cal Fire	228	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4,700 (permanent) +others	
Charlotte	42	Yes (blog)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1,164	
Chicago	100	Yes (RSS feed)	Yes (outdated)	Yes			4,933 (uniformed)	Also EMS provider
Dallas	57	Yes (outdated)		Yes: Incidents Traffic			1,670 (uniformed)	Also EMS provider
DCFD	68	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Also EMS provider
Detroit	45		Yes	Yes			~1,141 (uniformed)	Also EMS provider
FDNY	249	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	~15,870	Also EMS provider
Fort Worth	42		Yes	Yes			908 (uniformed)	
Indianapolis	44		Yes	Yes			1,160 (sworn)	Also EMS provider
LA County	171	Yes	Yes	Yes plus one		Yes	3,892 +lifeguards)	Also EMS provider

				for PIO				
LA City	106	Yes (blog)	Yes	Yes plus one for talk	Yes		3,586	Also EMS provider
Houston	92	Yes	Yes	Yes			4,190	
Miami Dade	66	Yes	Yes	Yes			2,550+	Also EMS provider
Phoenix	59			Yes			1,936	Also EMS provider
Philadelphia	61	Yes (outdated)		Yes			1,973	Also EMS provider
San Antonio	51	Yes	Yes				1,600 (uniformed?)	Also EMS provider
San Diego	47	Yes	Yes	Yes			1,200 (uniformed?)	Also EMS provider
San Francisco	44	Yes					~1,700 (uniformed)	Also EMS provider
San Jose	33	Yes		Yes				
Seattle	33	Yes	Yes	Yes			981 (uniformed)	Also EMS provider

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Vintage Photo - Ice Cream at the Training Center

11/10/13 76 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Found in my files, here's a vintage photo of the Raleigh Fire Department training center. Don't have a date, but obviously it's after the department switched from grey to blue shirts. Was that before 1982, and the construction of the Keeter Training Center? Need to check. What are the then-versus-now things that you can spot in this photo? Bonus if you can identify folks. Click to enlarge:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Vintage Photos - Then and Now at the Training Tower

11/11/13 268 W, 2 I - + 13 - 5

For your Monday morning amusement, here's a pair of "then and now" photos from the training center, from atop the old training tower. (Recall that the current tower was erected in 2006, after the 1954 structure was demolished in 2005.) The top photo is a *News & Observer* image from 1959. That's Firefighter Ned Perry approaching the camera.

The bottom photo appeared *Raleigh Fire and Rescue, 1984-2002*, printed by Taylor Publishing Company in 2002. That's Battalion Chief Paul Johnson at the top. When was the photo taken, and who had the great idea to recreate the original image? To be determined. Maybe readers can track that down. As the modern photo shows, no small amount of work went into orchestrating that shot.

What about the rigs we're seeing in the shots? Those are 1951 and 1953 American LaFrance 700 Series pumpers, along with a 1958 American LaFrance 700 Series tractor-drawn aerial ladder. The rescue trucks are the department's originals, a 1953 GMC panel van and a 1954 Reo Civil Defense truck. The chief's cars are a 1957 Chevy Bel-Air and a... what? Need reader help there, presume a 1953 Chevy of some model.

In the bottom photo, the engines appear to be, left to right, a 1997 Pierce Saber, a 1989 Pierce Arrow, and a 1992 Pierce/Mack CF. The ladder truck is a 1990 Spartan Monarch/Simon-LTI. The rescue trucks are a pair of 1991 Chevy Kodiak/FrontLine super-huge ambulances. The chief's cars are Ford Crown Victorias, probably late 1990s or early 2000s. Readers undoubtedly can clarify, as well as note other interesting then-versus-now details. Click to enlarge:



News & Obsever photo



Looks to be 1959 Chevrolet Bel-Air. Sterling 20 or Jr 20 siren light with a Federal Junior Beacon Ray on the middle of the roof.

DJ - 11/12/13 - 00:46

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.

Scenes From Saturday's Firefighter Fundraiser in Johnston County

11/12/13 186 W, 3 I - + 8 - 9

Photographer Jason Thompson documented a firefighter fundraiser in Smithfield on Saturday. The inaugural Johnston County Fireman's Day honored firefighters Ray Workman and Shane Austin, who are both battling cancer.

Ray is a Wilson Mills firefighter. Shane is a Cary firefighter, part-time Johnston County EMS member, and former Smithfield firefighter. They've both been diagnosed with cancer, and are in need of help from the community. Ray has colon cancer and Shane has inoperable non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Saturday's event at Rose Manor Shopping Center in Smithfield featured firefighter games, a cornhole tournament, and a chili cook-off. All proceeds were donated to benefit the medical bills of Ray and Shane. [See Jason's photos](#), or visit his blog, JocoFire.com. Maybe we'll get a reader report on Saturday's winners, and the total monies raised.

If you missed the event, you can donate anytime:

Ray and Shane Benefit
c/o Wilson's Mills Fire Department
2550 Cleveland Road
Smithfield, NC, 27577

Or contact:

Todd Moore, 919-669-7964
toddmooenc@aol.com

Bentley Powell, 919-915-1171
wmfd3@yahoo.com





Jason Thompson photos

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

Vintage Video - Salt Lake City Fire Department Paramedics in Action

11/13/13 146 W - + 10 - 5

Saw this on [Statter911](#), which he found at the Salt Lake City Fire Department's [YouTube channel](#). Great vintage film demonstrating their paramedic program in the 1970s. The program was created prior to 1976, which is the year cited in the video that the program was expanded. The staged scenes look quite a bit like what we watched as kids in [Emergency!](#) That television program debuted in 1972, so there's a fair chance the filmmaker(s) were influenced therein. Says that Wikipedia article, there were only twelve paramedic units operating in North America when the show started. (And just noticed a shot at the end of the clip, that appears to be pulled from the TV show. Shot of Squad 51 responding in late-day light.) What other vintage films from this era have readers found and enjoyed, via YouTube?

Love how the dude runs to the phone booth.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 11/13/13 - 11:47

That sequence of the squad running hot that leads into the scene from the Asian restaurant was not of Squad 51. It looked like the Ford squad truck from the beginning of the video. Still, pretty neat.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 11/13/13 - 11:54

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Western Wake Names New Fire Chief

11/14/13 223 W - + 12 - 6

[Western Wake Fire Rescue](#) last week announced (via their [Facebook page](#)) the naming of their new Fire Chief. Effective at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, November 11, Captain Garland Johnston assumed the duties of Chief of Department. He s the successor of Fire Chief David Cates, who submitted his resignation after recently accepting the position of Fire Chief of Eastern Wake Fire Rescue. (Negative for our out-of-state readers, there's neither a Southern Wake nor Northern Wake fire department. There once was a Northern Wake Rescue Squad, however.)

Chief Johnston has been a member of Western Wake Fire Rescue since the organization's creation on July 1, 1998, as a merger of Fairgrounds and Yrac fire departments. He joined the Fairgrounds FD in 1993, and ascended the ranks to the position of Captain at Western Wake. He's also a full-time member of Fuquay-Varina Fire Department, where he serves as Battalion Chief. He previously served as a member of the Holly Springs Fire Department.

David Cates served as Western Wake's Assistant Chief under Fire Chief Jim Bona. He was promoted to interim fire chief in August 2007, and appointed Fire Chief in January 2008. He will continue to remain active as a member of the fire department. ([See this prior posting](#), where we attempted to list all county fire chiefs, past and present.)

Congratulations to Chief Johnston!

Congratulations Garland..

J.R - 11/14/13 - 21:49

Congratulations Chief!

JerryC - 11/17/13 - 17:06

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.

Today's Tweets

11/15/13 78 W, 1 I - + 5 - 9

Less blogging, more tweeting. That's what's happening lately, as Yours Truly is doing more "micro-blogging." Meaning, posting 140-characters or less about the same stuff we've always blogged about. My Twitter handle is @legeros. You can find me at twitter.com/legeros. There's even a widget on the right side of this home page, showing said tweets. Try following a few people and/or organizations. It's surprisingly informative.

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 39s
Wake Forest News and a droll masthead, "Where Half the News is Fit to Print" #WakeForest wfnnews.com
Expand Reply Delete Favorite More

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 2m
Wake Forest Gazette, recap of Nov. 7 town meeting with citizens about WFFD Station 4 plans, tinyurl.com/k4yv67v
Expand Reply Delete Favorite More

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 5m
Wake Forest News, amusing headline and short news story, Wake Forest FD responds to burned popcorn, tinyurl.com/ms2vdgk
[View summary](#) Reply Delete Favorite More

 **Mike Legeros** @legeros 9m
WTVD photo, heavy smoke pours out of #Fayetteville home early this morning, tinyurl.com/ms2vdgk pic.twitter.com/IV1NNDLnOH



[Expand](#) Reply Delete Favorite More

Enclosed Top-Mount Pierce Pumper

11/16/13 9:1 W, 1 I - + 14 - 9

Saw this featured in the latest issue of the [Extra Alamer](#), the newsletter of the Extra Alarm Association of the Twin Cities. Look at this enclosed top-mount pumper recently delivered to Delano Fire Department, MN, a 2013 Pierce Velocity with a 1500 GPM Waterous pump and a 750 gallon tank. That style of "cover pump panel" is common in Minnesota, at least as observed in said newsletter over the years. Where else are these used? [Read more information](#) about the truck.



Norwood city FD in Stanly Co. Has a commercial cab truck with enclosed pump panel. Don't have details right now, but I can acquire same.

Aaron B ([Email](#)) - 11/28/13 - 08:20

Wallburg FD in Davidson has Two enclosed pump panels apparatus. Also Gumtree has an enclosed top mount pumper

Clay - 11/29/13 - 11:57

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

Comment:

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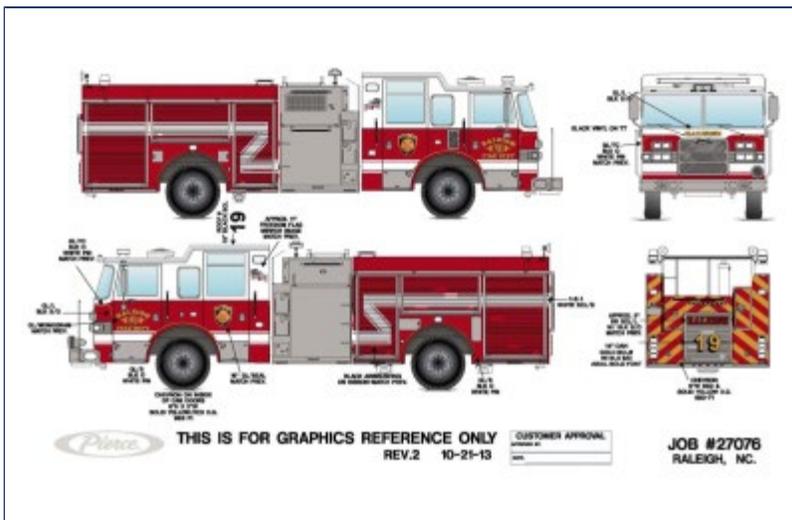
What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

