



Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter



Volume 11, Issue 3

Fall 2017

Residents Rescued From Fire



On Monday, September 4, at 12:29 a.m., Engine 8 on “B” platoon responded as automatic mutual aid to a house fire at 313 Irelan Drive.

Located in a neighborhood just outside the city limits, it was dispatched for Western Wake Fire Department, along with mutual aid units from Raleigh, Swift Creek, Morrisville, Fairview, and Apex fire departments.

While en route, Headquarters reported that there were two people trapped inside.

Engine 8 was the first to arrive at the one-story ranch home with 1,809 square-feet. They found fire blowing out the front door and through the living room window.

“As our driver, Lt. Frankie Beasley, stretched a one-

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Fire Prevention Week



Raleigh Fire Chief John McGrath joined Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey, along with other state and local fire officials, to kick off Fire Prevention Week on Monday, October 9. They stressed this year’s message of “Every second counts: plan two ways out.”



The Raleigh Fire Department conducted several events that week, with displays at Crabtree Valley Mall (above), the Bicentennial Mall downtown, and Chavis Park.

The Fire Education Team, led by Deputy Fire Marshals Lemuel Hubbard and Ivon Johnson, also conducted open houses over four nights at fire stations 24, 10, 19, and 20. They also conducted interviews with local radio stations.

Photos by NC OSFM and Mike Legeros. ■

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and-a-half-inch line to the door,” says Captain Bryan Grisel, “I briefly spoke with the mother and she confirmed that her two adult sons were still inside.”

Firefighters Corey McGee and Searcy Howard broke open a bedroom window and McGee made entry.

“He radioed that he found a victim inside the room and handed him to me and Howard through the window,” Grisel adds. The rescue was fast, “it took about twenty or thirty seconds for Corey to hand him to us.”



After moving the victim to the front yard for EMS personnel to begin care, they returned to the house and entered through the window of a second bedroom.

Western Wake Engine 191 arrived at about that time. Their crew pulled and advanced their own, second hand line into the house, through the front door.

Grisel says, “We checked that bedroom and were making our way down the hallway when we met Western Wake and the second victim lying in the hallway.”

He guided Western Wake Firefighter Travis Adkison and Swift Creek Firefighter Walter Hernandez to the bedroom window. The victim was handed out and taken to the front yard.

The crew from Engine 8 returned to firefighting and EMS began care of the second victim.

Quickly Extinguished

The fire was extinguished soon after the second rescue, as Western Wake had been knocking down the fire as they performed their search.

“It was all over in about twenty minutes,” Grisel recalls, “and we went to rehab.”

Crews from the other county units were rotated through the fire scene to perform overhaul. They were also rotated through assisting EMS with performing CPR on the second victim.

“This response is an excellent example of city and

county collaboration through mutual aid response,” notes Raleigh Battalion Chief A.C. Rich (B3-B), who also responded.

Western Wake Fire Chief Garland Johnston adds, “This is the type of scenario that all firefighters train for but rarely get to do. The crews worked together and did their job well. Because of the collaborative effort of everyone on scene, a life was saved.”

The two adult males were transported to local hospitals, including the burn center in Chapel Hill. One perished and the other remains hospitalized. EMS also treated the mother for minor burns.

County crews remained on the scene into the next morning, assisting investigators from Cary, Wake County, and the State Bureau of Investigation.

The cause is still under investigation.

Photos by ABC11 and Mike Legeros. ❖

Renovations Completed at Fire Station 2



Renovations have been completed at Station 2 on Pecan Road. Engine 2 returned to their quarters on Monday, October 23.

The \$1.5 million project converted the former adjoining maintenance shop into a drive-through apparatus bay. Additional rooms were added, including office and sleeping areas, and an exercise room.

Folding bay doors were also added in the front. These are a first for the city and were chosen over the standard overhead door for their quick opening speed (nine versus about 20 seconds), long-term resiliency, and to maximize interior vertical and horizontal clearances.

Station 15 on Spring Forest Road will be renovated next. The first phase, installation of a fire sprinkler system, was completed earlier this year. The second and final phase will start in the spring.

