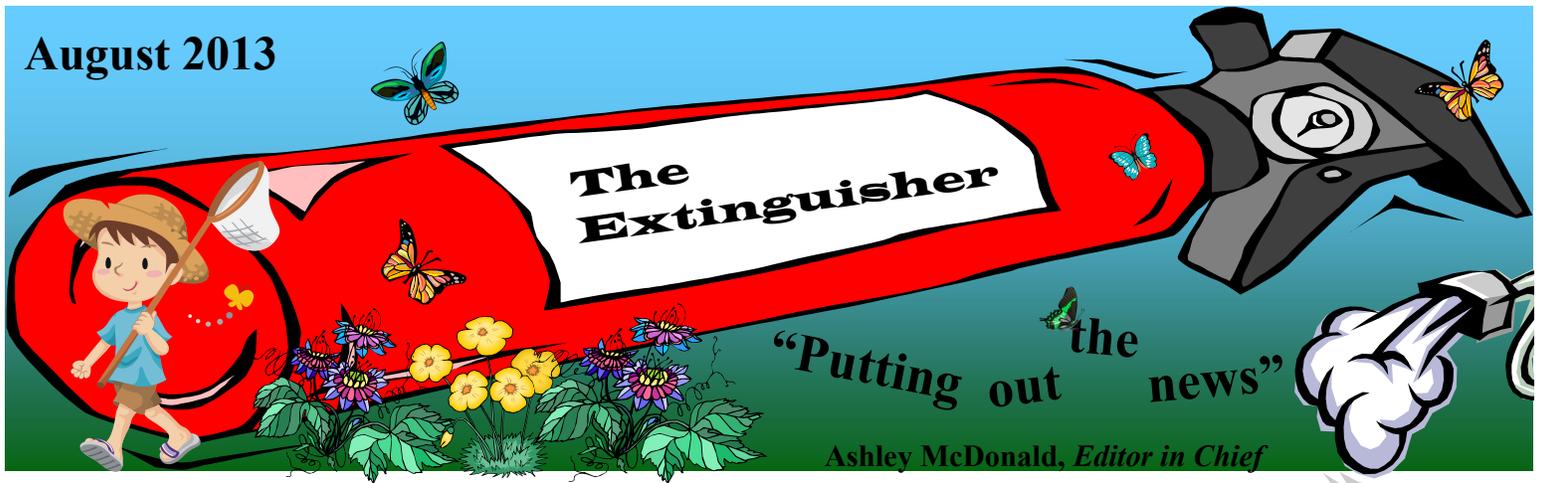


August 2013



Birthdays

Kevin Defeo 8/2

Dale Bilbrey 8/3

Joe Bell 8/6

Wesley Slager 8/8

Jeremy Spivey 8/12

Wayne Reed 8/14

Karl Daigle 8/15

Ryan Battle 8/18

Jamie Bigelow 8/20

Raymond Smith 8/20

Steve Ellison 8/23

Attention!

MFRD is now accepting applications for the Citizens Fire Academy.

Details on Page 4!

DRIVER WILLIAM DANIEL RETIRES WITH 36 YEARS

On July 10, 2013, Driver William “Bubba” Daniel retired from Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department with 36 years of service.

Daniel began his career with MFRD in May 1977 as a Firefighter. In September 1999, he was promoted to Driver.

Daniel credited former Vice Mayor Robert Scales for giving him the opportunity to work with MFRD. Mr. Scales approached him after church one Sunday and asked if he would be interested in being a Firefighter. Daniel also credited the late Bobby Swann, former Chief of MFRD, for hiring him.

In 2012, Daniel received recognition at the Annual Years of Service Presentation for his 35 years of service. He was given a special plaque with highlights of his years with the department.

On the plaque, Daniel noted some of his most memorable fire calls, including: Ray Batts Furniture Store, Fishers Department Store, and the Firestone Fire on College Street. He also recalled his funniest memory at the fire department, “Terry Sneed jumped off the pumper and grabbed a big turtle. He cleaned it and put it in a pot to cook for supper,” and unusual call “We had to open a car with a boa constrictor in it because the owner had lost his keys.”

Daniel stated that his biggest regret was not getting to retire with his brother, Robert “Pete” Daniel, who passed away in June 2004 after a car accident. Robert was also employed with MFRD. “I remember the Chief [Baxter] and several co-workers coming to visit him in the hospital in Atlanta. The support for our family was tremendous, and I will never forget that.”