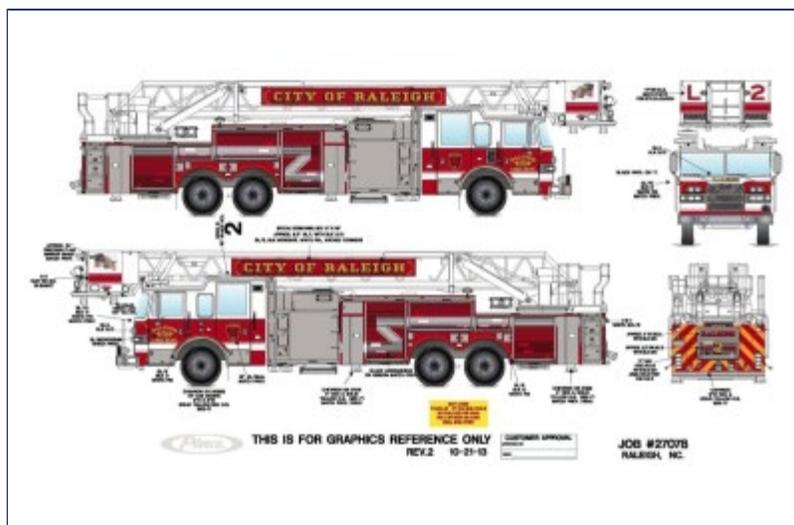
([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

UPDATED: Drawings of Raleigh's New Apparatus

11/18/13 140 W, 3 I - + 13 - 13

From the [Atlantic Emergency Solutions Facebook page](#), here are drawings of Raleigh's new engines and ladder that are in production. The Pierce Arrow XT rescue engines (2), engine, and rear-mounted platform are due for delivery round January. The rescue engines (#27077-1, #27707-2) will be assigned to Squad 14 and Squad 15, which currently operate 2004 American LaFrance Eagle pumpers. Note the bumper compartment (for rescue tools?) and the absence of a booster reel. The "straight" engine (#27076) is shown lettered for Engine 19, which currently operates a 2000 Spartan/Quality pumper. The platform (#27078) is shown lettered for Ladder 2, which operates a 2005 Pierce Dash ladder. It's housed at Station 11, which will soon be remodeled to increase the size of the apparatus bay and accommodate the new ladder. Click to enlarge, or visit the above Facebook page for larger versions:





Shame it dont have pre pipe deck gun.

Rob Mitchell - 11/17/13 - 16:03

Those are a total waste of money and impractical most of the time.

VFD - 11/17/13 - 18:07

Impractical... impractical could also be drop tanks, Q sirens, smoke ejectors, aerial ladders and hand extrication tools. Usefulness is in the eye of the beholder. Anything that enables me to have another option is welcomed.....

Brandon - 11/18/13 - 20:03

Love the Squad Engine!

Raising the bar - 11/19/13 - 07:26

These are the lettering and striping drawings. They may have a deck gun. They aren't included on this type drawing from Pierce.

Gfireman ([Email](#)) - 11/19/13 - 07:51

Unfortunately the trucks have been sped'd without a deck gun. Don't understand the logic since the chief has yelled and yelled about "big fire, big water". So we are given a "blitz" monitor that only flows 500gpm and is not being used as a blitz monitor at all rather it is set up as a defensive monitor instead of the 1000gpm monitor. Hmmmmmmm.....

Rescue Ranger - 11/19/13 - 22:16

RR, now be honest...how many times have you actually used a pre-piped deck gun on a fire?? Sure, it is useful on those rare occasions, but I'm guessing those blitz monitors have far more adaptability and easier/quicker to deploy. I would like to see my department go in this direction. Plus, the money you save on not specing the deck gun on the apparatus can be put towards something more useful.

VFD - 11/20/13 - 07:28

Looking back on Mike's site of historical trucks in Raleigh...Why in the world did Raleigh buy those engines from Quality?

Outside of low cost, I'm confused why you would get away from Pierce then go back to them.

Buckwheat - 11/20/13 - 11:19

Your definition of usefulness regarding deck guns is highly situational. Some departments use them quite regularly, with Detroit coming to mind. Different tactics for different areas in regards to Detroit; they refer to it as "dumping the monitor," I believe. The practice usually involves a second due pumper pulling up and dumping the entire booster tank through the window of a well involved house by way of the deck gun. The first due then goes in with a handline to finish the job. Detroit also sees a lot of fires with exposures that are very close. They quite frequently have to stop things before they burn down a row of houses. We are all seeing houses being built quite close in Wake County as a whole, and I personally think that we will be seeing more multiple structure fires in the future.

I am sure Raleigh has a reason for doing what they have, and that is their prerogative! What is common-place in one area is foreign in another. Booster lines come to mind; some wouldn't spec an apparatus without one, or even two, while others consider them outdated or not worth the added cost. Everything has a purpose and it is the department's decision to decide what takes precedence in accordance to the money allotted. Everybody's money tree is producing less these days, and the administration needs to maintain levels of service while balancing the other budgetary needs.

Bob P. - 11/20/13 - 11:32

To add to my earlier comment, I think that Raleigh will like the smaller blitz nozzles. We have them at AFD, and they have proven to be very useful with transitional attacks. They are not merely for sitting in the yard, but offer you a quick, big hit that allows you to get in and knock the rest out with a handline. The smaller blitz nozzles are flowing less, but a quick hit of even 4-500gpm will do a lot! These blitz nozzles are easier to carry and can be deployed inside of larger structures such as warehouses as well.

Bob P. - 11/20/13 - 11:55

3 man crew laying in wet can use portable monitor and deck gun to protect 2 exposures easily. Have used the deck multiple times on brush fires and dumpster fires (at least 3 to 4 times a year). Saves the manpower on hot days. If you were ever a member of my crew you will remember the deck gun drills. lol

Rob Mitchell - 11/23/13 - 09:59

We have done the same exact drill. It is easier to use a blitz monitor than a 2.5" nozzle.

Bob P. - 11/23/13 - 10:40

Put the fire out and the exposure concern goes away. You can use an 1.5" to protect an exposure by directly applying water. Put the 500-1000 gpm on the fire to affect extinguishment.

Exposures - 11/23/13 - 23:24

Pictures of their progress are being posted on Atlantic's site now. To be updated weekly.

GAfireman ([Email](#)) - 11/28/13 - 20:03

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Web Site: (optional)

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UPDATED: Drawing of Cary's New Rescue and Engine

11/22/13 114 W, 2 I - + 12 - 19

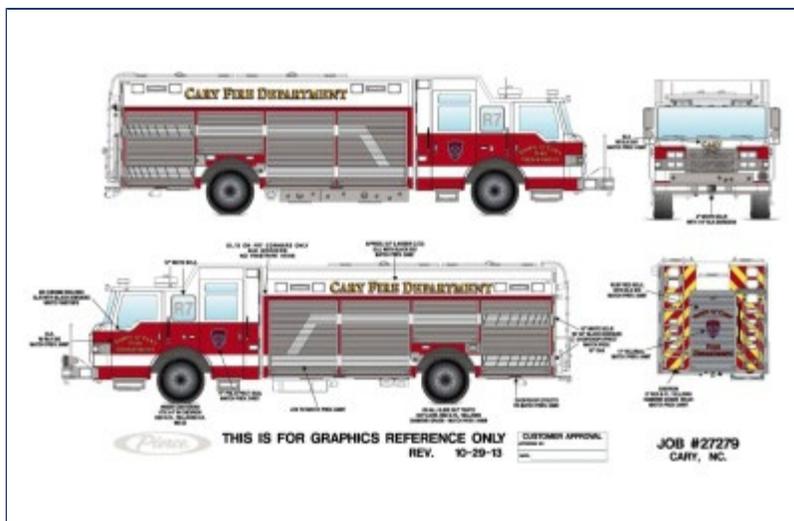
November 22

And here are the drawings for the town's 2013 Pierce Velocity pumper that's in production. It will replace Engine 4. Thanks Sheavis! Click to enlarge:



November 16

Seeing a theme here? Speaking of the [Atlantic Emergency Solutions Facebook page](#), here's a drawing of Cary's new rescue that was recently posted. This 2013 Pierce Velocity heavy rescue is in production, and will replace Rescue 7, which is a 2008 Pierce Velocity heavy rescue. That truck will enter the reserve fleet. The Cary Fire Department has also ordered a Pierce Velocity pumper to replace Engine 4, and will feature a low hose bed. Go low or go home. Click to enlarge:



Love that CFD is going low hosebed on their new pumper!

Silver - 11/16/13 - 20:33

Is the new Cary Engine on the Atlantic site yet? If so can we get a side by side, Mike?

Engine 4 - 11/18/13 - 19:44

I like the difference in Raleigh's Trucks a lot better. The red sides look a lot better than the gray/silver on Cary's.

D. Ifference - 11/18/13 - 21:22

Here is a link to the graphic drawing of the new E4, the hosebed will be slightly different with a small compartment on the driver's side for an attic ladder, hook and backboard.

https://fbcdn-sphotos-h-a.akamaihd.net/hphotos-ak-prn1/1277512_649731745067289_24788670_o.jpg

shevais - 11/21/13 - 15:10

Nice drawing, looks good. I, for one, am a fan of the ladders on the side of the rig. If it works for CFD, roll on and hope it gives you guys a good 15 years.

Silver - 11/22/13 - 00:51

I'll throw my 2 cents in on ladders. I'm a fan of the ladders being inside the truck. People seem to have issues getting them off the side of the truck because of the height. Having them deploy down from the top seems to take too long when you need them right now. That extra few seconds seems like forever waiting for the rack to lower. With them coming out of the rear they are easy to deploy no matter the height of the FF. I'm about 5'10" and I can easily side the ladder out to its balance point and throw it on my shoulder. Plus whether on the side or on top you often have to remove a ladder to get to the one you want. Coming from the rear you can just grab the one you need.

Mike - 11/22/13 - 11:21

Love the coffins on top, utilizing every inch of space for storage and equipment. Great change from the traditional design, and it gave space for another scene light on the side of the hose bed. Can never have too much light

Matt - 11/23/13 - 12:24

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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UPDATED: Vintage Photos - Wilmington, Ogden, Charlotte, Kinston Fire Apparatus

11/18/13 85 W, 10 I - + 12 - 13

Found for sale on eBay are these 35mm slide scans of vintage Wilmington, Ogden, Charlotte, and Kinston fire apparatus. Top to bottom, left to right are Wilmington's 1963 Seagrave tiller; Ogden's 1976 International/Bruco/Seagrave ladder; Charlotte's 1969 American LaFrance snorkel (Platform 1), 1964 Seagrave ladder (Ladder 6), 1962 Seagrave pumper (Engine 15), 1958 Seagrave pumper (Engine 11), 1957 Seagrave pumper (Engine 7), 1962 Seagrave pumper (Engine 23), and 1971 Seagrave pumper (Engine 16); and Kinston's 1965 Seagrave pumper (Engine 2). Click to enlarge, or see larger versions on the seller's pages.



If my memory serves me correctly, both E-23 and E-16 depicted above have been found and restored by the CFD and are currently in the antique fleet. Word is the former L-2, the same as L-6 depicted above, has been found and is being currently restored.

Billy Lee ([Email](#)) - 11/20/13 - 21:10

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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No

Comment:

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Vintage Photo - Houston Airport Rolligon Crash Truck

11/18/13 163 W, 1 I - + 8 - 11

Here's a particularly neat photo found for sale on eBay, one of several 35mm slides of crash trucks from Dallas and Houston from [this seller](#). (That's the same person with the vintage North Carolina slide shots for sale.) This one's a 1976 Rolligon that was equipped with a small pump, water tank, and foam tank.

