

December 2016



Birthdays

Corey Friend 12/4
Matt Young 12/4
Charles Powell 12/5
Shandrea Womack 12/6
Jeff Bratcher 12/8
Kurt McMahan 12/8
Carl Peas 12/8
Sean Wheeler 12/8
Melvin Holmes 12/13
Matt Welcome 12/14
Corian Barrett 12/16
Adam P. Brown 12/20
Marshall King 12/20
Craig McBride 12/20
Dale Maynard 12/21
Matthew Twomey 12/22
Nicole Miller 12/24
Jason Norris 12/24
Lee Douglas 12/25
Joel Patnode 12/25
David Frost 12/27
Josh Jackson 12/29
Adam Petrig 12/29

ALL CREWS RETURN SAFELY FROM GATLINBURG



They say a picture is worth a thousand words; there's so much truth to that. Pictured above, is Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Ladder 8 positioned high in the Smoky Mountains of Gatlinburg. The sun is just peeking over the "Smokies," as the day comes to a close. Firefighters and other first responders from all over the state of Tennessee sent crews to assist with Gatlinburg's uncontained wildfires.

Over the course of the event, MFRD sent 50 personnel, including two chief officers and our Fire Chaplain/Captain Lee Douglas.

The first crew arrived Monday night and were immediately sent into action, as the city had already suffered catastrophic loss of residential and commercial properties. It is estimated that over 1,700 structures were lost.

MFRD provided enough personnel to rotate staffing for two ladder trucks and an engine. The three crews assisted local and mutual aid firefighters with the suppression of several residential fires and search and rescue efforts. They were also able to staff Gatlinburg Fire Department stations and cover medical and fire calls for them, while they mitigated the fires and continued search and rescue.

All of the personnel were eager to help, and also very humbled by what they experienced. Several had never seen anything like it before. Some homes were completely burned to the ground, while others...

LAST MONTH'S ANSWER:

Q. What are the hooks on the cutters in the picture used for?



A. For guiding wire or cable into cutters.

MCDONALD COMPLETES ADVANCED PIO COURSE

MFRD's Public Information Officer Ashley McDonald spent a week in Emmittsburg, Maryland at the Emergency Management Institute to obtain certification as an Advanced PIO. McDonald completed a five-day intense course designed to teach participants additional skills for use during escalating incidents, including strategic communications and incident action planning as it relates to Joint Information Center (JIC) operations.

"The class was very intense and challenging," said McDonald. "I am thankful that I had the opportunity to attend and I look forward to preparing for the Master Class."

Right, McDonald is pictured with some of her classmates with whom she participated in the Joint Information Exercise.



PERSONNEL COMPLETE EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER

MFRD's Fire Trainees completed Emergency Medical Responder Class in November. They all passed their written and practical exams and are now on track to take the National Registry test.

Special thanks to Motlow State Community College for providing this training and to Lead Instructor Andrew Neill.

Pictured Front Row (L to R): Firefighter Al Jakes (Instructor), Assistant Chief of Medical Services Kim Lawson, Andrew Neill, Training Coordinator Jeff Wright (Instructor), and Firefighter Julia Pitt (Instructor). **Back Row (L to R)** Fire Trainees: Tiara Green, Gianni Bacchetti, Thomas Gunnell, Adam Ross, Brenner Ballard, Kevin Madachik, Frank Camejo, and James Ray.



Tailboard Topics

Q. What are the five tools a quintuple combination pumper (quint) provides for firefighters to accomplish tactical firefighting functions?

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were unscathed. Assistant Chief Kaye Jernigan, one of the chief officers who deployed, stated, "It was almost more like a tornado had hit the city. Fire usually destroys everything in its pathway. In some cases, structures were burned completely to the ground and a neighboring structure would be untouched.



In other cases, you would see a hole where a home used to be, but all the vegetation around it would be just fine."

"Everyone was so warm and welcoming," said Captain Raymond Smith, one of the first to go the city. "We walked into a restaurant and received a standing ovation from the other patrons. They also made sure our meals were paid for...these were people who had lost EVERYTHING...I still can't wrap my mind around it."



Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks spoke of the department's involvement with the event. "All of our personnel did an outstanding job and performed in a manner that exudes who MFRD is as a department. Additionally, we forged relationships that will last a lifetime."

DOUGLAS NAMED FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH DECEMBER 2016

MFRD Chaplain/Captain Lee Douglas has been named Firefighter of the Month for December 2016. He was nominated by Firefighter Brent Stephens, though Stephens said many other personnel feel the same.

"I would like to nominate Chaplain Lee Douglas for Firefighter of the Month for the love and tireless work he gave during the Gatlinburg deployment. He was one of the first on site in the mornings and one of the last to leave, (if he even left at all). During the deployment, we received numerous compliments about Chaplain Douglas' professionalism. Several people expressed appreciate for his presence; as he helped first responders cope with what they were witnessing and citizens during the most horrific time of their lives. Chaplain Douglas lent an open ear to anybody and everybody that needed it and helped to de-escalate several heated situations on the grounds of the deployment. He brightened every person's day with his constant smile when disbelief and sorrow were at the forefront of the disaster. I was humbled to be able to witness his work on the ground, as he worked selflessly to serve others. Chaplain Douglas' care and tireless work exhibits who we are as a department, but also what it means to be a great man. I am proud to call him a colleague, a brother, and a friend."



Douglas is pictured right with Shift Commander Tim Swann (another chief officer sent to Gatlinburg). Douglas has been with the department since May 1988. Though for many years, he acted in the capacity of a fire chaplain for the department, he was not officially pinned for the role until August 2016.

"When you meet Lee Douglas, you find out right away that his passion is helping people, whether it's a physical need for assistance or just a kind smile, offering of prayer, or words of wisdom," said Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks. "Lee is very special to our department. We are very proud to have him as our chaplain and as a fixture in this community representing MFRD with pride and professionalism. His servant's heart and passion for this role is truly remarkable."

MFRD HOLDS 1ST ANNUAL FIRE & RESCUE AWARDS AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JIM DAVIS, MPRD PHOTOGRAPHER

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department held the 1st Annual Fire & Rescue Awards and Recognition Ceremony at Patterson Park Community Center November 7.

John Hood emceed the event which recognized over 30 employees for various accomplishments.

The ceremony began with recognizing the nine Fire Trainees who graduated from the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy November 4 after attending the 10-week Fire Recruit Class. Gianni Bacchetti, Brenner Ballard, Robert Gingrow, Tiara Green, Thomas Gunnell, Kevin Madachik, Betsy Prusynski, James Ray, and Adam Ross received a department challenge coin, as they were praised for also obtaining their certifications in Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations and Firefighter I.

The next group to be recognized were the Firefighters who recently celebrated their one year anniversary with MFRD. At one year, each Firefighter receives his or her Firefighter badge and a new helmet. Jason Bonniger, Eric Compton, Cory Friend, Matt Tidwell, Betsy Welcome, and Brandon McCullough were also presented with a department challenge coin. Firefighters Corian Barrett, Marcus Cartwright, Logan Gill, and Andrew Kindle were not present but also achieved this accomplishment.

Firefighter Kevin Leonard was promoted to Engineer on October 13, 2016, but was officially pinned with his Engineer badge during the ceremony. His former Captain, the department's Chaplain Lee Douglas, did the honors.

MFRD's Firefighters of the Month were then acknowledged for "going above and beyond the duties of their job descriptions." Firefighters of the Month are named for actions ranging from station projects and innovations to acts of kindness and off-duty life-saving efforts. From November 2015 to October 2016, the recipients were: Engineer David Simms, Firefighter Brent Stephens (not present), Assistant Chief Kaye Jernigan, Firefighter Matt Tidwell, Engineer Kenneth McFarland, Captain Tony Lehw, Firefighter Ryan Battle, Firefighter Melvin Holmes (not present), Firefighter Ben Honeycutt, Firefighter Jeff Clementi, Retired Captain Randy Jones (not present), Engineer Douglas English, Captain Raymond Smith, Engineer Samuel Benford, Engineer Billy Sauls (not present), and Firefighter James Strader.