Daniel plans to spend more time with family during his retirement. He and wife Audrey have three children (Terrence, Nikita, and Willy) and nine grandchildren. “I am looking forward to watching the grandkids play sports. They are very involved in basketball, soccer, and softball. I will finally get to make it to some of their games.” Daniel also plans to spend more time fishing and traveling and will continue to work part-time at Ingram Books.

“It has been a great ride. I have had fun with my co-workers, old and new. I’ve seen our department advance with new computers, GPS, medical calls, and much more. I can’t wait to see what the next ten years will bring for the department that I love so well,” said Daniel. “The last 36 years have been a journey and even when I leave, I will not be a stranger,” he added.

“Driver Daniel has been a pleasure to work with during my career at the fire department. I truly appreciate his dedication to this department and will miss him. He has been a great employee,” said Chief Gaines.

Daniel’s family and co-workers celebrated his retirement at a reception on June 28.

See Page 2 for pictures from the reception...



CONT. FROM PAGE 1: DRIVER DANIEL'S RECEPTION PICTURES



STATE CERTIFICATIONS

Four Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department personnel recently received certifications from the State of Tennessee. Firefighters Troy Tayse and Ben Honeycutt obtained their Fire Department Instructor I certifications, Firefighter Jamie Layhew achieved Fire Officer I, and Firefighter Jason Norris obtained his Firefighter II.



Congratulations!!!!

L to R: Layhew, Honeycutt, Tayse, and Norris.

ASSISTANT CHIEF HONEYCUTT RETIRES WITH 34 YEARS

Assistant Chief Ken Honeycutt announced his plans for retirement in April 2013. (Read more in the [May 2013](#) edition of *The Extinguisher*)

His last day with Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department was July 12.

At his request, his 34 years of services came to an end with a modest reception with family, close friends, and co-workers at Puleo's Grille.



MFRD PERSONNEL INSTALL REUPHOLSTERED SEAT IN OLD FIRE ENGINE AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

MFRD's District 1 responded to a rescue call at the Discovery Center in May. While crews were there, they noticed that the old 1954 Oren fire engine, donated to the Discovery Center in 2001, was in need of some repairs.

According to Discovery Center staff, the fire engine is one of the most popular exhibits at the facility. Children love to don fire equipment and climb into the front seat of the open cab engine. The high traffic of the exhibit has caused the large bench seat to wear and tear in several places.

A group of MFRD employees decided that they were going to replace the seat. Determined to pool together their own money to complete this project, the crews approached a company called "Sew Unique" to reupholster the seat. After hearing the story, the owner, John Vanderworp, donated all materials, parts, and labor to refinish the seat.

Engine 15's crew installed the newly upholstered seat on June 12.

"We take pride in our old equipment, as it reflects a great part of the history of our department," said Shift Commander Dale Maynard. "A special thanks to Mr. Vanderworp for donating his time, materials, and hard work and for helping us to make this project a success."

Plans are in the works to make other cosmetic changes to the engine in the near future.



FOUR PERSONNEL CELEBRATE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Four personnel celebrated their one year anniversary at MFRD with a presentation of their new, traditional style helmets. Firefighters Chad Davis, Kevin Defeo, Matt Roeger, and Ashley Welcome began their employment with MFRD on June 28, 2012.



MFRD NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department is now accepting applications for our 11th Citizens Fire Academy (CFA).

The six week course will begin Tuesday, September 17 and will continue through Tuesday, October 29, skipping October 8 due to the scheduled fall break of area schools.

The CFA offers a small group of area residents the opportunity to view and participate in the activities and services provided by the MFRD. Academy participants will receive an insider's view of MFRD operations. Students will have the opportunity to participate in activities such as: trying on turnout gear, climbing a 65' aerial, practicing extrication, and much more (all activities are optional). The academy will conclude with a graduation ceremony, where class members will receive a certificate of completion.



Students in last year's class were asked for feedback. A few of the comments shared were:

"Great to have hands on experience of what's involved in the firefighters job."

"Very educational. I have learned so much in all the classes."

"Really enjoyed all subjects...Extrication, Rescue, and EMT...all instructors were very informative."

Laurie Alsop has been overseeing the academy since its inception in 2000. Alsop commented on why she takes on this task each year, "I enjoy meeting the students, answering their questions, and watching them become more safety conscious. I also like to see them become educated on the various aspects of the career of firefighting and our multi-faceted department." Alsop also added, "This year's academy may offer a few surprises and will not disappoint."

It is important to mention that the Citizens Fire Academy is in no way job related. Completing the academy has no bearing on employment with the City or MFRD.