Station 11 on Glen Eden Drive is also planned for upcoming renovation, and a new round of design work is underway. ■

Recruit Academy Graduates



On September 27, Recruit Academy 42 graduated in an evening ceremony at the Duke Center for the Performing Arts. The graduates were:

Brady A. Alton	Johnathan T. Headen
John R. Atkins	Ross M. Hope
Brandon M. Baucom	Joseph E. Jensen
Matthew G. Bledsoe	De'Quantia R. Jones
Lebro C. Burnette	Robert E. Jones
Devin R. Callahan	Mary E. King
Brannen C. Campbell	Paul R. Krahe
Hannah R. Canterbury	Joshua M. Lull
Matthew C. Carithers	Mitchell A. Mallory
Justin T. Casey	Steven C. Merritt
Jeremiah J. Davis	Jared P. Mickschl
Lamarr P. Davis	Austin J. Partin
Daniel W. Dean	Andrew M. Perlak
Andre M. Fanto	Bruce N. Rice
Jason E. Finnegan	Jason A. Rumpler
Joshua A. Fritz	Brett E. Siebel
Chase A. Golden	Colby T. Stepp
Justin B. Hales	Dalton S. Tant

The class president was Daniel Dean. Two awards were presented at the ceremony: Joshua Lull as Valedictorian and Matthew Carithers as Most Outstanding Recruit.

Their 32-week academy started on February 20. And in a change from prior academies, fire training was conducted before EMT instruction.

Most of their classes were conducted at the Keeter

Training Center, with fire training also at Gaston College, Sandhills Community College, Central Carolina Community College, PSNC Energy, and TT&E Iron & Metal in Garner.

EMT clinicals were conducted at WakeMed and with Eastern Wake EMS, Franklin County EMS, and Johnston County EMS.

Instructors

Academy 42 was led by Academy Coordinator Capt. Jamie Hill and Academy Capt. Ben Averette, with instructors Lt. Chris Barrows, Lt. Frankie Beasley, Lt. Jesse Richardson, Lt. Michelle Smith, Lt. Charles Sutton, and Lt. Tony Todd, along with EMT instructors Capt. Doug Campbell and Firefighter Eric Hisey.

Family Ties

Alton is the brother-in-law of Firefighter Adam Walker, Atkins is the son of Capt. Chris Atkins, Baucom is the second cousin of Capt. Jerry Ward, Callahan is the stepson of Capt. Dominic Orlando, and Campbell is the son of Capt. Doug Campbell

Hales is the nephew of both Asst. Chief/Fire Marshal Keith Tessinear and Battalion Chief David Whitley, Merritt is the cousin of Lt. Glenn Todd, Firefighter Harrison Todd, and First Class Firefighter Joe Montague, Partin is the nephew of Capt. Phil Morgan, Siebel is the son of Capt. Richard Siebel, and Tant is the son of Capt. Anthony Tant.

Photo by Mike Legeros. ■

Engine 1 Receives Honor



On September 20, Engine 1 on "A" platoon was honored by the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce at the 2017 First Responders Appreciation Breakfast.

The crew received this year's Outstanding Service Award for helping a displaced family find a hotel room after a fire during the ice storm on the night of January 10, 2017.

Engine 1 was first-arriving on Marble Street for a reported structure fire. They found a shorted power meter on the outside of the house. Duke Power responded and disconnected their service for safety. This resulted in the house having no power and no heat.

Three adults and three children—including two kids around two years old--needed somewhere to stay. Red Cross was notified, but were unable to respond because their members were snowed in.

Engine 1 took responsibility for the family's safety and began looking for a hotel room. They found a room at the Comfort Inn on South Saunders Street.

"We were also planning to pay for the room," says Capt. Grant Williams, "but Red Cross picked up the tab."

Notes Battalion Chief Chris Wilson (B3-A), "they displayed a deep understanding of our core mission: Unselfish, Dedicated, Service."

He adds, "This is a great example of how dedicated and committed personnel should think, regardless of the outcomes. No policy can dictate the caring and humble attitude they displayed that morning."

Receiving awards were Williams, Lt. Steve Nipper, Senior Firefighter Jeff Warren, and Firefighter Chris Patterson.

Also at the breakfast, Raleigh Fire Chief John McGrath

spoke about the Metropolitan Apartments fire on March 16. The five-alarm blaze involved several buildings and displaced dozens of residents.

He also presented a short video about the fire, created by Capt. Paul Wyatt, the first-arriving officer and initial Incident Commander at the fire.

Watch the video on YouTube at <http://tinyurl.com/rfdmetro>



Raleigh Fire Department historian and photographer Mike Legeros was also honored at the breakfast, receiving this year's Friend of First Responder Award.

The annual event honors Raleigh fire and police departments, the State Highway Patrol, Wake County Sheriff's Office, Wake County EMS, and the Raleigh/Wake Emergency Communications Center.