Leonard Promotion (L to R) Deputy Chief Toombs, Chaplain Lee Douglas, Kevin Leonard, and Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks.

Congrats to our Fire Trainees/Rookie School Graduates!



Fire Trainees (L to R) Deputy Chief Roger Toombs, Gianni Bacchetti, Brenner Ballard, Robert Gingrow, Tiara Green, Kevin Madachik, Thomas Gunnell, Betsy Prusynski, James Ray, Adam Ross, and Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks.

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Congrats to our FFs Celebrating One Year!



One Year FFs (L to R) Deputy Chief Roger Toombs, Jason Bonniger, Cory Friend, Matt Tidwell, Betsy Welcome, Brandon McCullough, Eric Compton, and Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks.

Congrats to our Firefighters of the Month!



FF of the Month (L to R): Deputy Chief Roger Toombs, Assistant Chief Kaye Jernigan, Douglas Inghish, David Simms, Kenneth McFarland, Samuel Benford, Matt Tidwell, Ben Honeycutt, Jeff Clementi, James Strader, Raymond Smith, Ryan Battle, Tony Lehew, and Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks.

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Lastly, two MFRD employees were presented the "Outstanding Service Award" for their off-duty life-saving efforts. Captain Robert Canterbury and Engineer Douglas English received engraved axes for the honor as their stories were recounted by Hood.

Captain Robert Canterbury

Robert "Bobby" Canterbury had just pulled in the driveway, November 14, 2015, when he heard a terrible crash out in front of his house on HWY 269. He saw where an SUV came to a rest in front of a tree at the end of his driveway. He could see fire coming from the motor compartment and could tell that at least one person was pinned in that vehicle and another in the other vehicle. He immediately called 911 to report the accident and ask for help, but he also jumped into action. He and his family started bringing buckets of water out to the car that was on fire trying to douse the flames. He knew he had to get the male driver out and he and another man tried to get the door off of the vehicle, but were unsuccessful. Bobby went to his shop, got his tractor and chains and went back to the vehicle. He hooked the chains to the door, snatched the door with the tractor a few times and got it off. They were able to get the man out to safety before the passenger side of the vehicle caught fire. The other vehicle was a young woman around 18. She was pinned as well and in and out of consciousness. Bobby assisted with patient care until EMS and the Fire Department came on scene. LifeFlight was eventually dispatched to take the young woman to Vanderbilt. Bobby was off duty, but his Firefighter instincts and quick thinking allowed him to assist citizens in need. This was a great reflection of his personal character and also the professionalism of the men and women of MFRD.

Engineer Douglas English

On June 2nd, 2016, Engine 3 was dispatched to an unresponsive person, CPR in progress. Upon arrival, off-duty Engineer Doug English, was administering basic life support. Doug maintained patient care and assisted Engine 3's crew with AED use. The patient was turned over to Rutherford EMS for more advanced care and transport. After the dust settled and the crew delivered the patient to the emergency department, I asked Doug about his actions that led up to activating 911. He recounted by saying that he had just walked out on to his back deck when voices next door caught his attention. He noticed his neighbors trying to wake up the resident and it appeared that he was having a medical emergency. Upon recognition, Doug grabbed his "go bag" and headed next door. He directed family members to activate 911 while he started CPR.

Doug's initial actions provided emergency crews with a viable patient. His early intervention led to a successful save with the AED. The patient is a retired member of the Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue department and continues to do well today.

Doug is a humble man, who quietly does his job, but does it well. He never misses an opportunity to help where help is needed.

Retired Captain Larry Bratcher, the man whom English saved, was in the audience to see him receive the award.

"We are proud of the men and women who represent this department in such a professional, compassionate, and respectful manner," said Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks. "The citizens and visitors to our community are very fortunate to have you as public servants."

"We are proud of the men and women who represent this department in such a professional, compassionate, and respectful manner."

-Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks



Outstanding Service Awards (L to R): Deputy Chief Roger Toombs, Robert Canterbury, Douglas English, and Fire Rescue Chief Mark Foulks.

Congrats to our Outstanding Service Award Recipients!

