

September 2015

The Extinguisher

"putting out the news"

Ashley McDonald, Editor in Chief



Birthdays

Ashley McDonald 9/13

David Bricker 9/16

Troy Thomas 9/18

Roger Toombs 9/18

Daryl Alexander 9/20

Tim Corder 9/21

Kenny McFarland 9/23

Robert Canterbury 9/24

Jeff Wright 9/28

Justin McCraven 9/30

City Holiday

MFRD Administrative Offices will be closed on

**Monday,
September 7,
2015**

If you need immediate assistance, please visit MFRD Headquarters at 202 E. Vine Street or contact 615-893-1422.

MFRD WELCOMES NEW FIRE CHIEF AND SIX FIREFIGHTERS

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department welcomed new Fire Chief Mark Foulks Monday morning, along with six new Firefighters.

Firefighters Jason Dwyer, Cory Friend, Logan Gill, Wayne Sutter, Matt Tidwell, and Betsy Welcome have a combined 39 years experience in the fire service. Dwyer and Friend are certified Paramedics; Gill, Sutter, Tidwell, and Welcome are Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians. The six will complete orientation this week and will begin shift work this weekend. All will be stationed at Headquarters on Vine Street, although they will be assigned to various shifts.

Monday also marked the first day that MFRD Administrative employees met their new Chief. Chief Foulks introduced himself to the new hires and seasoned employees. He then shared his philosophy, "I believe as long as you serve the people in your community by treating them the same as you would your own family, everything else will fall into place."

Foulks' previous employment included 17 years with Knoxville Fire Department and he was just one month shy of a nine year career at Greeneville Fire Department before he accepted the position with MFRD.

"It is an honor and privilege to come on board with the men and women of MFRD. I look forward to us working together to achieve numerous accomplishments," said Chief Foulks.



Meet the new Firefighters...

Jason Dwyer

Paramedic, 2 years in fire service, enjoys golfing, hiking, and camping

Cory Friend

Paramedic, 2 years in fire service, wife Celess and child Camden Locker-Friend, enjoys wakeboarding, snowboarding, and spending time with family

Logan Gill

AEMT, 13 years in fire service, wife Rachel, enjoys hiking, mountain biking, and exercising

Wayne Sutter

AEMT, 7 years in fire service/9 years in EMS, wife Tiffany and child Axl Wayne Sutter, enjoys weight training, kayaking, hunting, fishing, and playing with his son

Matt Tidwell

AEMT, 5 years in fire service, wife Whitney and child Brantley, enjoys spending time with family, being outdoors, hunting, fishing, and staying fit

Betsy Welcome

AEMT, 10 years in fire service, husband Matt and children Ashley and Alex, enjoys fishing

Pictured (L to R):

Chief Mark Foulks and Firefighters Logan Gill, Betsy Welcome, Jason Dwyer, Matt Tidwell, Cory Friend, and Wayne Sutter.

FEW SLOTS REMAINING FOR 13TH SESSION OF CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY!!!

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department is now accepting applications for the 13th session of the Citizens Fire Academy (CFA).

The six week course will begin Tuesday, September 15, and will continue through Tuesday, October 27, skipping October 6 due to the scheduled fall break of area schools. Class times are 6:00-9:00 pm.

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: wearing turnout gear, climbing a 65' aerial, using extrication equipment, victim search and rescue using GPS, and much more (all activities are optional). The academy will conclude with a graduation ceremony, where class members will receive a certificate of completion.

Gena Burns-Harrison attended the class last year with her daughter, Lauren. "My daughter and I had an incredibly unique mother-daughter bonding time. CFA was an experience that, I submit, neither of us will forget. While we have always been explorers, investigators, and researchers, this experience broadened our horizons and opened our eyes. It made us contemplate things we had never previously considered."

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.

The cost of the class is \$35.00. Class size is limited and the deadline for application submission is September 1. Applications can be obtained at Fire Administration located at 220 NW Broad Street or any MFRD fire station. They can also be obtained online at: www.murfreesborotn.gov/fireacademy. For more information, contact MFRD Administration at 615-893-1422.



WWW.MURFREESBOROTN.GOV/FIREACADEMY

PINK FIRE TRUCKS DELIVER FLOWERS TO FIRE STATION

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Station 7 on North Thompson Lane went pink Saturday, August 1.