Photos by Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. ❖

Station 12 Construction



Construction continues on the relocated **Station 12** at Bus Way and Poole Road.

Work is approximately 60% complete with final grading, concrete apron, and depressed median installation to be completed in November, along with the building exterior.

When finished early next year, the 17,500 square-foot facility will house Engine 12, Ladder 8 from Station 26, Battalion 2, and Car 20, the Division Chief, from Station 8. ■

Third Tiller Delivered



The Raleigh Fire Department received its third tractor-drawn aerial ladder on July 10. The 2017 Pierce Arrow XT “tiller” is equipped with a 1500 GPM pump, 200 gallon water tank, and 100-foot aerial ladder.

It was placed in service as Ladder 4 at Station 1 on August 17. Old Ladder 4, a 2010 Pierce Arrow XT tiller, was moved to Station 26, and placed in service as Ladder 8 on September 8.

Old Ladder 8, a 2006 Pierce Arrow XT rear-mounted aerial ladder, was moved to the reserve fleet.

The city’s third tiller is housed at Station 29 (Ladder 9) and operates a 2015 Pierce Arrow XT. A fourth tiller has been ordered from Pierce for delivery in 2018.

Two New Engines



Two new Pierce Arrow XT pumpers, 1500/500/20, were also delivered this summer. They arrived on May 25 and June 2, and were placed in service on July 13 as Engine 10 and Engine 17.

They replaced a pair of 1998 Pierce Saber pumpers, which were reassigned to Engine 6 and Engine 28. Their old engines, a pair of 2006 American LaFrance Metropolitan pumpers, were moved to the Training Division.

Photos by Lee Wilson. ❖

More Facility Updates

Land is being cleared for the relocated **Station 14** on Harden Road. Construction should start in early 2018. The design is nearly identical to the new Station 12, though with different exterior materials.

Design proposals and interviews for the relocated **Station 22** were received by the city in late October. Selection of a design firm will follow. This is a new project with an aggressive timeframe in response to a DOT grade separation project that will impact the current fire station site.

Land acquisition is underway for the relocated **Station 3** on Rock Quarry Road. Funding to be requested for FY19, along with new **Station 13** on Ronald Drive.

Site planning continues for the relocated **Station 1** and **Headquarters**, with locations sought in the area of the convention center. ■

Promotions & Appointments

September

30

Promoted to First Class Firefighter:

Jeremy P. Ardner	Stedman T. Greggs
Nicholas A. Azan	William J. Haliko
Emmet R. Bagwell	Travis M. Holland
Anthony R. Battaglia	Mark M. Mancini
Sylvester J. Brooks	Brian C. McGinnis
Samuel T. Brown	Christopher M. Morales
Timothy C. Caldwell	Adam R. Pearce
Nicholas D. Campasano	Mark T. Pearce
Nicholas D. Christopoulos	Sandra N. Prier
Micah J. Cobb	George A. Smith
Caleb J. Creech	Walter F. Warner
Christopher M. Davis	James R. Wood
Aaron P. Dickson	Marshall P. Wrenn

September 5

Appointed to Assistant Fire Marshal:
Deputy Fire Marshal Brandon McGhee

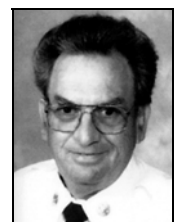
New Staff

We welcome three new Deputy Fire Marshals:

July 24	Jeffrey Fogle
September 5	Candler Thornton
October 30	Bryant Waters

Deaths

Retired Captain Samuel M. Jones, 73, passed away on October 28. He retired in 2005 with 34 years of service.



Swift Water Rescue Teams Deployed to Texas

On Thursday morning, August 31, swift-water teams from North Carolina USAR Task Force 8 and 9 were deployed to College Station, TX, to provide assistance after Hurricane Harvey.

The teams departed after a 10:00 a.m. press conference at the Keeter Training Center that included remarks from Governor Roy Cooper, Mayor Nancy McFarlane, and Fire Chief John McGrath.



Task Force 8 is comprised of Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill fire departments, along with Wake County EMS. Task Force 9 is comprised of units from Cumberland County emergency agencies.



Task Force 8 and 9 arrived in Texas the following day and joined three other teams from Charlotte, Greensboro, and Buncombe County. A total of 92 personnel from North Carolina were deployed.



The teams spent four days in staging and stayed busy conducting training for all North Carolina personnel, as well as individual team drills. They also used the time for extensive equipment checks.

