

Big Fire Resources

02/24/07 48 W - + 17 - 14

The *News & Observer* continues their coverage of the Pine Knoll fire. [This morning's article](#) notes the number of resources used. 150 firefighters including 29 recruits. Thirty-one pieces of apparatus. Etcetera. There's also some [video footage](#) on their site, a [slideshow of photos](#), and [some 911 calls](#) from Thursday.

Those 911 calls take me back to my (very brief) ECC days. In those days, cell phones were an anomaly and address location was super-simple. You simply looked at the auto-locator that accompanied the land-line telephone call. With so many cell phones these days, it must be hell to identify a new or unfamiliar street, such as were reported at Thursday's fire.

Legeros - 02/25/07 - 15:20

Well...add to that the fact that many of the new arrivals to this area still have cell phones with their 'back-home' numbers, which could be from anywhere. I know several people who live here, work here, play here, but their cell phone number is from NY, NJ, PA, OH, etc.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 02/25/07 - 21:03

If I'm not mistaken, it shouldn't matter where the cellphone is from. With Phase I Wireless, you should at least get the cellphone number and the location of the cell tower that is transmitting the call (I know.. not very useful in dispatching a call). With Phase II Wireless, you should get the telephone number AND a location that is required to meet the FCC's accuracy standards of 50-300 meters of the actual address/location. Of course, this only applies to agencies using the E911 system.

Luke - 02/26/07 - 00:51

Luke, I believe you could be right. I know Johnston County has the tracking capability, I don't know if RW911 does. Another problem with the newcomers is that they don't often know where they are at, or they remembered a street from two blocks back. And the way that businesses change their names is confusing. Another problem I ran into a few weeks ago was a business that did not change phone numbers, but moved to a new location about 3-4 miles away. EMS16 was sent to an address, but there was no one there that called an ambulance. About 30 minutes later, EMS4 got a call that was to a doctor's office, and their name was not on the sign out front. And of course, they were upset because it took so long.

DJ ([Email](#)) - 02/26/07 - 15:59

DJ – send me a UER on that location – AT&T or Entrada dropped the ball on that one;

As for Phase II compliance, I believe that RWCC is awaiting all of the cell carriers to come in accordance with the regulation. You will often see the information in the commentary on the alphapagers so I know that the 911 and CAD system have the ability to use the data, IF it is received from the cellular telephone carrier. I think there are fewer than 3 that currently provide that information in the Triangle area. The information was used to find an injured cyclist at Umstead Park about 2 years ago. Fortunately, he had the right cell phone carrier that day.

Olson - 02/26/07 - 22:38

yea Mike...i served my prison sentence from 96-99 in the dungeon. Loved the work, not the schedule or environment. Hella, iz dis 911?

AB - 02/26/07 - 23:37

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

Remember personal info?

Yes
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Big Fire Summary

02/24/07 791 W - + 25 - 11

Here's a summary of Thursday's incident, drawn from media reports and personal observations. Text to be used with Mike's and maybe Lee's photos, and possible firehouse.com photo story submission. Feel free to add or correct as desired. Reprinted in bullet format, for ease of reading or correction.

- Six alarms (originally cited as five alarms, revised in 2012 [based on this doc](#))
- Behind 3500 block of Capital Boulevard.
- Pine Knoll Townes, new subdivision and townhouse community.
- Subdivision map: <http://www.beazer.com/sitemaps/radAD2551200721537.pdf> (PDF)
- Aerial photo: [via Google](#).
- 911 calls recording: [via News & Observer](#) (mp3)
- Streets included Oneonta Avenue, Londonville Street, Pine Knoll Drive, Landsman Drive, Binghampton Lane, and Manhasset Lane.
- Newly constructed structures
- 20 occupied, 5 completed but unsold.
- Alarm time 3:03 p.m.
- Alarm address 3525 Oneonta Avenue.
- Originally dispatched as brush fire.
- Engine 27 first on scene.
- Second alarm requested upon arrival of Bat Chief due to extension to other buildings.
- Third alarm requested within 2 minutes of second alarm.
- Command at corner of Oneonta and Manhasset.
- Staging at corner of Manhasset and Pine Knoll.
- Apparatus staging on Pine Knoll and on Old Buffaloe.
- Rehab and medical monitoring at corner of Pine Knoll and Old Buffaloe.
- Additional EMS team at end of Pine Knoll.
- Wind-fed flames quickly spread between buildings and across Oneonta.
- Weather conditions: 73 degrees, 8% humidity, winds around 30 MPH with gusts to 37 MPH.
- Engines pumping on Manhasset (E9), northern end of Oneonta (E27, E19), and Pine Knoll at Landsman (E22).
- 4 aerial streams using Ladder 16 on Pine Knoll, Ladder 22 (operating reserve platform) and later Ladder 23 on Pine Knoll at Landsman, and Ladder 26 on Londonville.
- 2 additional aerials positioned on Pine Knoll, Ladder 1 and Ladder 20 (operating reserve ladder).
- Brush units and tankers positioned at end of Pine Knoll.
- 27 homes destroyed, and 11 damaged.
- 12 separate four-unit structures involved.
- Average square footage of home: 1,428.75.
- Average square footage of four-unit building: 5,715.
- Total square footage of buildings burned, partially burned, or had to be protected: 68,580.
- 29 families with 72 people displaced.
- Hydrants connected and opened: Old Buffaloe at Pine Knoll, Pine Knoll at Manhasset, Oneonta at Binghampton, Londonville, others?
- Hydrants connected, but not opened: Capital Boulevard in front of shopping center.
- Hydrants found dry: one, location?
- Embers spread as far as a quarter-mile from the scene and sparked at least one brush fire.
- Embers reported as large as hubcaps.
- New Hope and Falls special called for brush fires.
- Thick smoke spread across Capital Boulevard and caused delays.
- Smoke visible for miles, from Cary, from downtown Raleigh, etc.
- No injuries reported.
- City, state, and federal investigators on scene.
- Cause identified as discarded smoking materials.
- Residents allowed to returned on Friday.