What the heck's a Rolligon, you ask? [From the company's web site](#), they appear to be all-terrain vehicles that use low ground pressure tires. And that are capable of amphibious operations (!) at reduced payload capacity. Google for assorted images of Rolligon vehicles, past and present.

As for unusual off-road airport fire and rescue apparatus, all sorts of wheeled and tracked vehicles have been tried. My mind's eye recalls many interesting vehicles seen in various fire apparatus books. Maybe we can find some on the web, and add them here. Anyway, click to enlarge, or find a larger version on eBay:



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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

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Wake County Fire Commission Meeting - Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013

11/19/13 280 W - + 9 - 5

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, November 21, 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](#). The documents for the meeting are linked below. Note that the packet is nearly 16MB in size, so prepare for large download.

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
 - Invocation
 - Roll of Members Present
- Items of Business
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes for September 19, 2013 Regular Meeting
 - Introduction of Fire Services Director Michael Wright
 - Discussion regarding the "role" of the Fire Commission and its Standing Committees
- Regular Agenda
 - Consider approval of calendar year 2014 meeting dates
 - Consider re-appointment of Budget Committee members for FY 2015 Fire Tax Budget process
 - Consider approval of recommendation for the Fire Tax Budget Committee that Wake County Fire Commission review Wake New Hope FY 2014 apparatus purchases.
 - Consider approval of recommendation from the Tire Tax Budget Committee to appropriate \$117,773 in Uncommitted CIP Funds to coverage overage of FY 2014 apparatus bid allotment.
 - Consider request from Eastern Wake Fire-Rescue for use of Fund Balance
- Information Agenda
 - BDAs/BDA Ordinance Report
 - Cost Share RFP Update
 - Fire Tax Financial Report
 - Chair Report
 - Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
 - Comments from the public will be received at the time appointment by the Chairman of the Fire Commission for 30 minutes maximum time allotted, with a maximum of three minutes per person. A signup sheet for those who wish to speak during the public comments section of the meeting is located at the entrance of the meeting room.
- Adjournment - Next Meeting January 16, 2014

Documents

- [Agenda packet](#) (15.72MB)

Name: (real name
preferred)

Remember personal info?

Yes

Videos - Apparatus Leaving and Returning to Station 1

11/19/13 46 W - + 5 - 8

Mobile phone footage from last year and this year, compiled into a pair of YouTube clips. Apparatus leaving and returning to Station 1 on South Dawson Street in downtown Raleigh. Turn it up.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Video - Holiday Fire Safety from the Cary Fire Department

11/21/13 46 W - + 10 - 4

The *News & Observer* [posted this story](#) and accompanying [YouTube video](#) of Cary firefighters at Station 3 demonstrating two common holiday fires: overheated, overfilled turkey fryer (with a partially thawed bird) and a too-dry Christmas tree.

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Comment:

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Vintage Photo - Gastonia Fire, Police in 1919

11/21/13 163 W, 7 I - + 8 - 11

Found for sale on eBay, the Gastonia fire and police departments on November 27, 1919. They're pictured in front of what's presumably the town's City Hall. Betting that the building's no longer standing and was likely replaced by the 1926 municipal building at 240 W. Franklin Boulevard. That structure also served as the fire station until 1953, when the fire department relocated to 117 W. Second Street. *That* building served until 2002, when the fire department relocated again. Maybe our Gastonia readers can add more details. [Click to enlarge:](#)



Both of the later Station 1 locations are still standing, along with Old Station 3 at 1502 W. Franklin Boulevard, Old Station 4 at 1012 S. New Hope Road, and Old Station 8 at 111 Camp Rotary Road (originally a Chapel Grove FD station). That is, at last check. Memo to self, swing through town on next westward trip and take new photos. Readers can use Google Street view to see how things look today. [Click to enlarge:](#)



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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

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Video - Tiller Versus Platform

11/23/13 71 W - + 10 - 9

Found via the [FireNews.net Twitter feed](#), here's an interesting video that compares a tractor-drawn aerial ladder (or tiller) with a platform ladder. The two are compared in timed tests in deploying their aerial devices, and turning and maneuvering their vehicles. The nine-minute video was posted by YouTube user [Ted Collins](#). There are a few nits worth picking, which we'll await as reader responses.

I don't understand the point of this video. This is not an apples to apples comparison. Two totally different trucks with different key characteristics. I didn't even watch the driving portion. There's no need. A useful comparison would be how much quicker can an aerial be deployed vs. a large ground ladder but even then there would be difference in personal/crew preferences and situational differences favoring one over the other. I can say that the one this this vid proves is not to store a PPV fan in front of your aerial controls.

Bob - 11/23/13 - 23:36

This video shows a lot to, maybe, city/town council or a fire chief. It shows the argument of the benefits of a tiller vs. a bucket. Both has their advantages and disadvantages. I will take a tiller any day over a bucket because of what the video shows and past experiences. True statement about the PPV fan.

Shannon - 11/24/13 - 23:00

good point, Shannon. I wasn't looking at it from that perspective, which does prove really enlightening to someone not familiar with performance characteristics....

Bob - 11/25/13 - 13:51

If the video also involved maneuverability through tight spaces and such, that would be extremely beneficial (if you were making a push for tiller pieces).

Silver - 11/25/13 - 18:52

Watch the whole video Silver.

Shannon - 11/25/13 - 22:21

Here's a good tiller maneuverability video from Seattle. <http://youtu.be/QXcqFtPNLn8>

Wants a tiller - 11/26/13 - 01:21

@Shannon, thanks! I saw the fan on the back bumper and punched out too early!

Silver - 11/26/13 - 01:34

The engineer operating the platform was obviously sandbagging. My assumption is the video was created by the department to compare what

they have now to what they want/need to have as a replacement.

Rescue Ranger - 11/26/13 - 11:14

In regards to the Seattle video that shows the true difference between a tillerman and someone who sits in the rear to keep the trailer aligned with the tractor. Awesome driving. True talent. I know of some pump operators who couldn't drive a pumper through those streets. Again, the difference between an engineer and a pump operator.

Rescue Ranger - 11/26/13 - 11:19

Well, as the resident lay person I was wondering why it took the guy so long to take that thing off the back of the ladder (didn't realise it was a fan until after he got it off and put it on the ground)

Paul - 11/27/13 - 09:44

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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

Adventures in Web Design and Organizing Raleigh's Fire History

11/23/13 523 W, 2 I - + 7 - 9

How's that web page working out? The one that's a single-page, big bucket of something? Maybe it's a storefront, for the public to learn everything and then some about your product or service. Maybe it's a private site on your company's network, that serves as a central "hub" of information. Maybe it's a personal page about a personal interest, say... the history of firefighting in Raleigh.

Below are current and future versions of my [Raleigh Fire Department history site](#). Changes are a-coming, but first let's answer a question. Why is this "my" page and not a [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) page? Because the content hasn't been moved there yet. That's planned. Timeframe is between now and whenever.

That said, how's that history page working out for you, Mike? Pretty good for my needs. I'm able to quickly and easy find stuff... most of the time. Okay, truth be told, it can take a few extra seconds. Sometimes, I have to think about "under what section does that link live?"

Wait a minute. If my page is occasionally confusing to me, **the guy that built the thing**, how the heck are regular users going to fare? (Yes, we're even talking about levels of fiber consumption here.) And right there, is problem number one with web design. This is what happens when a web site is based on what the **content creator** thinks, instead of the **content consumer**.

I recently came across the [San Francisco FD fire museum](#) site, and was impressed with the left-side navigation. The links are organized by topic and listed mostly alphabetically. That's a better approach than my site, which is organized by document (or content) type. Worse, the categories aren't listed in alphabetical order. Thus my latest project, to reorganize my page to behave more like their page.

[Here's the new version](#) of my Raleigh FD history page, shown below beside the current version. The links are organized by topic, and exclusively alphabetically. Most of the content lives on legeros.com, but a few pieces are elsewhere. The thing's about ninety-five percent finished. Some of the link labels might get tweak. Ditto for some of the topic categories. What do you think? Click to access each:

The image displays two versions of the Raleigh Fire Department History website side-by-side. The left version is the current one, featuring a dense list of links organized by document type (e.g., Historical Photos, Timelines, Maps/Charts, City Ordinances). The right version is the new version, showing a more organized and alphabetical navigation structure with categories like Alarm Systems, Apparatus, Budget Records, Buildings, Hydrants, Laws and Ordinances, Maps, Personnel Information, and Photos. Both versions include a top navigation bar with links to Virtual Museum, Oral History Project, Stations, Apparatus, Videos, and Books.

What's next? The new page will replace the old page. Then planning (or procrastination) will start for the next version. That iteration will involve landing pages for each topic. Thus a page for Apparatus, and a page for Buildings, etc. The links will be moved to their respective topical (not tropical) landing page. The main page, shown above, will become smaller. Alas, you'll have to browse deeper, to see everything's that's on the site. (The big list o' links will become a site map, on a separate page that's linked from the main page. Got that?)

Unless I change my mind, of course.

Eventually, we'll move the whole thing to the [raleighfiremuseum.org](#). That's the ideal gateway to all things about the history of the Raleigh Fire Department.

See what you think. Post or send comments.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

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Combine Demolition Derby

11/24/13 137 W - + 8 - 10

For your Sunday afternoon diversion, here's a YouTube video about a combine demolition derby in Lind, Washington. The tiny town's annual event was chronicled by writer Chuck Palahniuk in his essay "Demolition," which appeared in his 2004 non-fiction collection *Stranger Than Fiction*. (He's the guy that wrote *Fight Club*. I'm listening to the non-fiction book on audiobook.) The rules includes no glass in the cab, no concrete in the tires, and no combines newer than twenty-five years old. Such contests are held throughout the grain belt, as [this Wikipedia article](#) notes. This video was produced by "Farmers Almanac Television" and uploaded in 2006. (The resolution is a bit poor, but it's an engaging clip.) You can find more footage by searching YouTube, including clips from this year's event in Lind.

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Thanksgiving at Station 5 - Then & Now

11/28/13 141 W, 2 I - + 15 - 10

Here's a passable re-creation of a neat *News & Observer* photo from 1980. That's the staff of the Velvet Cloak Inn serving Thanksgiving dinner at Station 5, on November 27, 1980. Bottom photo is "B" platoon enjoying a family dinner this evening. Not shown is the rest of the crew, their family and friends, and one photographer in a floral pattern shirt. There are two more tables outside the frame.

Then, Station 5 housed two companies. Engine 5 operated a 1975 Mack, and Truck 5 operated a 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance tiller. The department had fifteen fire stations protecting 55.2 square miles and 150,255 residents.

Now, Station 5 houses an engine company and an air truck. They are a 2002 Spartan/Quality and 2002 International/SVI, respectively. Today, the department has twenty-seven fire stations protecting 144.39 square miles and 423,179 people. Click to enlarge:



News & Observer photo



Last Night's Two-Alarm Fire in Cary

11/28/13 164 W, 2 I - + 9 - 15

Two alarms were struck last night in Cary, at a residential structure fire at 112 South Atley Lane. The fire was reported about 10:30 p.m. The two-story, wood-frame, three-family dwelling measured 3,232 square-feet. It was built in 1986. Heavy fire through the roof was reported by callers. A second alarm was requested ~~on arrival~~ as units were en route. All occupants escaped without injury, and three pets were also saved.

