

The All Hands

It takes all of us working together, to get the job done!

JULY 2014

Volume 2, Issue 7



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Special points of interest:

- 10 keys to being a great employee
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- New Paramedics
- Farewell Paul Hooper

Deputy Chief's Message

By **DARREL DONATTO**

Deputy Chief

When we in the fire service hear the term "stepping up," we think of one of our members serving in higher role than their assigned role. For example a Firefighter serving in the role as a Driver Engineer or a Firefighter or Driver serving in the role as a Lieutenant.

Recently, we have had a number of our team members who have taken the leap to the next level and have begun to "step up" or serve in a higher role. F/F Braden Whitworth, F/F Scott McCracken, F/F Oscar Geerken, F/F Jerry Castillo, F/F Damon Patrick, and F/F Rebecca Gray have all recently completed their required classes and have begun to "step-up" in the position of Driver Engineer. D/E Jody Sronce and D/E Gerry Hagin have both recently completed their classes and have begun to "step-up" in the position of Lieutenant. These members have shown their willingness to do more than that which is required of them and their desire to advance their careers. I express my huge thanks to them and to those who have taken this step before them.

However, we have many more members of our organization who are "stepping-up," just not in the way we as firefighters tend to think of the term. Our team members are going above and beyond, serving in ways that are above the expectations for their position, and doing this in more ways that I could possibly list here. For example, we have D/E Brian Matzen who has spent many hours helping review our Standard Operating Guidelines so we can update them; we have D/E Richard Buttery who has spent hours working on the tire rims of one of our vehicles – trying to make them look as good as new despite their wear and age; we have Lt Richard Ward who has invested hours working with the purchasing department and vendors to update the gym equipment in our stations; we have Lt. Phil Dudley, Lt. Jill Bassford, Lt. Joe Sekula, Lt. Marx, and F/F Wayne Dorcas who have spent hours helping train our newly hired employees; we have D/E Frank Mavigliano and Ocean Rescue Supervisor Craig Pollock who have spent hours developing and delivering a water rescue training program for our members; we have D/E Danny Dunnam and D/E Brian Lebrun who have invested hours into developing a program and overseeing the testing of our fire pumps.

In addition, we have D/E Willie Bonfante who has spent hours developing a Fall Prevention training program so we can help prevent injuries; we have Lt. James Weber who spends hours upon hours maintaining or SCBA and gas monitors and who spends hours training and serving as a member of the Town's dive team; we have Lt. Sean Baker, Lt. Joe Sekula, and D/E Derryl Bucheck who have spent many hours developing the specifications and working with the purchasing department to purchase our next piece of fire apparatus; Lt. Michael Marx who has been attending training and learning more about our training system software so we can maximize its use; and Lt. Mark Bradshaw who spends hours teaching CPR and recently has started teaching Pet CPR for people within our community.

Continued on next page

10 Keys to Being a Great Employee

July 7th, 2014 by bradlomenick in Catalyst, Leadership, Leadership Rules.

Being a leader doesn't exempt you from being a good employee. Matter of fact, as leaders, we should strive to be the best in all we do, not just being "good" or "better."

"Good" is doing what is expected of you. This typically falls in the slightly above-average range and is relatively easy to achieve with a bit of focus and determination. "Better" is rising a little higher than good and typically means you are comparing yourself to the next one in line.

But *best* is where you should want to live. It is greatness and doesn't mean you are better than everyone else but that you're working to your maximum capability.

Whether the one in charge, or just simply part of the team, our goal should be to create an environment that thrives on excellence and always strives to be the best.

This can be a challenge but I've discovered 10 ways to be the best employee there is:

- 1. Write everything down.** Never show up to a meeting without something to write with and something to write on. And write it down. Everything. Otherwise you'll forget. I don't care who you are.
- 2. Honor people's time.** Show up early and finish on time.
- 3. Come with solutions, not just ideas.** This is crucial. Move towards completion, not away from it. Ideas are great, but always have to lead towards the finish line.
- 4. Learn how to anticipate.** Be one step ahead. Do something every day you weren't "asked" or "told" to do, but know you should do.
- 5. Be a disciplined learner.** Understand it is your role to be an expert, no matter what level or role you play in an organization. Don't just be one step ahead of your boss in being skilled at your job be an expert.

6. Listen well. Listen when in a conversation; don't just think about what you are going to say in response. Listen for next steps, not current realities- this has to do with anticipating.

7. Reflect most of the credit; take all the blame. This is more for leaders, but still a great principle to put into practice no matter what level you are in the organization. Be a reflector of praise, not an absorber. Absorb the blame if at all possible.