Pink fire trucks, part of the "Pink Heals National Tour," traveled through Middle Tennessee and stopped by the fire station to deliver fresh flowers and other goodies to Robbie Walls, wife of MFRD Captain/Shift Inspector Clay Walls, who is a breast cancer survivor.

Pink Heals volunteers then escorted Robbie to the pink fire engine to sign her name among thousands of other women affected by cancer and various other illnesses.

The organization also sent flowers to MFRD Driver Billy Sauls' wife, Maribeth, who was unable to make the event. MFRD personnel signed Maribeth's name to the pink fire truck in her absence.

"This organization is not just about a cause, it's about the people," said Founder Dave Graybill. "We loved these women before we even met them," he continued.

To learn more about the Pink Heals National Tour and organization, visit their website at www.pinkfiretrucks.org.



(L to R): Doug English, Steve Ellison, Adam C. Brown, Dustin Liddell, Don Hayworth, David Butler, Caleb Walls, Sarah Walls, Robbie Walls, Ashley McDonald, Jim Massey, Jeff Rand, Joel Patnode, Jeremy Spivey, and Clay Walls.



If you notice MFRD personnel providing exemplary service, displaying professionalism, or representing the City of Murfreesboro in a positive light, please share your experience by nominating them for a Service Excellence Stars Award.

Click here for more information or to [Nominate a STAR.](#)

FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2015

Firefighter Andy Smithson has been named Firefighter of the Month for September 2015.

Captain Jamie Bigelow nominated Smithson. In an email Bigelow said, "While Andy and his family were at Disneyland, he noticed a commotion. A father was panicking because his child, who was sitting in a stroller, was choking and blue. Andy freed the object from the baby's mouth; the baby began to cry and breathe normally. A large group of people had gathered by this point. Andy handed the baby back to the father and slowly moved back into the crowd. Andy is not only a humble man, but a true hero."

Andy has been with the department since October 2007.



MFRD AND MPD CONDUCT DRILL DURING AIRPORT CLOSURE

Murfreesboro's Fire & Rescue and Police Departments conducted a mock drill at the Murfreesboro Municipal Airport located at 1930 Memorial Boulevard on Monday, August 17.

The airport was closed until August 23 due to an extension of the runway and runway resurfacing. "We saw the airport closure as an opportunity for our personnel on all three shifts at Station 6 to get in some training with responding to a downed aircraft," said Shift Commander Tim Swann. Station 6, located on Memorial Boulevard, houses Ladder 6 which is the first responding unit to calls at the airport.



The drill simulated fire and police response to an "after hours" airplane crash involving two Cessna airplanes.

Fire crews were staged at a parking lot near Sports Com and dispatched in staggered times to make their response more realistic. MPD officers were responsible for traffic control, monitoring all entrances to the airport, and opening the gates for fire apparatus.

Ladder 6 was the first on scene to discover two downed Cessna planes with heavy smoke exiting. The crew jumped into action and sprayed a foam layer on the first aircraft so they could "extinguish the fire" and cool it down before rescuing the victim inside.

Other responding units were sent to the second downed aircraft approximately 200 feet from the first. The second plane also had a victim inside. Crews immediately began spraying foam as well to create a cooler barrier for victim rescue. A third victim was discovered lying under debris in the middle of the runway between the two planes. All three victims were recovered from the scene.

Firefighters made sure the "fires" were out and that any possible fuel leaks were contained.

"Overall, I think the drill went well," said Swann. "We train like this so that we can see what we did right and what areas we can improve upon. Our main goal with this type of training is to make sure our personnel have the tools, knowledge, and practice to execute a safe, professional, and successful response in a real-life situation. We appreciate Airport Director Chad Gehrke and his staff for allowing us to conduct the drill this morning, and look forward to more multi-agency training like this in the future."



September Anniversaries

38 YEARS

Dale Maynard

33 YEARS

Randy Jones

31 YEARS

Robert Alsup

29 YEARS

Lionel Holladay

21 YEARS

Kurt McMahan

Tracy Summar

19 YEARS

Craig McBride

16 YEARS

Titus Jackson

11 YEARS

Chase Martin

Steve Ellison

9 YEARS

David Frost

Nell Spradling

Matt Young

8 YEARS

Taylor Lasseter

Jeremy Spivey

7 YEARS

John Flynt

Josh Warren

2 YEARS

Marcus King