The first alarm assignment was Engine 1, Engine 2, Ladder 1, Ladder 3, Rescue 1, Battalion 1, and Morrisville as auto-aid. The second-alarm assignment was Engine 4, Engine 3, Ladder 5, Battalion 2, and Car 3. Special called units were Engine 5 and Ladder 6 for relief, and Rescue 4 and Brush 9 for fire watch. Need EMS units, readers can you assist? Coverage during the fire included Western Wake Engine 191 at Station 1. This morning, Ladder 3, Brush 9, and Battalion 2 were on scene, assisting the Wake County fire investigator. [See more photos by Legeros.](#)



2nd alarm was called while units were en-route by Bat-1 due Cary central advising several callers stating flames showing from the roof. R-2 marked on the scene w/ heavy fire showing two story tri-plex w/evacuation in progress.

Jay - 11/29/13 - 13:43

I believe it was EMS 51, 4, 8 and District 5

ems - 11/29/13 - 14:46

Name: (real name preferred)

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Morning Reading - November 29, 2013

11/29/13 303 W - + 10 - 13

Good morning Raleigh. Was ours a working fire-free Thanksgiving Day in Raleigh/Wake County? Seem so. Hope everyone had a good holiday. Now let's hit the stores and the crowds, either for stuff buying or people watching. That's good entertainment there. Meanwhile, here's a trio of stories that caught my eye on the FirefighterNation/FireRescue Magazine [Facebook page](#). That's one of my favorites for comments and discussions. Another is the [Law Officer Facebook page](#), which really gets cooking with reader comments. Anyway, happy reading, happy Friday, happy holidays.

- [Firefighter Invents Device to Stop Kitchen Fires](#) - *FireRescue Magazine* story from January, about a firefighter-turned-inventor and his smoke alarm-sensing device that stops power to an electric stove. The thing is calibrated to the acoustic signature of smoke detectors. To operate, plug into outlet, and plug stove into the device. Will kitchen fires become a thing of the past? Could be.
- [Reducing Tanker Crashes and Fatalities](#) - FirefighterNation article about safe operation of tankers, in the context of a 2003 report from the USFA. Ten years later, tankers are still crashing and the causes remaining the same. And they account for more vehicle response-related fatalities than pumpers and ladders combined. Responding cold is one technique, and to the extent, the author notes, that some departments are equipping their equipment with all-amber warning lights and no sirens. Now there's an idea.
- [Boston's Ladder Culture](#) - Firefighter Basics posting from May, that answers the question "why does Boston throw so many ladders?" The answer is combination of "better to have and not need" in a general sense, and specific commentary about the streets and buildings and building access in Boston. With images from the great fire photographer [Bill Noonan](#). How many ladders does your department throw?

In reference to Boston's ladder culture; I would like to reverse the question and ask "why aren't we throwing more"? In the RFD, our directive for fire ground operations was finalized with simplicity in mind. With two Ladder Companies responding to all reported fires, the laddering tasks are split between the two with the first responsible for A&B divisions, and the second C&D. It doesn't get any easier than that.

There's some crazy mindset out there that if I'm not dirty or on the inside, I haven't contributed to the mission. This couldn't be any farther from the truth. We place ladders for egress and ingress. If the shit hits the fan on the interior, and there aren't several portable ladders placed for egress at multiple windows, then we haven't done our job and heads should roll. It's a big "if", but it's an "if" we shouldn't be rolling the dice on.

With the aforementioned fire-ground operating order in mind; it is up to the Officer in Charge of the crew to have a plan in place before the buzzer, with all members on the same page, and see it through via company drilling and a critique with the crew at the end of every fire (what can we do better and what did we do well). Big deal if it's a single story house, place one to the roof for access and PRACTICE.

Here's just a suggestion as a baseline to make things real easy;

o First Ladder; OIC and Irons member go interior; Driver and O.V. place one portable ladder a piece at A/B. Driver then places the main to the roof or balcony. The O.V. finishes the ladder tasks at A/B and performs initial venting horizontally.

o Second Ladder; OIC evaluates the rear, while the Driver, Irons and O.V. bring one ladder each. The Driver returns to the rig and gets the main to the roof/balcony/window.

o If either rig is a platform, use it as a working platform to vent windows at upper floors or take it to the roof like an elevator.

It's about having a plan within your company and practicing it, something we can do right in quarters since all ladders and pumpers have portable ladders. Practice it, I think you'll see it's an easy task and with just the simplest of plan, can be accomplished quickly and efficiently.

Take care...

Silver ([Email](#)) - 12/01/13 - 21:54

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preferred)

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UPDATED: Remembering the Raleigh Tornado - Nov. 27, 1988

12/08/13 398 W, 3 I - + 11 - 7

December 8

Added [this historical document](#) (PDF), that includes the previously transcribed response report, plus profiles of Raleigh FD and Wake EMS, plus excerpts from log book entries of the fire units. And a couple maps.

November 29

Twenty-five years ago yesterday, local responders were jolted into action after an early morning tornado touched down in northwest Raleigh. The 1:00 a.m. storm struck with virtually no warning, starting at Umstead Park. The funnel continued east and northeast, crossing Glenwood Avenue and striking and collapsing a K-Mart store. The nearby Raleigh fire station on Pleasant Valley was missed, though the Durham Highway fire station on Davis Circle was blown down.

The path continued in a north/northeastern tract, damaging and destroying apartment buildings and houses as far north as Mourning Dove Road off Six Forks Road. It continued into the county, and through much of the state, nearly reaching the Virginia border. In Raleigh, two people were killed and 102 others were injured. The tornado damaged or destroyed dozens of businesses and hundreds of homes.

The emergency response included some 225 Raleigh firefighters, with 12 engines, 2 truck companies, 2 rescues, three mini-pumpers, and other units. At least fifteen Wake County fire departments responded with dozens of personnel and numerous units. Five Durham County fire departments also responded. The EMS response numbered some two-dozen (or more) ambulances, from all of Wake County's rescue squads and EMS providers. Ambulances also responded from Durham, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, and Orange counties.

Here are a couple photos from *News & Observer* photographers, as well as some web links. They include two prior blog postings on the subject. Where are any photos from Legeros? He was working as a traffic reporter, on a split shift of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (abouts) and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (abouts). Don't recall any pictures taken, but he wandered on foot through the staging/command area, and drove around the Leesville Road/Six Forks road areas, gawking like the rest of the world. The pine, the pine.

Histories

- [North Raleigh Tornado - November 28, 1988](#) (fire/EMS response and more) (PDF)

Words

- [Raleigh Tornado Response Summary, 1988](#) (blog)
- [Tornado Staging, November 28, 1988](#) (blog)
- [New York Times/Associated Press article](#)
- [News & Observer retrospective](#)
- [Summary of Weather Event](#) (NWS)
- [Wikipedia entry](#)

Video

- [WRAL television news coverage](#) from the 6:00 p.m. newscast
- [WRAL remembers twentieth anniversary](#)

Pictures



News & Observer photos

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

Remember personal info?
Yes

Raleigh Fire Department Radios - July 17, 1956

12/02/13 167 W, 1 I - + 5 - 0

Found this this weekend, while researching the early portable radios used by the Raleigh Fire Department. (More on that later.) The fire department's mobile radio system was installed in 1955, with a base station in the dispatcher's office at Station 1. Two years later, base stations were placed in service at all fire stations. Radio watch was started on February 7, 1957. The hours were 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. [Here's a related post](#), showing a typed list that's dated circa 1957.

This document lists all engine and truck companies, as well as a number of support vehicles, such as a fire alarm truck and what's presumably the Fire Chief's vehicle, Car #100. The other cars were probably assigned to the Assistant Chiefs, and the members of the Fire Prevention Bureau. The other "trucks" probably included maintenance vehicles (or vehicle, maybe just one pick-up assigned to the shop), maybe the second unit of the rescue squad, and the reserve trucks. Click to enlarge:

July 19, 1956
 Frequency check #11213 Operating frequency 16200
 Silas H. Moore, Radio Telephone, Good class PL-5-327

Serial No.	Unit	Frequency	Deviation
G-5295	Car #1	+ 1 1/2 K.C.	11 K.C.
XE4534	Car #2	- 3/4 K.C.	11 1/2 K.C.
G-5081	Car #3	+ 1 K.C.	11 K.C.
AC1982	Engine #1	+ 2 K.C.	12 K.C.
AC1982	Engine #2	0 K.C.	11 K.C.
YE2376	Engine #3	+ 4/8 K.C.	10 1/2 K.C.
YE5156	Engine #4	+ 2 K.C.	11 1/2 K.C.
YE5057	Engine #5	+ 2 3/4 K.C.	10 K.C.
AG2862	Engine #6	+ 1 K.C.	11 K.C.
YE5057	Engine #7	+ 1/4 K.C.	10 3/4 K.C.
AG2857	Rescue #1	0 K.C.	11 3/4 K.C.
AG2265	Service Truck #1	+ 2 K.C.	11 K.C.
AG3761	Fire Alarm #1	+ 1 K.C.	10 3/4 K.C.
X46065	Rescue #1	- 1/4 K.C.	10 K.C.
AG3767	Car #100	- 1 K.C.	11 K.C.
AG2266	Truck #101	+ 1 1/2 K.C.	10 K.C.
YE4117	Truck # 203	0 K.C.	10 3/4 K.C.
YE4120	Car #300	+ 2 K.C.	10 K.C.
AG4145	Truck # 401	- 1/4 K.C.	11 3/4 K.C.
AG4466	Truck # 502	+ 1 K.C.	11 3/4 K.C.
X44411	Truck # 513	0 K.C.	11 K.C.
YE4181	Car #600	+ 1/4 K.C.	10 K.C.
AG2866	Car #605	- 1 K.C.	11 3/4 K.C.
YE5062	Truck # 634	+ 2 K.C.	10 K.C.
YE4830	Truck # 657	+ 1/4 K.C.	12 K.C.
YE5328	Base Transmitter	+ 1/4 K.C.	12 K.C.