- Largest Raleigh Fire Department response since... Hurricane Fran? The North Raleigh tornado?
- Largest Raleigh Fire Department structure fire in decades.
- Resources challenged by second major working fire off New Bern Avenue, initially dispatched nine minutes earlier.
- Haz-mat training was also in progress at the training center at the time of the two calls. E2, E8, E15, L20, and L22 were out of service.
- Raleigh firefighters numbered 150 including off-duty "B" and "C" shift personnel and 29 recruits who graduate from the fire academy in two weeks.
- Firefighters from New Hope, Falls, and other departments also assisted.
- Fire Prevention, Fire Training, and Fire Administration personnel also present.
- Barry's Cafe served 90 hamburgers and 90 grilled chicken sandwiches to personnel.
- BBQ Lounge also provided food, both to personnel and displaced residents.
- 12 departments from Wake and Durham county filled in at fire stations.
- Move-ups initiated by 3:30 p.m.
- Last engine company cleared Saturday at midnight, Engine 26.
- 19 engines, 6 ladders, 2 rescues, 3 Battalion Chiefs, 2 brush trucks, 1 tanker, 2 pumper-tankers (not counting relief companies)
- 8 outside engines at Raleigh stations, 4 outside ladders at Raleigh stations, 1 outside squirt at Raleigh stations.
- 8 engines, 2 ladders, 1 rescue as relief/overnight, in shifts.

Units included (not including relief/overnight):

- E2
- E4
- E5
- E6
- E7
- E8
- E9
- E10
- E14
- E15
- E16
- E18
- E19
- E21
- E22
- E25
- E26
- E27
- L1
- L16
- L20 (operating reserve ladder)
- L22 (operating reserve platform)
- L23
- L26
- R14
- R19
- BC 1
- BC 3
- BC 4
- Car 1 (Command)
- Car 4
- Car 5 (Operations)
- Car 10 (PIO)
- Car 12

Car 72

- Car 198 (Investigator)
- Air 8
- Haz-Mat 15 (returning from Franklin County where it was standing by during Presidential visit)
- Field Command 1
- New Hope Car 1
- New Hope Brush 7
- New Hope E1
- New Hope E2
- New Hope Tanker 10
- Falls E219 (brush)
- EMS 2
- EMS 5
- EMS 12
- EMS 15
- EMS 16
- EMS 32
- EMS 100
- EMS 102
- EMS 103
- EMS 104
- EMS 203
- EMS 205
- WC 3
- WC EM
- Red Cross

[See this RFD resource summary](#), posted in May 2012 for more.

Coverage at Raleigh stations included:

- Bay Leaf engine at 9
- Bay Leaf L25 at 16
- Bethesda E421 at 24
- Cary E10 at 8
- Cary L1 at 8
- Durham Highway engine at 4
- Falls engine 4
- Garner E11 at 1
- Garner L1 at 1
- Knightdale squirt at 12
- New Hope at their station, covering 19 and 27
- Rolesville engine at 15
- Swift Creek engine at 20
- Wake Forest engine at 19
- Wake Forest ladder at 25

27 was first arriving, originally dispatched to a brush fire.

Silver - 02/24/07 - 11:37

What companies were assigned to the other Working Fire – Roselle Court

Noah Rogers ([Email](#)) - 02/24/07 - 12:16

Roselle was E3 E12 E? L11 R7 BC2 C3 Air8. And the 2nd alarm was E13 E10 E? L1 ??? Not sure of all the units. E7 may have been on the 1st alarm originally.

