

National Night Out in Knightdale

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The [Eastern Wake News posted this story](#) about last week's [National Night Out](#) in Knightdale. That's an annual, national, crime/drug prevention event that involves citizens, public safety agencies, local officials, neighborhood organizations, civic groups, and businesses. This is the 28th year, with over 15,000 communities participating, and, last year, over 37 million people participating. The national date for the event was August 2, except for Texas, which is having theirs on October 4. The national web site lists 129 communities in North Carolina that were registered to participate, including also Apex, Cary, Chapel Hill, Clayton, Creedmoor, Durham, Garner, Raleigh, Rolesville, and Wake Forest. At last week's event, Knightdale Public Safety and Eastern Wake EMS were among the participants. The location was the parking lot of a shopping center on Shoppes at Midway Drive. [Read the story.](#)



Paul A. Specht/Eastern Wake News photo

Not that this has any relevance to the story, but seeing Knightdale made me think of it, after that news story on WRAL last week, when should we start expecting to see black topped engines parked at the corner of Poole and Clifton?

Saying what everyone else is thinking - 08/09/11 - 14:27

Or should we perhaps stay mum on the subject? How does opening a discussion about that department and their issue add value for everyone? What sort of thread do you envision developing, and how is that helpful if it's conducted (a.) at this moment in time (b.) in this public-accessible forum where (c.) some readers conceal their screen names and (d.) can trend toward less-polite or un-filtered responses? Myself, I believe it's more proper and respectful to refrain from calling attention ON THIS BLOG to bad things that befall agencies and individuals. But maybe you can change my mind. Maybe I am missing something! What do you think?

Legeros - 08/09/11 - 16:28

Mike, I am sorry to have stirred up the hornets nest. As a resident of the unmentioned fire district, I was curious what the people around the area might know. I do not work at a fire department so I do not have the inside scoop. I was looking for some informative details as to who might provide my fire protection in the upcoming future. It was not meant to fire anyone up. I just want the best fire protection as well as the most honest as the issue presented was tax money from people around the county, so I am not the only one who was affected here. I was just looking for answers looking towards the future in hopes of getting a more professional honest group of people protecting my possessions day in and day out. Again I am sorry, You may remove my initial post to prevent further fire storm

Saying what everyone else is thinking - 08/09/11 - 16:52

Thanks for your response, Zack. I intentionally keep this blog rather rose-colored, at least with regard to skeletons and scandals and what have you. But that does not diminish my personal interest in such matters.

There's the historical perspective, which is always a draw. There's watching the media and social media reactions, and trying to see things through the lens of citizens and other officials. There are the simple nuts 'n' bolts of whatever happened, and how departments respond procedurally, operationally, and what lessons are learned or changes result.

Buy me a pop (since I don't drink beer), and I will happily chew the fat. Ask my opinion during station visits, and I will merrily (though probably objectively) discuss such issues. But here on THIS BLOG, I tend to keep mum. And keep such discussions quelled. So far, so good.

Maybe I will be a more adventurous blogger in another life.

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Thanks for your response, Original Poster. We will let these postings stand. Your question is an honest one, and your query— by way of asking off-topic— has precedent. Others pose questions on the blog, in similar fashion. By asking via off-topic query.

Talking about talking is good. It's only when we start yelling about yelling that problems arise. If a firestorm erupts, we can take more drastic measures.

You also pose an excellent question. This blog serves as a go-to place for information (and a LOT of reader opinion) about current, local fire service issues. EXCEPT for the controversial ones, that is. (Newer readers may not have noticed this pattern, that there are elephants floating around our virtual day room from time to time.)

Is there a reasonable way around that? Some method, some stage-left means for surface facts-minus-opinions? Maybe my Twitter feed would be good for that. Posting story links, both pro and con. Don't know. What do readers think?

Legeros - 08/09/11 - 17:56

Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't there a blog post about Garner EMS, and/or Garner Fire when they were in the news? Six Forks?

As far as anonymous blogging, that comes with the territory. People blog, and sometimes do so anonymously because THEY CAN. If the option to change your name wasn't there, half of the people in this world who blog wouldn't blog, and there may not even be such a thing as a blog. People are more likely to share their honest opinion if they have the option of anonymity, which makes some blogs more interesting. Blogs started as a place on the web that people could post their opinion or vent frustrations that may otherwise not be socially acceptable OR may get them in trouble with work or family. It doesn't make you gutless, it makes you a free person exercising their rights.

blah blah blog - 08/10/11 - 08:59

You are correct, BBB. Changes in operations by those departments were blogged about. But the postings were done a bit after the fact. It's a before versus after thing. If there's news about Department X involving unflattering issue Y, you probably won't see a blog post around the time the news breaks. After dust settles, and if there are operational outcomes of note, yeah, I will probably write a posting about those aspects. You can use the search box, in the upper-right corner of this site, to see for yourself what prior posts have been posted. But the real censorship that's in effect is the quelling of reader discussion, in anticipation that such discussions would be less-appreciated versus more-appreciated by all parties reading and involved. Were I just some guy in an undershirt who never left his house— and didn't have personal relationships and frequent contact with these agencies— I might have a different perspective. I might be less cautious. Might have a different ethos. Or, maybe I am just a weenie. Thanks for your comment, and perspective.

Legeros - 08/10/11 - 09:08

Postscript or another thought on this. Readers should bookmark this thread, and my comments therein. Then you can REALLY take me to task some future time, when one or another posting violates my own self-stated rules.

Legeros - 08/11/11 - 07:30

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

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No

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