Power input to final P-52T
 $P = \text{Plate Voltage} \times \text{Cathode current} = \text{Total power input to final}$
 $P = 670V \times .2 = 1340 \text{ watts.}$

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
 No

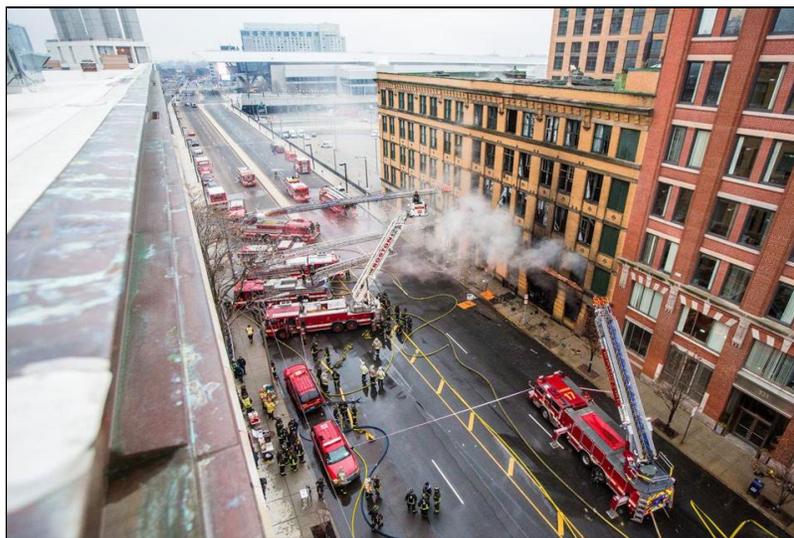
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Leaving Room For The Ladders in Boston

12/04/13 71 W, 1 I - + 5 - 1

Found via the [FireNews.net on Twitter](#) is this excellent Aram Boghosian photo from yesterday's *Boston Globe*. Was the scene of a rare eight-alarm fire in a century-old commercial building near Fort Point Channel. What are some of things you see in this photo? [Read more about the fire](#), or [see more of Adam's photos](#). Click to enlarge:



Aram Boghosian/Boston Globe photo

A perfect example which really hammers home the saying "you can add hose, but you can't add ladder".

Silver - 12/04/13 - 19:47

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'?

Edenton's Restored 1923 Reo

12/05/13 101 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Our friends at the Edenton Fire Department pass along this photo of their 1923 Reo fire engine, of which restoration was recently completed by members of the department. The project took about a year to complete, on and off. They did their own body work, with pain done by a body shop. Everything else was in-house. You can see some photos of the disassembled truck (and a couple vintage images) from [Mr. Blogger's visit in May](#). And here's a prior posting about the [history of Edenton's fire department](#), through their fire station locations. Thanks Josh! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)
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Remember personal info?

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Blocking on the Beltline

12/06/13 48 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

That's Medic 93 in the foreground and Engine 16 and Squad 14 in the background, at a motor-vehicle accident with injuries on the inner lanes of the Beltline just past Glenwood Avenue. From last Friday, ~~December~~ November 29. [See more photos by Legeros](#), or click to enlarge:



I think you mean November 29

Censor - 12/06/13 - 14:57

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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

SBI Special Response Team Truck

12/07/13 50 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Found in files. Photographed in August 2005, somewhere in Wilson, NC. Perhaps parked at a fire station, or at the police department? What other SBI armored response units are hidden around our state? See [more special police vehicles](#) as photographed by Legeros. 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 Old Photos of the Raleigh Fire Department

12/08/13 177 W - + 3 - 2

The Raleigh Fire Museum web site has posted some new old photos of the fire department. They're [displayed in this gallery](#), which presents images collected by Mike Legeros, during research from 2000 to 2012. They were obtained from the North Carolina State Archives, and images dated 1938 and later are copyright News & Observer. They appeared in the News & Observer and Raleigh Times. The new additions were obtained during research for the Raleigh Fire Department [centennial history book](#). Here's what's new:

1910s-1940s

- [Page 1](#) - First officers, early photos, Simpkins Garage, more Yarborough views
- [Page 2](#) - Steamer in parade

1950s

- [Page 1](#) - More parade photos
- [Page 2](#) - More parade photos, Station 2 dedication speaker, second set parade photos
- [Page 3](#) - Parade continued, Station 1 posed shots
- [Page 4](#) - Home inspection

1960s

- [Page 2](#) - Ladies Auxiliary
- [Page 3](#) - Alarm box
- [Page 4](#) - Fire prevention display close-up views

1980s

- [Page 4](#) - New Helmets (continued on Page 5)

1990s

- [Page 3](#) - Explorers, EMS transporting patient
- [Page 4](#) - Confined space training, Wakestone Gardens, high-level rescue, Millbrook school

Name: (real name preferred)
 E-mail: (optional)
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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

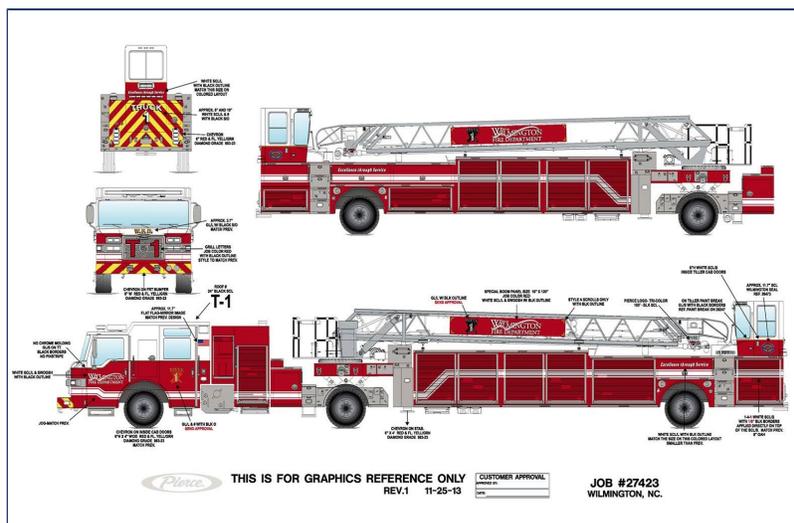
Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Drawings of Wilmington's Tiller

12/11/13 57 W, 1 I - + 9 - 7

From the [Atlantic Emergency Solutions Facebook page](#), check out this baby! Pierce Velocity tiller with PUC configuration. Meaning, it's a quint. In production for the Wilmington Fire Department. One more tiller for the Carolinas, which'll join Raleigh, High Point, Cornelius-Lemley in NC and Charleston and Hilton Head in SC. Click to enlarge:



Ooh, does this mean we can start arguing again over quints are worthwhile? You can never miss the chance to flog a subject to death :)

Paul - 12/11/13 - 10:09

Legeros is wrong. That isn't a quint. It's not equipped/designed to be a full engine + full ladder. Better called ladder + pump, water, some hose.

Bubba - 12/11/13 - 10:21

Raleigh's tillered L4 is, by definition, a quint. In fact, every front line aerial Raleigh has is, by definition, a quint. They all can be 1st-due on a fire and perform the role of an engine company and have the 5 requirements to be considered a "quint".

Rescue Ranger - 12/11/13 - 20:11

Really didn't like the movie 'Jaws' so I don't have any favorite characters.

But as to meaning of "quint", it comes from the basic functions/capacities of fire apparatus- pump (500 gpm or greater), hose, tank, ground ladders, aerial device. Originally, the term "triple combination" was given to those trucks that had a pump, a hose bed, and a water tank. In those days, a lot of larger cities (i.e. Los Angeles City Fire Department) ran two-piece companies with dual combinations. One would have the pump and hose bed, and the second would have the tank and, sometimes, a 'booster pump'. Two-piece companies seemed to be popular in larger cities, particularly the west coast.

The next development was the "quad", which had a pump, tank, hose bed, and a complement of ground ladders. Quads were popular up through the late 50s and early 60s. Seems like someone around here had one (Wilson, maybe?). To get an idea of the quad, think service ladder truck with a pump and tank. I know of one department in the Northeast that ordered a Mack CF quad in the 1980s.

Quints have been around for a while, but more popular of late. I am not sure what the actual requirements are now, but a few years ago, a UL

rated pump (>500-750 gpm), at least 250 gallons of water, hose beds for a certain amount of attack line and supply line hose, NFPA complement of ground ladders, an aerial device that qualified as a ladder (Telesqrts or Sqrts did not count) was considered a quint.

DJ - 12/12/13 - 09:17

I feel like the PUC set-up on a tiller increases the tractor wheelbase to the point that it is longer than an engine company. A tiller/quint like RFD L-4 already has a longer wheelbase due to the pump than a typical tiller. Are the benefits of buying a tiller even worth it when the PUC tractor is that long?

Lee - 12/13/13 - 15:39

I bet it's no longer than a tandem axle tractor.

Rescue Ranger - 12/15/13 - 11:33

From what I understand it is going to just barely fit in its bay. Also, all of Wilmington's trucks (formerly towers) are quints. Mainly due to the fact that they are all Sutphen which doesn't make a true truck. Hence why the new tiller is a quint.

MCNelson - 12/15/13 - 15:48

Actually Sutphen does make a "true truck". I saw one at an expo, tons of compartment space. Good luck to WFD with their new rig.

http://www.five-star-fire.com/new_trucks..

Silver - 12/15/13 - 21:31

It is quite a bit longer than the tandem axle aerials. Lexena Kansas (Wilmington's twin) has a 214" wheelbase and is 65' feet long.

Seattle's tandem aerials have a 185" wheelbase and are about 59' long but the body is shortened about 21" due to no waterway.

Sacramento Metro Fire has a Quantum tandem 170" wheelbase and 61' long.

Clayton Co, GA is 149" wheelbase and 59' overall. This is a more "standard" tiller design.

GAfireman ([Email](#)) - 12/16/13 - 20:39

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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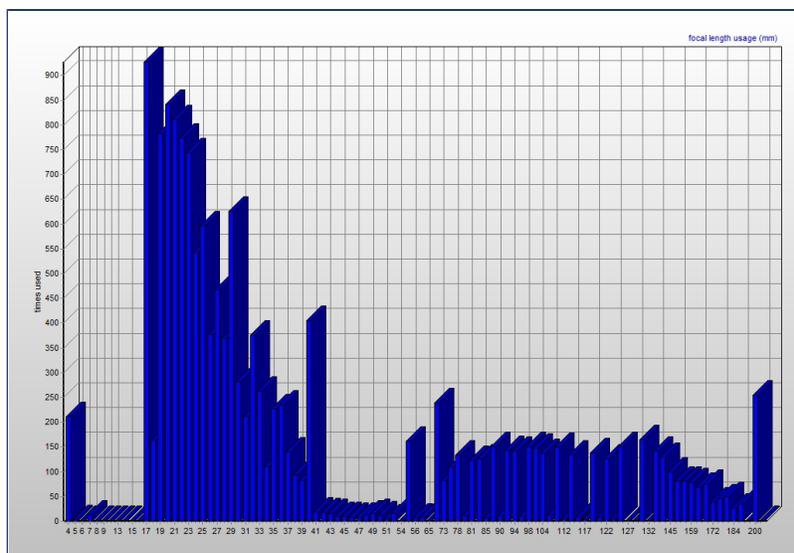
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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.

Great DSLR Utility: ExposurePlot

12/11/13 120 W, 1 I - + 4 - 2

Buying a lens this holiday season? Can't decide on the best local length for your uses? Then check your data, dummy. What's the most common focal length(es) that you use? You say I'm an idiot for suggesting such a time-consuming task, reviewing EXIF information for God knows how many photos? Agreed on the first part, but the second step is easy. [Try the program ExposurePlot](#), which analyzes one or many folders of JPEG images. Then it produces nifty graphics, like this one that shows my focal lengths of my posted fire photos this year. My current lens, BTW, are a 17-55mm (primary) and 70-200mm (secondary, but primary for portraits). Click to enlarge:



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

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

Wake Forest News Covers Yesterday Morning's House Fire

12/11/13 77 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

[Read this Wake Forest News story.](#) Wake Forest and Rolesville fire departments. Fire showing through first floor on arrival. Searches negative for possible life hazard. Fire extending to attic and through. Offensive operations changed to defensive. And downtown Wake Forest was alive with the sound of sirens. Readers can provide additional details as desired. Blog Man has to get ready for work.