Lee - 02/24/07 - 13:11

E-11 was also on the first alarm at Roselle. I think E-7 had cleared the house fire (that they had just previously released E-12 and E-3 from) to finish out the second alarm at Roselle.

firedriver - 02/24/07 - 17:39

Engine 7 cleared 3,12,L 1 and rescue from the house fire on Stevens Rd. We just backed into the station when HQ dispatched us first due with E-9, E-22, R-19 and L 16 to Pine Knoll fire. Yes we ended up being RIT. E-27 was on scene first then E-19,R-19,us and E-9. Very long day! Good job to all that was there!!!!

Jason Lane - 02/24/07 - 23:38

With regards to the Roselle fire, I heard, and later confirmed through CAD what would seem as a bit of a mishap on the part of E-3. E-3 was dispatched to a structure fire there and so responded. Upon arriving on scene it was marked a working fire. Within 2 minutes of being marked a working fire, it was then upgraded to a major working fire. Then, the shocking part was about 2 minutes after being marked a major working fire, E-3 cancelled everyone and said they could handle the scene as it was simply a brush fire. About 5 minutes after that, it was redispached out as a working fire.

Could anyone clarify what happened there? Is it really a mishap on E-3s part or is there something missing that I am simply over looking since I was not there. (I do not like to place blame or assume anything since I was not actually present)

fireLT - 02/26/07 - 18:00

Added some items, corrected unit data.

Legeros - 02/26/07 - 19:01

There was not three minutes between change of code.E-3 arrived(on the street, still 200' or so from the bldg.) and with the amount of smoke they saw which was coming right down the street at them they advised "working fire". As the fire was not in E-3's first due area the capt. was not sure of the bldg. size, so when he did get close enough to the bldg. to see it through the smoke he upgraded to "major working fire". After going around the bldg. and seeing that the smoke was from a wind driven brush fire (shrubbery beside the apt.) he advised that they could handle it. Mind you there was still no smoke or fire visible from inside the apt. As they were putting out the brush fire a window broke out of the apt and it was on from there.

I hope this clears it up a little for you, i can see how it might have been a little confusing if you weren't watching it unfold.

firedriver - 02/28/07 - 09:47

For accuracy, Cary E10 with L1 at Raleigh #8 for coverage.

LCone - 02/28/07 - 11:28

Just curious if Cary L1 backed into station 8 bay or sat on front apron?

guest - 02/28/07 - 13:24

There's no way it could fit in #8....

Silver - 02/28/07 - 14:17

What is Cary E10? One of the reserve trucks?

Luke - 02/28/07 - 15:25

E-10 is the radio/CAD designate for an engine covering at Station 1, E-20 would be covering at Station 2, etc... It's programmed that way in CAD so when E-#0 is put in service it is automatically dispatched. It also allows whatever piece they are on to be marked out of service in CAD so that CAD automatically sends the next closet Ladder/Rescue/Truck, etc...

Ladder 5 (riding 1446 which is the old Mack Reserve Truck) was also dispatched to Station 8 on a reserve Engine so there was an Engine and Ladder from Cary sent Station 8. I'm not 100% sure but I think I remember hearing Ladder 5 mark in service as E-10 and L-1 was marked out at RFD #8. This was after the initial dispatch. As the two trucks were sent a few minutes apart.

CFP 7021 - 02/28/07 - 16:28

There's also a weight limit, I think, at Station 8. It has a two basement bays below the street-level bays. Not sure if a big, honkin', three-axle platform can or should be stored there.

Legeros - 03/01/07 - 09:04

I know it can't, which is the reason why we were moved from 8 to 20. The weight on the floor, combined with the height of the bay won't accomodate today's ladder companies.

Silver - 03/01/07 - 14:24

In the pictures at RFD Station 1 it looked like Garner's ladder would not fit because the bucket appeared to be hanging over Dawson St. Does anyone know this to be the case?

Guest - 03/01/07 - 15:18

While it was providing coverage at Station 1, the Garner ladder was parked on the apron. Though the apparatus fit with a few inches to spare, their personnel opted to park outside.

Legeros - 03/03/07 - 07:11

Added to summary:

Fifteen engines, 6 ladders, 2 rescues, 3 Battalion Chiefs, 2 brush trucks, 1 tanker, 2 pumper-tankers, 8 outside engines at Raleigh stations, 4 outside ladders at Raleigh stations, 1 outside squirt at Raleigh stations.

Eight engines and 1 ladder overnight, in shifts.

Legeros - 03/03/07 - 07:12

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

[/ Textile](#)

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

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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

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

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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