8. Never speak negatively of your peers for personal gain. This is a hard one for everyone, especially when your boss or superior wants to pit you against that peer and see how you respond. Don't give in to that. Stay above it.

9. Push back. Almost every organizational leader I know wants their team members to challenge the process, question assumptions, bring new ideas to the table, and push back when they don't agree. Don't be afraid to do this. If your leader is not mature enough to take this, then they probably shouldn't be in the position they are in. If unsure on whether you truly have "permission" to push back, ask for permission on the front end.

10. Take on more responsibility. Ask for more power and involvement, and you'll be lifting the load of your employer or boss. That is always a welcomed conversation. Always. Help by taking on more.



Deputy Chief's Message

From page 1

If I didn't specifically mention your name here – it doesn't mean I don't know or recognize what you have been doing. I know there are many more people doing many more things; things not required of them, not expected of them, but they are doing them so we can have a better Palm Beach Fire Rescue. My thanks go out to all of you for the difference you are making. I truly appreciate you and your effort. Keep up the great work, together you are all making Palm Beach Fire Rescue better. 🔥

News and Notables

By **BRODIE ATWATER**

Assistant Chief

It's been another busy month or so here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. The following information has been compiled in an effort to keep everyone up to date on what's been happening in the Department:

- The enclosure of the Station 3 bunker gear storage room with doors, has been completed. Construction was done by department personnel. Thanks to all who participated in this project.
- A purchase order has been issued for a Knapheide truck topper to be placed on the red Mechanic's pickup truck. Once this topper is mounted on the unit, lights and graphics will be added to enable the truck to be used as a Battalion Chief's response vehicle.
- Three new part time Ocean Rescue Lifeguards have begun duty with the Department. Two of the new employees are experienced beach Lifeguards, the third will be trained by current Ocean Rescue personnel.
- Former Chief Arthur Kitts passed away on June 14th at the age of 92. Chief Kitts was the featured retiree in our November 2013 newsletter. He also visited the north station in December and spent some time talking with staff about how things were around the department in earlier times. Chief Kitts was the last chief to actually live at the station. He occupied an apartment on the third floor of the old Station 1 while the Assistant Chief and his family lived on the third floor of Station 2. Chief Kitts' memorial service was attended by Deputy Chief Donatto, Div. Chief Pompos, Asst. Chief Atwater, B/C Codispoti, Asst. Fire Marshall Curcio, Lt. Baker and D/E Bucheck as well as several retired PBFRR personnel.
- Station 2 personnel replaced the broken refrigerator door handles with sturdier grab handles similar to those at Station 1 and 3. They also replaced the freezer door handle. Thanks to those who made this happen.
- Station 1 personnel completed needed repairs to the recliners in the t.v./training room. This type of maintenance and minor repair should help the chairs to last much longer. Again, thanks to those who took this project on.
- Ladder testing was completed by an outside agency on all ground ladders and both aerial trucks. Results of the testing were very good overall, with only minor repairs required. All repairs will be completed by Palm Beach County vehicle maintenance.
- Exterior painting has begun at the north station. The project is expected to take two weeks and will include pressure cleaning, caulking and exterior painting of the station. Interior painting has been approved and should start in the near future.
- Repair of the apron at Station 1 has been delayed due to the bidding process. Public Works will be tying the project in with the renovation of the Memorial Park fountain which will save the Town approximately \$50,000.
- An external GPS antenna is currently being tested on Rescue 1. If the antenna performs as expected, units will be added to all rescues and engines. These antennas should greatly improve connectivity for the onboard computers.
- The department is again participating in the Palm Beach Daily News "Boxed for Success" school supply drive. Supplies will be given to three area schools to help less fortunate student be prepared for the new school year. All stations are serving as collection points for checks and donated items.
- D/C Duane, Lt. Baker, Lt. Sekula and D/E Bucheck attended a pre construction meeting for the Department's new Quint apparatus. The meeting was held at the Pierce plant in Appleton, Wisconsin. This important meeting finalized all details of the construction and specifications for the new apparatus, which should be completed in Nov. or Dec. The process of developing specifications, evaluating and purchasing new apparatus requires a great deal of time and effort on the part of the committee, we thank them for their willingness to be involved and for ensuring that the department continues to have effective and efficient apparatus.
- Testing for the position of Driver Engineer will be conducted on July 16th and 17th. Good luck to the 8 candidates who will be participating in the process.
- With the return of summer rains, mosquitos have become an issue. Two large insect control devices (bug zappers) have been ordered for the bay at Station 1. These devices work in conjunction with insect bait to remove insects from the area. If these devices prove to be successful, they will be purchased for use at Station 2 and 3. 🦋

2014 Pierce Ladder Truck

By **JIM DUANE**

Division Chief

Almost two years in the making, the final steps were completed prior to the beginning construction of our new 2014 Pierce Impel 75' ladder truck. The apparatus committee consisting of; Division Chief Duane, Lieutenant Baker, Lieutenant Sekula, and Driver Engineer Bucheck recently attended the pre-construction meeting at Pierce Manufacturing. Though many hours were spent meeting and designing the apparatus prior to the trip, nothing can substitute the ability to walk freely through a factory to view over 100 new trucks being built at various stages giving the committee first hand viewing of the latest and greatest technology and ideas being used.