GUNS 'N' HOSES RELAY FOR LIFE BASKETBALL GAME DATE MOVED TO FEBRUARY 4TH

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue and Murfreesboro Police Department will go head to head in a “friendly” game of basketball, benefitting their combined “Boro Public Safety” Relay for Life Team. The game was originally scheduled for December, but postponed until Saturday, February 4, 2017. Game starts at 6:00 pm at Middle Tennessee Christian School. Ticket prices are \$5 for Adults, \$3 for Students, and Kids 5 and Under are FREE! Concessions will be available and raffles will be held between quarters. This event will definitely be fun for the whole family!

T-Shirts are also on sale, so you can represent your favorite team. Will it be #TEAMFIRE or #TEAMPOLICE? Shirts must be pre-ordered and cash is required at time of order. Cost is \$15 with the majority of the proceeds going to Relay for Life.



PICK YOUR TEAM...
SUPPORT YOUR
DEPARTMENT

Preorder SHIRTS FOR
\$15
CASH ONLY



**Must pay at time of pre-order
See Amy Norville, Ashley McDonald, or
Desire Thorpe*

NEW EPISODE OF “ADVENTURES IN FIREFIGHTING” NOW AIRING ON CITYTV AND YOUTUBE



The latest episode of “[Adventures in Firefighting](#)” is now airing on CityTV and on YouTube. This show features Host Ashley McDonald learning the purpose of annual hydrant testing and how to flow a hydrant.

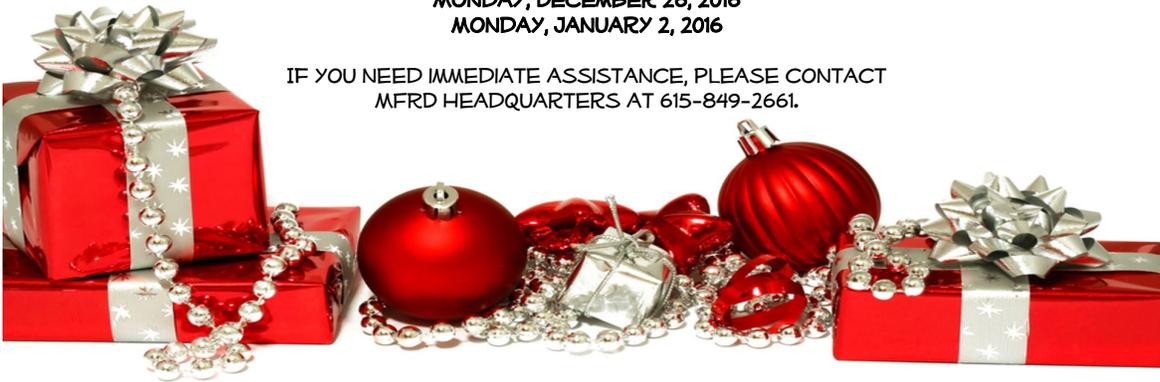
It’s a good thing Captain Kurt McMahan was patient, because Ashley was directionally challenged!

MFRD ADMIN OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

FIRE ADMINISTRATION OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING DATES
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAYS:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2016
MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2016
MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2016

IF YOU NEED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT
MFRD HEADQUARTERS AT 615-849-2661.



MFRD WOULD LIKE
TO WISH
EVERYONE A
SAFE & HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON!

FOR HOLIDAY SAFETY
TIPS, CHECK OUT THIS
YOUTUBE
VIDEO FROM AFM CLAY
MALONE!



December Anniversaries

31 YEARS

Kenneth Richmond

29 YEARS

Roger Toombs

25 YEARS

Leon Isaac
Doug Rivait

19 YEARS

Jamie Bigelow
Brian Creager
Jeff Harris

16 YEARS

David Cranford
Scott Duncan
Mike Keith
Tim Lampitt
Raleigh Marlin
Paul Oliver
Adam Petrig

10 YEARS

Troy Tayse

9 YEARS

Britt Gammon
Kevin Leonard
Dustin Liddell
Wesley Slager

6 YEARS

Jacob Follis
Julia Pitt