Class size is limited and the deadline for application submission is September 2. Applications can be obtained at Fire Administration located at 220 NW Broad Street or any other city fire station. They can also be obtained online at: <http://tn-murfreesboro.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/778>. For more information, contact MFRD Administration at 615-893-1422.

ALSUP PROMOTED TO ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MFRD's Department Coordinator Laurie Alsop was promoted to Administrative Assistant effective July 1, 2013. Alsop has been with the department since March 1991.



MFRD RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FROM TFACA

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department received a nice surprise Friday, July 19. Jeff Elliott, Fire Service Program Director at the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy (TFACA) in Deason, Tennessee, presented the department with a Certificate of Appreciation for “demonstrating a commitment and dedication to firefighter training and safety.”

According to Elliot, once a year, TFACA recognizes fire departments, both career and volunteer, who have excelled in their commitment to training. The academy posts the “Elite Club of Fire Departments” list at the Annual Tennessee Fire Chief’s conference. Elite Club categories are broken down as follows:

Silver Club-Achieving 1,000-1,999 contact hours
Gold Club-Achieving 2,000-3,999 contact hours
Platinum Club-Achieving 4,000 or more contact hours



During the Fiscal Year 2012-2013, MFRD achieved Platinum status, by accumulating a total of 4,450 student contact hours at the academy. This placed MFRD third in the ranking among other fire departments. Bradley County and Metro Nashville were the only departments ahead of MFRD.

Elliot mentioned that MFRD’s contact hours came mostly in the form of Officer Development, Driver Operator, Emergency Response to Aircraft/Airfield Incidents, and Technician Rope Rescue Operations classes.

“The entire team with TFACA appreciates the hard work of Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department,” said Elliot. “We consider it an honor and privilege to play a vital role in training MFRD firefighters. MFRD’s investment in training displays a commitment to providing the best service for their community and a willingness to provide safety and career development for the firefighters.”

“MFRD has a wonderful working relationship with the academy,” said Training Coordinator Billy Vinson. “The training programs have a significant impact on our department. We look forward to continuing our relationship with TFACA for many years to come.”

Pictured above (L to R): Fire & Medical Training Coordinator Nicole Miller, Assistant Chief of Training Allen Swader, and Training Coordinator Billy Vinson.

MFRD TO PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL ACTIVITIES (9/11 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB AND TUFF CHALLENGE)

STAIR CLIMB

MFRD will participate in the fourth annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb event in Nashville, Tennessee on Sunday, September 8, 2013 at the Snodgrass Tennessee Tower located in Nashville. Three participants from the department: Firefighters Daphanie Crenshaw, Chad Davis, and David Branch will honor those who perished during the 9/11 terror attacks by making an equivalent 110-story ascent. Each participant will represent one of the 343 New York Firefighters who died in the line of duty 12 years ago.

TENNESSEE ULTIMATE FIRE FIGHTING CHALLENGE

MFRD will participate in the 10th annual Tennessee Ultimate Fire Fighting Challenge at the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy on Saturday, October 19, 2013. The department will be represented by a Ladies’ Paid Team comprised of Firefighters Julia Pitt, Ashley Welcome, Daphanie Crenshaw, and Shandrea Womack and a Men’s Paid Team which will include Drivers Richard Crick and Josh Oliver and Firefighters Renard Brown and Kevin Defeo.

If you get the chance, please come support our personnel at these events. These two events are very physically challenging and require much training, skill, and practice. These personnel work hard to prepare each year for this!

NEW DEPARTMENT COMPOSITE PHOTOS AT EACH FIRE STATION

Preparations for creating a new MFRD composite photo began in August 2012. Earlier this year, Fire Administration received their large framed copy to display in the front office. In July, all fire stations received a composite. There is also a copy of our current composite at City Administration.



WATER RESCUE NEWS

During the week beginning July 7, MFRD had four water emergency incidents within four days at the Manson Pike Trailhead.

(7/7) The first was a water rescue involving two male juveniles that were swimming and were overcome by moving water. The boys, ages 14 and 16, were able to make it to a clump of trees to await MFRD crews. District 7 deployed the department's water rescue boat, provided personal flotation devices (PFD) and helmets to the boys, and paddled them safely back to shore.

(7/8) The second water rescue involved another young male, around 19 years old, who was standing in moving water and was fearful to move. MFRD did not have to deploy the boat, but they donned equipment and waded to the victim, outfitted him with a PFD and led him back to riverside.

(7/9) The third incident involved a 19 year old that had jumped from one of the bridges along the Greenway. He was already out of the water when crews arrived. He was carried to Saint Thomas Rutherford (formerly MTMC) where he was later pronounced dead.