The configuration, somewhat different from our current apparatus was designed for space and efficiency. The most obvious change will be the pump, a set-up designed by Pierce known as the PUC. The pump design is such that places the complete system under the apparatus rather than through the middle. Lower discharges, increased compartment space and greater accessibility for maintenance are just a few of the many advantages to the system.

The truck will be equipped with a compressed air foam system (CAFS), which simply changes the characteristics of the water by adding a class A foam into the stream making the water more absorbable, therefore decreasing the amount of water needed for fighting a fire.

Vehicle extrication equipment will be stored in the front bump-



er along with two hose reels. This configuration opens up more space in the compartments while increasing the speed and efficiency for deploying lines when needed during vehicle extrication.

The projected delivery day will be sometime in December with a goal of being placed in service around the first of the year. 🔥

Ocean Rescue

By **CRAIG POLLOCK**

Ocean Rescue Supervisor

The summer months are here and beach attendance has stayed steady. The swimming conditions have been really good throughout the month of June. The Green flags (low hazard swim conditions) have been up at Mid-Town Beach for over 25 days and the ocean has been calm. However lifeguards have been had to close the beach to the public seven times due to lightning in the area, from afternoon thunderstorms. The state of Florida leads the nation in lightning strikes and unfortunately this means that Florida also leads the nation in deaths and injuries caused by lightning. Beach patrons should be prepared to exit beach and seek safe shelter when thunderstorms move in, lifeguards will clear the water and beaches when lightning is present. ⚡



EMS Division

By **BRIAN FULLER**

Division Chief

All State of Florida Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics certifications will expire on December 1st of 2014.

At least 60 days before your certificate expires, the Florida Department of Health will mail a postcard to your last known mailing address of record.

All personnel are encouraged to check the address listed on the current certificate for accuracy. If your address has changed or is otherwise incorrect, you must notify the Division of Medical Quality Assurance online or at (850) 488-0595. If you were hired after December 1, of 2012, you are encour-

aged to register your practicing address as 300 North County Road, Palm Beach, Florida 33480 so that the postcards are received by administration.

To be eligible for re-certification, EMT's must complete 30 hours of EMT refresher training based on the 1996 U.S. DOT EMT-Basic National Standard Refresher Curriculum, to include adult and pediatric education with a minimum of two hours in pediatric emergencies, an additional 2 hours of HIV AIDS refresher training; and maintain a current CPR card.

Paramedics must complete 30 hours of paramedic refresher training based on the 1998 U.S. D.O.T. EMT-Paramedic NSC, to include adult and pediatric education with a minimum of two hours

in pediatric emergencies, an additional 2 hours of HIV AIDS refresher training and also maintain a current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) card.

It is strongly suggested each of you log into Target Solutions and evaluate your current training hours status, begin to gather your appropriate documentation, i.e. CPR card, ACLS card (if applicable), etc. and locate your User ID and Password that were mailed to you with your initial physical certification. This will be necessary to renew your certification online.

All EMT's and Paramedics will be required to renew their certification online once the renewal postcard is received. *

Training and Safety Division

By **JIM DUANE**

Division Chief

The training calendar remained light for the first couple weeks of July in order to give the Driver Engineer candidates the opportunity to practice their pumping and driving skills. The Drivers test is just days away as personnel complete their final preparations before exam day. The "Buzz" around the stations is that this test should be a very competitive one. The best of luck to everyone!

Please take a moment to congratulate Oscar Geerken for completing his one year probationary period. He recently finished his final test with a near perfect score. Were very lucky to have such a great employee as him. Several other members are in their final months before completing their probation. Please make every effort to help them prepare for this. The new em-

ployees are the future of the organization; therefore, investing in them now will prepare them for years to come.

The summer months have arrived, which means the beaches are more crowded than ever. To help prepare us for water related emergencies, Driver Engineer Mavigliano created a 3-part DVD series on all the aspects of water rescue. This year has an added instruction on kite-boarding. This growing sport has resulted in recent calls, which require training. Crews are currently watching the DVD series and will take part later in the month training in the ocean.