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Flash vs. No Flash on Millbrook Road

12/12/13 94 W, 4 I - + 3 - 3

The upside, everything gets lit. The downside, reflective striping gets glaring. Your mileage may vary, based on camera and flash settings. These are from Monday morning's commercial structure fire on Millbrook Road. [See more photos by Legeros](#), or click to enlarge.



Technical notes:

- Canon 7D DSLR
- Canon EF 17-40mm f/4L USM
- Program AE
- 1/60 Tv (top left), 1/30 Tv (top right), 1/60 Tv (bottom left), 1/15 Tv (bottom right)
- 4.0 Av
- 33.0mm (top left), 29.0mm (top right), 24.0mm (bottom left), 19.0mm (bottom right)
- Partial metering
- 3200 ISO
- Flash exposure compensation+2/3

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, December 14

12/12/13 156 W, 1 I - + 4 - 1

Looking for a fun activity on a cold and possibly rainy Saturday in December? Visit the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) at the fire department training center in downtown Raleigh. We're open this Saturday, December 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. That's our monthly opening, on the second Saturday of the month.

The museum is located in a modular classroom at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Admission is free. Parking and restrooms are available. [Here's a two-minute video tour](#). Learn more about the museum, and the non-profit organization that operates it, at www.raleighfiremuseum.org.

Please note that antique fire engines are located elsewhere. Both the museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) and the city's [collection of antique fire apparatus](#) is housed at at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). Visitors are welcome. Or schedule a tour at www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours. Here's more information about both destinations:

Experience the History of Firefighting in Raleigh



See antique fire engines at Fire Station 28
3500 Forestville Road, Raleigh NC
Visitors welcome



Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum
105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh NC
Open second Saturday of each month, 10 to 2
Admission is free

www.raleighfiremuseum.org

Fire Station 28

Fire Station 28 is located at 3500 Forestville Road in Raleigh, NC. It houses a 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, two 1953 rescue boats, a 1961 American LaFrance pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.




Raleigh Fire Museum

The Raleigh Fire Museum is located just a few blocks south of downtown Raleigh at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. It's open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 900 square-foot museum includes hundreds of artifacts and photographs. Major exhibits include the city's 1870 fire alarm bell, an early 19th century hose reel, and color film footage from 1950.




Schedule tours for both locations at
www.raleighfiremuseum.org/tours

The Raleigh Fire Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to preserve and present the history of firefighting in North Carolina's Capital City. Learn how you can contribute. Contact our organization at contact@raleighfiremuseum.org or PO Box 31084, Raleigh, NC 27622. Our phone number is 919-964-1070.

Today is the 12th Saturday is the 14th.

stretch - 12/12/13 - 12:46

Name: (real name)

Remember personal info?

New Wheels For EMS 201

12/15/13 49 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Seen on South Saunders Street yesterday. Chevy Silverado long bed with covered bed, guessing 2014 model? Assigned to the Assistant Chief for Logistics. Wonder what a full fleet list looks like, both ambulances and support vehicles. From your Man on the Street. Click to enlarge:



Good looking truck, the grille guard is a nice touch. I noticed the old SFEMS Dodge up at state surplus, not a bad deal for under \$5k. An old DC-2 Suburban fetched \$14.5k.

PJ - 12/15/13 - 18:53

At first I wasn't a fan of the pickup platform. However, for the Battalion Chief role I think it's a great idea (or in this case a Logistics Chief). The Chevy 4wd model with four doors and a camper shell is more attractive in my opinion.

You keep the same passenger room as a Tahoe, and can configure the bed with a nice slide out command area, not to mention so much more utility space versus a Tahoe.

Silver - 12/15/13 - 22:07

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Vintage Atlanta Airport Fire Apparatus

12/15/13 238 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Found these on eBay, in a number of recently completed auctions. They're scans from 35mm slides, being auctioned from the collection of the late Richard M. Adelman of Memphis, TN. The original photographers were Decher, Jean-Pierre REDON, and Bryon Brown. Guessing they were mostly or entirely shot around the time of the first Colet delivery, in the early 1990s. Maybe a reader can post the current fleet roster. Click once or twice to heartily enlarge, or see this earlier posting of ours, with [some more images](#) including a nice aerial photo of the fleet from, say, the early 1980s:



Here's what depicted:

- Command Unit - 1988 Ford/Wheeled Coach command truck
- Ladder 24 - 1973 Mack CF aerialscope
- Squad 24 - 1992 Spartan Gladiator rescue
- T4 - 1991 E-One Titan IV ARFF unit
- Y1 - 1973 Oshkosh M15 ARFF unit
- Y2 - 1973 Oshkosh M15 ARFF unit
- Y4 - 1982 Oshkosh M15 ARFF unit
- Y5 - 1982 Mack CF pumper with foam & turret
- Y5 - 1990 Spartan Gladiator-Quality pumper
- Y6 - 1991 Spartan Gladiator-Quality telesqurt
- Y6 - 1991 Spartan Quality pumper
- Y7 - 1990 Spartan Gladiator-Grumman aerial tower
- Y8 - 1984 American LaFrance pumper
- Y9 - 1981 Oshkosh T6 ARFF unit
- Y10 - 1981 Oshkosh T6 ARFF unit
- Y11 - 1981 Oshkosh T6 ARFF unit
- Y11 - 1994 Colet ARFF unit
- Y14 - 1990 Ford E-One mini pumper
- Y15 - 1991 Spartan Gladiator/Quality pumper
- Y16 - 1991 Spartan Gladiator/LTI tiller, 110-feet
- Y17 - 1979 Chevrolet triage unit
- YO! - 1997 Colet ARFF unit

UPDATED: Robeson County Firefighter Death

12/18/13 135 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

December 18

Arrangements have been posted. Family visitation in Sunday in Parkton. Funeral service is Monday, also in Parkton. See the [FireNews.net story](#) for more information.

December 16

[FireNews.net has posted some information](#) on the death of Parkton Volunteer Fire Department firefighter David Brophy, 41, who died at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center on Sunday. He had previously answered a call, and later became ill while at home. Brody had served with the Robeson County fire department since October. He was a veteran of the Frontier Volunteer Fire Department in Niagra Falls, NY, where he served more than fifteen years. He was one of the responders to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City. [WRAL posted this story](#) last night, with this photo:



Name: (real name preferred)

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Yes

No

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Vintage Asheville, Asheboro Apparatus

12/18/13 115 W, 3 I - + 7 - 5

Photographer Lee Wilson's been digging through his archives and posting bits and pieces from his apparatus explorations of a double-decade ago. Pictured below are Asheville Tanker 2 and Tanker 8 on August 1, 1992, and Asheboro Snorkel 1 in the mid-1990s (?).

The snorkel is a 1966 Ward LaFrance High-Ranger 85-foot and is reportedly still on the roster! We saw plenty of Snorkel-brand snorkels in the state. How many High-Rangers were around? Durham and Greenville had them!

The tankers are two Fords of unknown model years. Tanker 2 carried 3,200 gallons and Tanker 8 carried 1,200 gallons. Guessing the second truck was shop-built, but maybe the first one as well? Interesting outfitting! [See more photos from Lee.](#)





Lee Wilson photos

Looks like snorkels are a thing of the past...are they not built anymore or desired by FDs?

Newbie ff - 12/18/13 - 07:30

Isn't "Snorkel-brand snorkels" a bit of a mouthful? :)

What's the definition of a 'snorkel' anyway – as a kid I've only ever seen the word prefixed by Simon, IE 'Simon snorkel' but I still have no idea what a snorkel is. From the picture it looks like any other ladder or tower.

Also, you might find this interesting -> <http://books.google.com/books?id=GLXSuv5..>

Paul - 12/18/13 - 10:53

Chicago FD with their two-piece Squad concept runs two rigs, one a smaller walk-in rescue and the second piece labeled "Squad #A", which is a snorkel-esque rig, just placed an order through Rosenbauer for replacements.

<http://chicagoareafire.com/blog/tag/chic..>

The "Snozzle" concept is still in use to this day as well, and still has a small market, as some smaller departments just looking for an elevated master stream may see the savings, in lieu of buying an aerial apparatus.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/philadelphi..>

Silver - 12/18/13 - 12:44

Snorkel is the brand name of articulating platform. If I remember correctly Snorkel is the name of the company that was founded by a (Chicago?) firefighter who came up with the idea.

Rescue Ranger - 12/18/13 - 17:18

He speaks the truth...."The Snorkel as a Fire apparatus has it's origins in Chicago in 1958. The Fire Commissioner Robert J. Quinn had been looking for something to replace the department's three antiquated water towers, which manufacturers were no longer making. Commissioner Quinn had watched in fascination, tree trimmers and electric-sign repairmen using trucks with two hydraulically operated elevating arms that lifted them in baskets high in the air. The workers quickly moved up and down, in and out, swung from side to side, and rotated 360 degrees.

Quinn described his ideas with the department's chief automotive engineer. "Suppose we mounted a nozzle in the basket and attached several lengths of hoseline to it. We could pump into it just as we do our water towers. These platforms will provide the maneuverability and versatility we lack in water towers that remain stationary. We'd be able to sweep the entire fire floors and at better angles, too. What's more, these same characteristics would make them ideal for rescuing people from upper floors. The Pitman Manufacturing Company, Grandview, Missouri, builder of aerial platforms, was contacted and agreed to cooperate in an experiment to test one for fire fighting.

The platforms had been invented in 1951 by Ted Thornton Trump of Oliver, British Columbia. Trump named his invention the Giraffe and built

it primarily for orchards, where workers called it a cherry picker. About three years later, Firemen of New Westminster, British Columbia, lifted a hoseline in a Giraffe and used it to fight a store fire. But practical development of elevating platforms for fire fighting went no further until they sparked Quinn's innovative curiosity.

In September, 1958, Pitman delivered a 50 foot elevating platform mounted on a General Motors Corporation chassis, and the platforms was outfitted. In the Chicago Fire Department Shops. Tests showed that engines pumping into base mounted water inlets could produce a stream of 1,200 gallons per minute, through a 2" diameter nozzle, at a maximum pressure of 100 psi. The platform got its first test of fire at 1:00 am on the 18th of October, 1958. When it was called to a 4 alarm lumberyard fire on Chicago's south side. Fireman John Windle, operating the nozzle from the basket, helped to bring the blaze under control in a fraction of the time normally expected for a fire of equal magnitude. First Deputy Fire Marshal James A Bailey said "I can't believe how quickly and accurately it worked. It really plastered this fire in a hurry." Chief Fire Marshal Raymond J. Daley said "In 33 yrs of fire fighting I never saw anything as effective and maneuverable."

Silver - 12/18/13 - 19:29

When LaFrance first got the Snorkel there was a separate box sent with the original driver's side door with two bullet holes from the 68 riots. The last time I was at the museum they told me they still had it. There is another Snorkel in NC at Southern Shores Fire Dept I believe its a 2002 American LaFrance.

Rod Warner - 12/18/13 - 23:39

Pembroke Rural Fire Dept in Robeson County has a Bronto Skylift.