(7/10) The fourth incident involved another young male that was in the same location and slipped and fell, causing him to hit his head. He was also carried to the hospital but was released later that day.

The four incidents received a lot of media attention throughout the week and prompted MFRD to create a Water Safety public service announcement. The [video](#) can be seen on YouTube or the City's website.

COMMENDATIONS FOR WATER RESCUES

JUNE 5, 2013 INCIDENT

On June 5, 2013, District 7's crews responded to the Nices Mill Dam near Sulphur Springs Road for mutual aid with Rutherford County SORT on a water rescue. Three victims were trapped in moving water. Boat 1, staffed by SORT personnel, was overturned, increasing the crews' responsibilities to rescuing eight victims. The crew deployed the water rescue boat and rescued the initial five rescuers, along with the original three victims.

On June 26, 2013, Firefighters Ryan Battle, Charles Powell, Mark Brewer, and Jacob Follis received commendation letters for their "valiant efforts" that evening. The letter from Chief Cumbey Gaines stated, "I am proud of your crew and your accomplishments on this rescue. You exhibited teamwork, both interdepartmental and with other agencies. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to this department."

JULY 7, 2013 INCIDENT

On July 7, 2013, District 7's crews responded to a water rescue incident at the Manson Pike Trailhead located on Searcy Street. Two male juveniles were clinging to trees and surrounded by moving water. The crew staffed the water rescue boat, paddled to the victims, and brought them safely back to shore.

On July 25, 2013, Driver Chase Martin, and Firefighters Karl Daigle, James Bryant, Duane O'Donnell, and Matt Young received commendation letters from Chief Cumbey Gaines. Driver Brian Burgess received his letter July 30. The letters stated, "The rescue was unique because you were assembled to fill in at Station 7 that day. Even though you are all water rescue trained, none of you are normally assigned to District 7. That morning, you all made it a point to become familiar with the water rescue equipment and its location on the apparatus. Because of your preparedness, the crew was able to execute a successful water rescue."

Chief Gaines went on to say, "Your willingness to be proactive paid off in a very stressful situation. I am very proud of your accomplishment."



(L to R): FF James Bryant, FF Duane O'Donnell, FF Matt Young, FF Karl Daigle, and DR Chase Martin.



(L to R): FF Charles Powell, FF Mark Brewer, FF Ryan Battle, and FF Jacob Follis.



DR Brian Burgess

SIGNS AT THE STATIONS

You may have noticed that MFRD's fire stations received a minor makeover during the month of July. Nine stations received new ground-level building identification signs. Station 3 located on Mercury Boulevard and the Fire Administration Office on NW Broad Street received updated lettering on the buildings.



This project was to make sure that fire stations, which are designed to blend into the community, are more visible to the public.



VEHICLE BACKING SAFETY BY: MFRD DRIVER CLAY ESTES

Backing a vehicle requires less than one percent of a driver's time behind the wheel; however, it is responsible for 25 percent of all accidents. According to the National Safety Council, one out of every four vehicle accidents can be blamed on poor backing techniques.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that each year, on average, 463 fatalities and 48,000 injuries, are the result of backing crashes. Of the 48,000 injuries, 6,000 are incapacitating.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports the average crash costs \$22,000. When the crash results in an on the job injury, the cost reaches up to \$100,000. If a fatality is involved, costs can exceed \$500,000.

Because backing accidents are largely preventable, we can avoid these human and financial losses.

Below are some useful tips to prevent backing accidents:

City **Employee Handbook** Section 4002 (f) (4) states, "Employees should make sure they are aware of the surroundings behind any vehicle before backing. Drivers of special use vehicles and drivers of any vehicle from which there is not a full rear view will either check from outside the vehicle or have another employee direct before backing."

Know your vehicle's blind spots. Blind spots can extend more than 150 feet behind a vehicle. Mirrors can never give the full picture while backing. Rear-vision cameras can eliminate a large portion of a vehicle's rear blind spot, but do not put drivers in full visual control of the rear of a vehicle.

Think in advance. Do not put yourself into unnecessary backing situations. Back only when necessary, the shortest distance possible, and in a straight line if possible.

Park defensively. Choose easy exit parking that does not crowd other vehicles or objects. During non-emergency driving, if an area does not permit driving all the way through or room to turn around, back into the area so that when leaving you can drive forward.