They were released on September 4 and returned to North Carolina.

Photos by Mike Legeros and Task Force 8. ❖

Governor Declares Search and Rescue Day

On October 6, 2017, Governor Roy Cooper signed a proclamation declaring Search and Rescue Day in recognition of the thousands of lives saved during Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Pictured is Governor Cooper and members of NC USAR Task Force 8 from Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill. Raleigh Fire Department photo.



North Carolina Water Rescue Teams Recognized

In September, the State of North Carolina received the Higgins and Langley Award for Outstanding Achievement at the International Association of Water Rescue Professionals Conference. The state was recognized for its swift water rescue response to Hurricane Matthew in October 2016.

The Raleigh Fire Department participated in the response as part of NC USAR Task Force 8, as well as with helicopter rescue technicians assigned to NC HART missions flown by the State Highway Patrol.

This international award is the premier internationally-recognized award for excellence in swift water and flood rescue. ■



Photo Gallery



During Fire Prevention Week, a downtown display was shared with the state Department of Insurance. Deputy Fire Marshal Kevin Whitehead and Administrative Technician Jennifer James are pictured at the Bicentennial Mall.



Ladder 1 prepares to block traffic on West Millbrook Road at Dixon Drive, after pooling water caused cars to stall during a period of heavy rain on October 11. Fire units responded to flooding on a number of city roadways during the brief but heavy downpour.



Battalion 1 has received a 2017 Ford Police Interceptor. It replaced a Chevy Tahoe, with changes including different rear side striping and more lighting options. The light bar includes green lights in the corners that can be activated to identify the vehicle as a command unit.

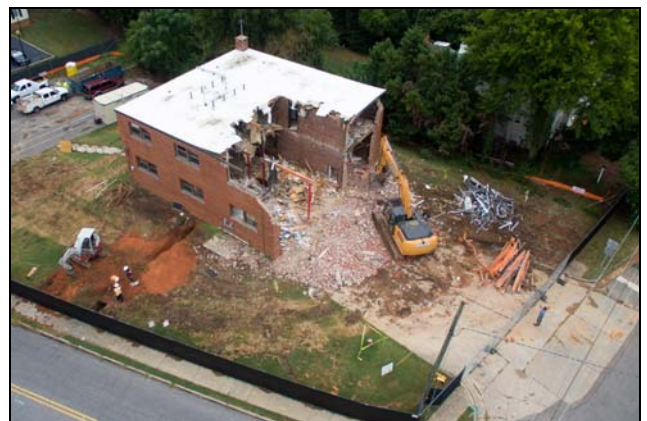
Photos by Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros.



New Firefighter Justin Hales surprised his girlfriend Taylor with an engagement ring after their graduation ceremony on September 27. She said yes.



Engine 18 was first-arriving at a vehicle fire, on Magellan Way on Saturday, September 8, 2017. They found fire extending to the apartment units. The 7:48 a.m. blaze was controlled in about thirty minutes.



Station 6 on Oberlin Road was demolished in early August. The 1949 structure is being rebuilt with larger quarters for Engine 6 and an added ladder company. See more photos, including video footage at www.raleighfirenews.org.

Raleigh Fire Department
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Raleigh, NC 27602

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR HIRING
APPLY ONLINE AT [RALEIGHNC.GOV/EMPLOYMENT](http://raleighnc.gov/employment)
NOVEMBER 1 TO NOVEMBER 30.

RALEIGH FIRE MUSEUM
105 KEETER CENTER DRIVE
SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST
PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD, 7:30 A.M.
SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR PERSONNEL, RETIREES, AND CITIZENS. THE EDITOR IS HISTORIAN MIKE LEGEROS. BACK ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE AT www.raleighfirenews.org. TO LEARN ABOUT THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT, VISIT www.raleigh-nc.org/fire.

New Annual Hiring Process

The Raleigh Fire Department has announced a new annual hiring process, with application periods each year from November 1 to November 30. Selected applicants will start the annual fire academy in late spring.

The hiring process takes approximately six months to complete and includes accepting applications, written exams, physical agility testing, background checks, interviews, drug test, physical examinations, and psychological evaluation.

The academy is scheduled to begin each year in April, and with graduation scheduled for November. The hiring timeline will be also be evaluated each year, to determine if the department needs are being met.

All interested candidates must visit the city's jobs web site at <http://www.raleighnc.gov/employment> and complete an online application during the month of November.

More information about job requirements is available at <https://www.raleighnc.gov/fire> ■