<http://www.pembrokeruralfd.com/9273.html>

Marcus - 12/20/13 - 13:06

Winston-Salem's first Snorkel was a 1964 FWD-Pitman Snorkel (75' with a pump). The second Snorkel was a 1968 model (85' unit with a pump). (Both units saw a lot of fire in their days). High Point also had an 85' Snorkel, I think it was around a 1974 model. The Lexington unit was built using a Grumman body and was delivered around 1988 +/-.

Curtis Teague ([Email](#)) - 12/20/13 - 22:55

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

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Radio-Controlled Firefighting at a Scale-Model Warehouse Fire

12/18/13 47 W - + 10 - 3

From a reader comes this amusing, amazing piece of work, a scale-model movie from Germany showing radio-controlled model fire engines in action. What's the size/scale on those things, you think? Video is from 2012, and has over 1.5 million views!

Name: (real name
preferred)
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Baltimore Video - Fast Truck Ops, But...

12/20/13 443 W - + 7 - 3

Saw this on Statter911, [his posting of a pre-arrival video](#) of a rowhouse fire on Saturday in Baltimore. The address was 1725 Poplar Grove Street. The videographer is Rick Rumbarger. The footage shows Truck 18 arriving and deployed in about 75 seconds. Just like that. Then the driver/operator continues up the ladder, saw in hand, to perform ventilation. Except, he's not wearing SCBA. This and other observations are subsequently discussed through over 200 (and counting) reader comments. There seem to be two distinct schools of opinion: that's real firefighting there versus that's really dangerous there.

The clip:

Some comments:

- "This is why we kill 100 firefighter[s] a year."
- "Most of these comments are laughable! You have no idea what it's like in a city."
- "Seriously, how can you defend not wearing your gear?"
- "Not worth arguing over, we do the same job... Why add more awkward weight when you are going to the roof?"
- "Can you really defend not wearing all your gear? How do you justify that...?"
- "That's a young mans attitude. Try telling your wife and kids that and see how they feel about it."
- "Firefighting is dangerous. This is firefighting in the 2000s with no manpower, no money."
- "Forget about the safety missteps and what else we would have done differently... the bottom line is that CANCER not fire is the number one leading cause of FF deaths and disability."
- "I'm just guessing here, but I figure it's not the first rowhouse fire these companies have been to."
- "I'm OK with roof ops, just bewildered that the guy had no SCBA."
- "None of you guys who criticize safety measures would make it on my department."
- "BCFD did a good job fighting the fire. However, who would want to put there HEALTH at risk."
- "Everyone has there ways. This is how its done. Most of you critical folks on here are probably nothing but chiefs and or t-shirt firefighters."
- "What good does it do to wear SCBA if you're not using the air in the bottle. That is one of the biggest false securities we have."
- "It's refreshing to see a job well done. If all the safety commenters were in charge we'd be watching the block turn into a parking lot."

Your thoughts?

Yes, wide-open field there. The practices depicted in the video. The culture(s) of the fire service. Social media, quarterbacking, and discussions of fire service culture(s). Go nuts.

Having spent some time in Baltimore, I'm sure BCFD has their rowhouse tactics down. Yet when things get treated as "routine" is when accidents happen. Sure, ding the guy for no SCBA, but isn't that how firefighters earned the title "smoke eater"? My concern would be hitting the roof solo, no partner, no extra tool to check stability. Was he showboating since the camera guy went up to the O side of the truck? But hey, I wasn't there, it's just my opinion.

Charlie - 12/20/13 - 09:44

Well look at that....a sound firefighting procedure followed, everyone performing their assigned tasks (front and rear), and the fire was confined and went out. No "showboating" here, these guys go to row home fires daily, and have nothing to prove.

The guy going to the roof would be the driver of the rig, in OFFENSIVE MODE, due to the fact that everyone else is in OFFENSIVE MODE. He placed his ground ladder (aerial), went to the roof, performed his duties, all which contributed to the success of the operation. The one thing I will say, he probably should have grabbed his SCBA. The culture "up there", at least in some areas, is if we are on the roof we aren't in the IDLH and we don't need it because it slows you down. It's debatable from both sides, but just speaking for me, I would have thrown mine on.

Notice, the roof man later comes back to the ladder to retrieve his hook. That may have been his way of doing things, or he may have forgotten it when he stepped off the tip.

Also note, the videographer was on the phone, presumably with 911, and he told them "there's nobody on either side". Take it a step further, the crews still went in, because squatters are all over the city. WE MUST BE THE ONES TO DETERMINE A BUILDING IS VACANT. I'll ask this; if you pull up to a fire, and a bystander tells you to "take a 3" line in there", would you do it? Of course you wouldn't, so why are we letting someone else determine when our searches are all clear? If someone tells you the building is vacant, log it into your brain for "good to know info", evaluate the advancement of the fire, and then make a determination if we can make a stop and initiate search and rescue functions.

These are urban firefighting strategy and tactics, but cancer is baaaaaad, bad stuff. We have to protect our lungs and bodies.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year to all!

Silver - 12/20/13 - 13:03

Just because they run lots of row house fire, or that's "how it's done" there, etc. Doesn't mean it's good decision making. The idea that being on the roof isn't in the IDLH environment (for those who take that view) is pretty silly (to put it mildly). The IDLH is right below you. If there is a catastrophic situation you'll be right in the thick of an IDLH environment pretty quickly (Hmmm, where did I put my SCBA?). I'd argue that sound firefighting procedures encompasses FF health and safety concerns as well as tactical priorities. To continue borrowing from the military.... Positive health outcomes would be considered a strategic priority. But the fundamental question is whether or not an SCBA is a designated piece of proper PPE. If SCBA's are not mandatory for roof ops by procedure then I'd call that a faulty procedure, BUT I don't make those decisions so these views and 50 cents will get me a cold drink out of the box... Merry Christmas (and stay low)!

Bob - 12/20/13 - 21:08

Awesome truck work. I'm sure everyone will agree he should've had his SCBA, though. I remember trading time with someone on B-shift some time last year. We went to a worker and the guys on L-2 were just as smooth as these guys. Same thing, air brake popped and the truck was up and on the peak with a hole cut over the fire in what seemed like a few minutes. Really made me proud to know Raleigh does have some aggressive trucks and are being used more than just a place to put the guys a year from retirement.

Rescue Ranger - 12/20/13 - 22:32

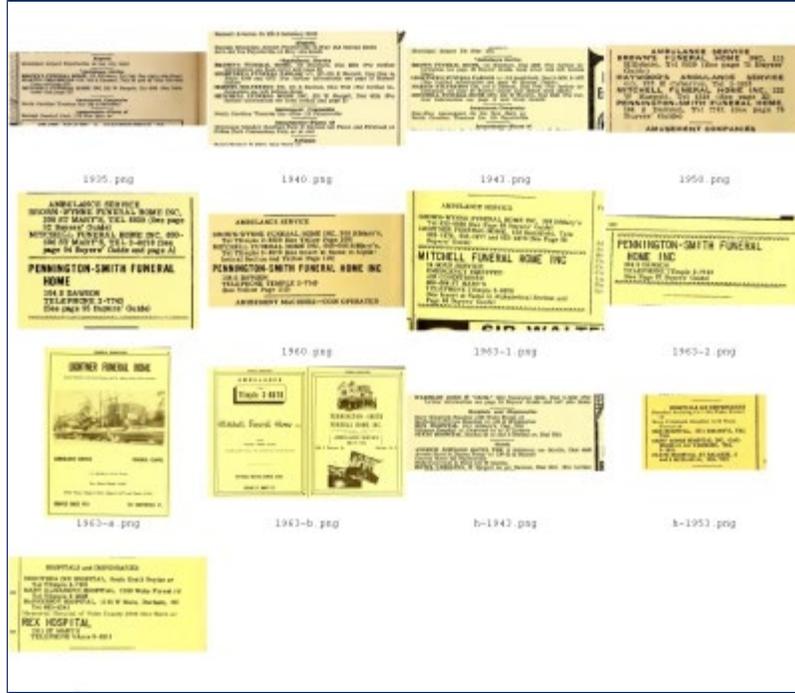
I've thought and thought about what I would comment on this. Have I done things that were unsafe, yes. Did I learn from them, yes, both mentally and disciplinary. So for me to judge his actions would be hypocritical IMO. I don't know how BFD operates. I know if that was my PDA, I would have to have an SCBA on by my departments guidelines. Right, wrong, indifferent, it's our policy/rules. I guess their Fire Chief has accepted these practices. I guess as we mature through this profession, we learn that things we've done in the past weren't always in our best interest when it comes to our personal safety and we change our way of thinking of our safety. In my case, the addition of two kids and a wife at home, my thought processes changed substantially when it came to what I was doing and making it home at the end of the shift for them. I guess one way to curb unnecessary LODD's from occurring is to start denying LODD Benefits. What a s@#* storm that would create!!

Truckie - 12/21/13 - 13:27

Vintage Ads for Ambulances and Hospitals

12/21/13 24 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

From Raleigh city directories, between 1935 and 1963. They're now available online! See this prior posting. Click to enlarge:



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

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Color Slides of Raleigh, RDU Airport Apparatus - October 1982

12/21/13 98 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

For your Saturday enjoyment, here are some scans of 35mm color slides, as originally photographed by one Joel Woods in October 1982, and recently bought on eBay. Great shots, and great chronicle of the early Mack configurations. Apologies to those outbid. We'll add the Raleigh images to our [apparatus registry](#). Why are two of the crash trucks cropped on the very bottom? Don't know. My slide scanner software is overriding the physical size of the slide, but a bit on the bottom edge. Click once or twice to enlarge:



That 1973 Walter was a fun truck to drive and operate. The cab was huge, but the heat did not work well (crap, the heat did not work at all as I remember!). Twin Detroit diesels, no mufflers...

DJ - 12/21/13 - 21:46

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Video of Agility Testing for Stony Hill Fire Department

12/22/13 113 W - + 6 - 4

The Wake Forest News has posted a short video (one-minute) featuring still shots and aerial (drone!) footage of agility testing conducted by Stony Hill Fire Department at Wake Forest Station 1 on Saturday. The department is hiring for a full-time firefighter (one position), and the thirteen applicants came from as far away as Charlotte. Wake Forest firefighters helped with the testing, and Wake County EMS was present to check all candidates (all men) before they started. [Read the story](#) or watch the below video. And how about that Drone Cam! Does Lee Wilson or Mike Legeros need to get into the remote-controlled act?!

We greatly appreciate the continued support of our brothers at WFFD! Great job by all!

A.C. Rich - 12/22/13 - 10:03

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

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1957 Ford/Oren Found on Lead Mine Road

12/22/13 85 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

We were alerted yesterday of this old beauty that's presently parked at Greystone Village Shopping Center on Lead Mine Road at Sawmill Road. It's a 1957 Ford/Oren of unknown origin. Lettered for Cumberland County Retired Firefighters. Maybe readers can help. Might be a great discussion question, as well. How many Oren engines served in our state? Just don't get me started on another data table or photo collage! [See more pictures.](#)



Can anyone pick out the gismo valve on the pump?

Thomas Dicks ([Email](#)) - 12/22/13 - 14:34

the pump is I believe is a Barton UA-50

sleepingdog ([Email](#)) - 12/23/13 - 20:47

From an Oren buff:

Many thanks!!!! I am familiar with this one. Originally Hobgood VFD, in 1996 acquired & repainted by Mr. Dan Eberhardt for the Cumberland Valley Firefighter's Association. In September of 2011 it was for sale on Ebay and sold to Mr. Andy Anderson in Fayetteville. Last I heard, July of this year, he was trying to sell it. It had been stored outside since he bought it.