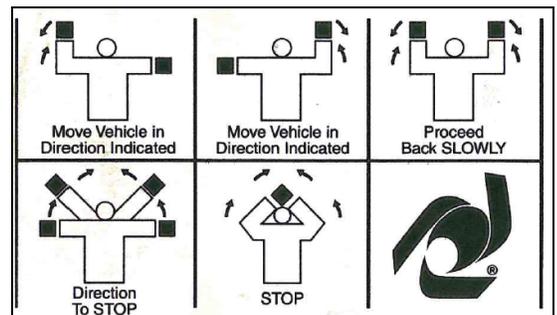
Do a walk-around. Walking around your vehicle gives you a firsthand view of the backing area and any limitations. Check for people, tire hazards, overhead obstructions, and any other potential dangers. When in doubt, set the brakes...get out and look!

Know your clearances. During your walk-around, check all six clearances (front, rear, right side, left side, ground, and overhead). Look for trees, wires, building awnings, signs, and any other clearance related problems.

Use a spotter. A spotter helps you maintain visual control of the rear of your vehicle. Drivers and spotters should use hand signals instead of verbal commands and make sure you understand each other's signals. Spotters should never walk backward while giving instructions, and drivers should immediately stop when they lose sight of their spotter.

Every backing situation is different, even if it is a location you visit on a regular basis. There are several national reports of firefighters and pedestrians being killed as fire trucks and small pick up trucks were backing into fire stations. Just remember that no amount of forward-driving experience can help a driver with backing. Drivers need to become more familiar with the way their vehicle backs up compared to the direction the steering wheel is turned.

Following the guidelines listed above will lower the risk of injuries and accidents. Our ultimate goal is the safety of our community and our personnel!





**EMILY ROSE
BRICKER**

DAUGHTER OF DAVID AND
CASSIE

BORN: JULY 10, 2013

AT 7LBS / 2OZ
20 3/4" LONG

MIA KINLEY DEFEQ

DAUGHTER OF KEVIN AND
AMBER

BORN: JULY 12, 2013

AT 5LBS / 10OZ
19" LONG

ANNUAL COW MILKING COMPETITION

Despite good efforts, Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department did not take a victory over the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department at this year's June Dairy Days Milking Contest. With 400mL, RCSO placed first in the contest. MFRD previously placed first in years 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2012.



Milkers/Firefighters Joe Pennington and Britt Gammon represented MFRD in the June 5th event. Though amateurs, they put up a good fight. Good job guys!



**August
Anniversaries**

33 YEARS
Cumbey Gaines

27 YEARS
Tony Lehw

23 YEARS
Mike Adams

Jimmy Barrett

Mark King

Rob Vaughter

David Wade

Clay Walls

22 YEARS
Terrence Thomas

14 YEARS
Bobby Brewer

13 YEARS
Anthony Cayll

Paul Diawara

Doug English

Chris Mikolon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS



MFRD's 3rd Annual Years of Service Awards Presentation is tentatively set for September 9th. The time and location are to be announced. More information will be released as it becomes available.

Be sure to check your email periodically for updates!

MFRD TRAINING IN JULY

Several MFRD off duty personnel, along with Murfreesboro Police Department, and Rutherford County EMS, participated in Active Shooter Drills at Bellwood Preschool for four days in July (15-18). Participants in the drill were Shift Commanders Daryl Alexander and Tim Swann, Captain/Shift Inspectors Jeff Day and Nora Smith, Captains Bobby Canterbury, David Sloan, Jeff Irvin, and Tony Lehw, Drivers Raleigh Marlin and Vular Anderson, and Firefighters Alan Farrar, Ashley Welcome, Ben Honeycutt, Charles Powell, David Frost, Dustin Liddell, Greg Burt, Israel Marcella, Jeff Harris, Jeremy Morris, Joe Pennington, Joel Patnode, John Fisher, Josh Parsons, Kenny McFarland, Kevin Leonard, Lance Sutton, Matt Roeger, Matt Welcome, Mitchell Whittenburg, Steve Ellison, and Titus Jackson. *See pictures below*

Ten MFRD personnel participated in a TARS Swiftwater Class in Ducktown, Tennessee July 19-21. Students were Captain Raymond Smith, Drivers Brian Burgess, Scott Duncan, Jason Hayes, Kurt McMahan, Chris Mikolon, and Adam Petrig, and Firefighters Britt Gammon, James Jones, and Joe Pennington. *See picture below*

FF OF THE MONTH AUGUST 2013

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Firefighter of the Month for August 2013 is Ken Honeycutt. Honeycutt received this honor for his retirement. He was with MFRD for 34 years.