Tim H - 12/31/13 - 10:18

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

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Yes
No

Comment:

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Work CPR in the* < Documents Pertaining ... > Coverage For During Y... *Field, Not in the Ambulance*

Work CPR in the Field, Not in the Ambulance

12/23/13 147 W - + 11 - 1

This one's been making the rounds on the EMS side. The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) last week shared this story and two-minute video of Wake County Medical Director Dr. Brent Myers speaking at an ACEP event in Seattle in October. In almost all cases, he notes, it's best to stay on the scene to work a cardiac arrest resuscitation until the return of spontaneous circulation, or that efforts are stopped due to futility. "Load-and-go is not the appropriate approach," he's quoted as saying. The probability of neurologically intact survival is at least 10-fold higher, and by some estimates up to 35-fold higher, when resuscitation is achieved in the field, he said at the annual meeting. [Read the story](#) or watch. Discuss as desired, or share perspectives on our county's cardiac survival successes.

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Coverage For During Yesterday's Funeral

12/24/13 107 W, 3 I - + 6 - 5

During yesterday's funeral for Swift Creek Firefighter and Cary Captain Jon Schondelmayer, six departments provided coverage at Cary fire stations:

- Station 1 - Garner Engine 3
- Station 2 - Raleigh Squad 14
- Station 3 - Raleigh Engine 4, Cary Truck 6
- Station 4 - Apex, Cary Rescue 4
- Station 5 - Durham Engine 12, Cary Ladder 5
- Station 6 - Fairview
- Station 7 - Morrisville
- Station 8 - Durham

Readers can add details on others or secondary move-ups. Both Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros took pictures at the funeral. More later.

See related [blog post #1](#) and [blog post #2](#).





Did the coverage respond to any calls?

Rob Mitchell - 12/24/13 - 17:31

Did any Dept stand by at Swift Creek?

2redline - 12/24/13 - 22:54

Yes, the units ran a few EMS calls and at least 1 fire alarm

Mike - 12/26/13 - 11:19

RFD E-4/Cary E-30 responded to 3 calls

Stanley - 12/27/13 - 22:32

Apex E4/Cary E40 responded to at least one call that I'm aware of

shevais - 12/28/13 - 11:53

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Best Web Site Error Message Ever

12/24/13 37 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

Found via [this site](#) (don't ask). Love the graphic, love the usability of the thing. Tells you exactly and easily the best steps to resolve your error. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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

Scenes From a Firefighter Funeral

12/24/13 263 W, 3 I - + 6 - 3

Hundreds of firefighters filled the Colonial Baptist Church in Cary yesterday afternoon, for the funeral of Cary Fire Department Captain and Swift Creek Firefighter Jon F. Schondelmayer. He died suddenly on December 18, after being found unresponsive at his home, after going to his home while on duty at Swift Creek. He was 44 years old.

Family, friends, and fellow firefighters remembered Schondelmayer as a beloved and larger-than-life figure. He was a Marine who served in Desert Storm, a veteran Cary firefighter assigned to Ladder 1, and a Swift Creek firefighter for over nineteen years.

Following the presentation of his helmets to his children, his last call was announced on the radio by a Cary dispatcher. As the announcement was transmitted, the fire siren at the nearby Swift Creek fire station sounded. Listen to the last calls: [Cary Central](#) (during funeral), [Raleigh/Wake ECC](#) (December 18).

Following the service, a procession escorted his body to Brown-Wynne Funeral Home in Raleigh. The apparatus in the procession included trucks from Cary, Swift Creek, Knightdale, and Fuquay-Varina. Also present was Cary's original platform ladder, now serving at Buis Creek. The ladder truck was Schondelmayer's first assignment in Cary.

[Lee Wilson](#) and [Mike Legeros](#) (shown below) have posted photos from the funeral. Lee took photos of the procession, while Legeros filmed the thing. See below. Here are related postings and media links: [blog post #1](#), [blog post #2](#), WRAL story, [WTVB story](#), and [his obituary](#).





Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?
Yes

McDonald's Restaurant Fire in Wilson

12/26/13 84 W, 2 I - + 8 - 2

The Wilson Times yesterday posted a strong set of photos from Brad Coville, of the second of two Christmas Day fires at the McDonald's restaurant on Raleigh Road near the I-95 exchange. The first fire was reported about 2:00 a.m., and the second fire was reported a little after 11:00 a.m., [reports this Times story](#). The fire is still under investigation, though the second fire is being called a rekindle. [See more photos](#).



Brad Coville/Wilson Times photos

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

Remember personal info?
 Yes
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

UPDATED: Arrangements for Youngsville Asst. Chief Jeff Fields

12/27/13 257 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

December 27

The Wake Forest News has [posted a nice story](#) about Chief Fields passing. He had recently survived a heart attack and subsequent bypass surgery, when he died suddenly on Christmas morning. He joined the department in 1984, notes the story, and everyone described him as a "big guy with a big heart." He was one of the top "call runners" for the past decade, assisting at more than half of all calls in the district. Notes the story, his nineteen year-old daughter Emily recently joined as a volunteer. He last ran a call on December 12, at a motor-vehicle accident on Highway 1. [Read the story.](#)



December 26

Social media has been sharing the news of Youngsville Fire Department Asst. Chief Jeffrey Lee "Jeff" Fields, who died at home on Christmas morning. He was fifty-one years old. Funeral arrangements have been announced.

Visitation is Saturday, December 28, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Youngsville Station 1, 803 Wheaton Ave, Youngsville. Funeral service will be conducted at 3:00 p.m. at Youngsville Baptist Church, 315 E. Main St, Youngsville. There will be a procession from the fire station to the church, which are about 1.4 miles apart, says Google Maps.

Chief Fields was a member of the Youngsville Fire Department for thirty years. By day, he worked as a warehouse manager. He's also a veteran of the United State Marines. He's survived by his wife of twenty-four years and two children. [Read his obituary.](#)

That is terrible news.

Prayers go out to the Fields family. And to the great folks of the Youngsville Fire Department.

Buckwheat - 12/26/13 - 19:24

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Historic Firehouses of Lynchburg

12/28/13 83 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Found on my desktop, incomplete research on Lynchburg, VA, and history or former firehouses therein. Any readers from those parts? Looks like but four fire stations that are either (a.) closed or (b.) active and older than fifty years. Need to plan a visit, along with a stop in Roanoke, which also has a [mess of former firehouses](#). Also eyeing points north and west, by several hours. Many historic firehouses in, say, [Louisville](#) and [Indianapolis](#). So many cities...



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.

Videos of Youngsville Fire Department Funeral Procession

12/29/13 71 W - + 11 - 5

Wake Forest News has posted a pair of videos of yesterday's funeral procession for Youngsville Fire Department Asst. Chief Jeff Fields. The footage includes a superb sixteen-minute segment from a camera attached to the grill of Engine 41, which carried the firefighter's remains. [Read the story](#), or watch the videos below. Lee Wilson was also present, and has [posted his photos](#).

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

Remember personal info?
Yes
No

Centennial History of the City of Raleigh Fire Department

12/31/13 210 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

For your New Year's Eve enjoyment, via the Raleigh Fire Museum, here's a 116-page, PDF-format [text history of the Raleigh Fire Department](#). The history text originally appeared in the [centennial history book](#) that was published for the occasion of the department's 100th anniversary last year. The text includes extensive annotations Historian Mike Legeros (me), most of which appeared elsewhere in the book. The text also includes fire station histories, division histories, and a copy of the Centennial Roll Call.

The book was the fourth commemorative book published by the Raleigh Fire Department. Earlier editions were published in 2007, 2002, and 1984. [Learn about those books](#), or even read the original [1984 history text](#). With annotations, of course. For the truly dedicated reader, you can compare the two versions and see what differences you can see.

The 1984 text was written by Capt. B. T. Fowler, The text from 1984 to 2002 was written by Capt. Peter Brock. The text from 2002 to 2012 was written by Mike Legeros. The whole thing was edited and at times rewritten by Legeros. There were a number of copy editors and proofreaders, including Mrs. Legeros. Those acknowledgements (listed as book reviewers) are shown on this centennial [history book page excerpt](#).

[Download this document.](#)

CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT	
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INTRODUCTION	
<p>This text history of the Raleigh Fire Department originally appeared in <i>Raleigh Fire Department -- 100 Years of Service: 1912 - 2012</i>, a handsome commemorative book (also called a "yearbook") published by the Raleigh Fire Department and printed by Stonebridge Studios in March 2012. Author credits and information is included at the end. Additions to the original text are presented with this yellow background. Revisions from the original text are presented with red ink through. The annotations are written by historian Mike Legeros. The purpose of the annotations are to correct factual errors, and provide additional context and information. They include text that appeared in other sections of the centennial history book. This is version 1.1, created December 31, 2013.</p>	
THE HISTORY OF THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT	
<p>The City of Raleigh, now 220 years old, was planned and built on land bought by the state to be the permanent seat of government for North Carolina. The General Assembly, meeting in various towns across the state, had recognized the need for a fixed location to store the state's valuable records and conduct the business of government. Several attempts had already been made, including the selection of Edenton in 1722 and the construction of a palace for Governor Tryon in New Bern completed in 1771.</p> <p>With the state's population having moved westward, a State Convention voted in 1788 to place the state capital within six miles of Isaac Hunter's plantation in Wake County. Four years later, a special commission met at</p>	<p>Hunter's tavern and then at Ed Lane's house. After viewing several proposed parcels of land offered as sites for the new town, the commission decided to purchase 1,800 acres of land owned by Lane. The total price was 1,378 pounds, or about \$2,796. Thus, 1792 is the year of the establishment of Raleigh. The new capital was named for Sir Walter Raleigh, known as the father of English America.</p> <p>The General Assembly provided no government for the new town until three years later, when it appointed seven men as Commissioners to govern the city. Then in 1801, with a population close to 300 people, Raleigh was granted a charter giving its citizens the right to elect their officials. To this day, the City of Raleigh still operates</p>

Thirty Years Ago - Five Firefighters Killed in Buffalo Propane Explosion

12/31/13 198 W - + 12 - 2

Thirty years ago this week, five members of the Buffalo (NY) Fire Department were killed in a propane explosion on the night of December 27, 1983. Crews had just arrived at a four-story warehouse for a reported gas leak when the blast occurred. Leaking was an illegally stored 500-pound tank. Workers were trying to stop the leak, when the leaking gas found an ignition source.

The explosion leveled the building and destroyed other structures within a four-block radius. The resulting fireball starting fires in buildings on a number of streets. The force of the blast threw a tractor-drawn aerial ladder nearly thirty-five feet into the front of a dwelling.

All five members of Ladder 5 were killed instantly, firefighters Mike Austin, Mickey Catanzaro, Red Lickfeld, Tony Waszkielewicz, and Matty Colpoys. Eleven firefighters were injured in the initial blast, and nineteen more during the rescue efforts due to weather conditions.

Over 150 civilians were transported, with many others treated at the scene. Below are five YouTube clips containing color footage from the incident, including some radio traffic. The incident remains the single greatest loss of life in the department's history.