Several employees were assigned through Target Safety, the State of Florida Fire Officer 1 task book. This is a mandatory discipline that must be accomplished prior to taking the Fire Officer 1 state test, a requirement for promotion to Officer. As personnel complete their officer classes,

contact the training division to request this as an assignment. At the last Officer's meeting, the new Officer Development/Task Book was discussed. Now that it is completed, all step-up and promoted Officers will soon be receiving the book via Target Safety, which is different from the states book. Several of the items will coincide with probationary training; therefore planning your tasks will help accomplish two things at the same time. Division Chief Duane will be meeting with the Battalion Chief's prior to it beginning during the first week in August.

Last year the probationary manual received a complete overhaul and has worked very well. Throughout the year, recommendations were received asking to modify a couple of items. The manual will soon be placed in Target Safety and no

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Fire Administration Update

By **DARREL DONATTO**

Deputy Chief

Promotional Processes

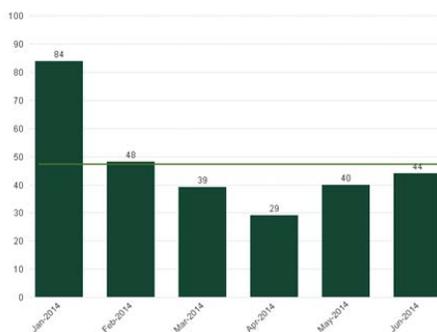
Much is happening and will be happening over the next few months. We will be holding a promotional testing process for Driver Engineer on July 16th and 17th. After much wrangling with contracts and approvals, the testing will be conducted through Palm Beach State College. We are in the process of procuring a vendor to conduct a Lieutenant promotional process. Depending upon how long it takes to go through the procurement process and then make the announcements, we estimate that this process should be held sometime near November 2014. The eligibility lists for these positions will be good until the middle (for Driver) or end (for Lieutenant) of 2017. Between now and then at least two Driver Engineers will be coming to the end of their DROP and six Officers will be coming to the end of their DROP. My personal guesstimate is that at least 4 people will have the opportunity to get promoted from this Driver's list before it expires and up to 7 people will have the opportunity to get promoted from this Lieutenant's list before it expires.

In continuance of our efforts to help prepare our future leaders, we will be offering a 24-hour "In-service Fire Safety Inspector" training course and Building Construction course. Our goal is to provide everyone with an opportunity to get the training they will need one day for promotional opportunities.

Business Intelligence Software

We have implemented our new Business Intelligence Software – "Vinelight". This software links our CAD system data, our EmergencyPro reporting system data, and our Telestaff data together through the

intranet in a manner that allows us quick and easy access to graphical reports. With a few mouse clicks, we are able to see the turnout times for an officer, unit, station, shift, or any combination of those. The system provides reports on times, incident types and priorities, incident responses, fire loss, injuries or deaths, units, employee work codes, EMS data – or just about anything that is



captured by our existing systems. We will be adding training and inspection data soon. Below is a report showing False Alarms by month for Calendar Year 2014, and the average line showing 47 false alarms per month.

False Alarm Reduction

A/C Atwater and D/C Pompos have been leading an effort to reduce the number of False Alarms that we respond to. The Town has very significant fees for nuisance false alarms. Every false alarm after the 2nd alarm has a fee – starting at \$250 and going up progressively to \$1,750 per alarm for each alarm in excess of the 15th alarm. This fee based system has been effective in inducing people to pay for service on their alarm instead of paying fees for false alarms. Division Chief Pompos has met with the local property managers in the Town to educate them on how to prevent false alarms and on options available to them to reduce false alarms. Chief Pompos reviews every false alarm report each day and where he finds multiple alarms to a business or residence, he or Asst. Fire Marshal Curcio visit the site, inspect the system, and work with the property owner to prevent future alarms. On every false alarm report, Division Chief Pompos sends a letter to the property advising them of the false alarm fee schedule and he provides a checklist for them to help them prevent future false alarms.

One of the most significant changes has been to institute an Occupant verification procedure (similar to burglar/police alarm notification), that will allow the property owner or their designated representative the ability to verify whether or not a response by the Fire Rescue Department is required. The Occupant Verification procedure is as follows: the occupant of the home shall answer the call from the central monitoring fire alarm company; the fire alarm company will provide you up to ninety (90) seconds to verify the troubled fire alarm system prior to dispatching the Fire Rescue Department. If the cause of the alarm system activation cannot be clearly verified within ninety (90) seconds, Palm Beach Fire Rescue will be automatically be dispatched by the central monitoring fire alarm company. If the occupant verifies that it is a false alarm, Fire Rescue is not dispatched.

The next step we are working on is a process to allow a verified party to cancel us while we are enroute if they discover that the call is a false alarm.

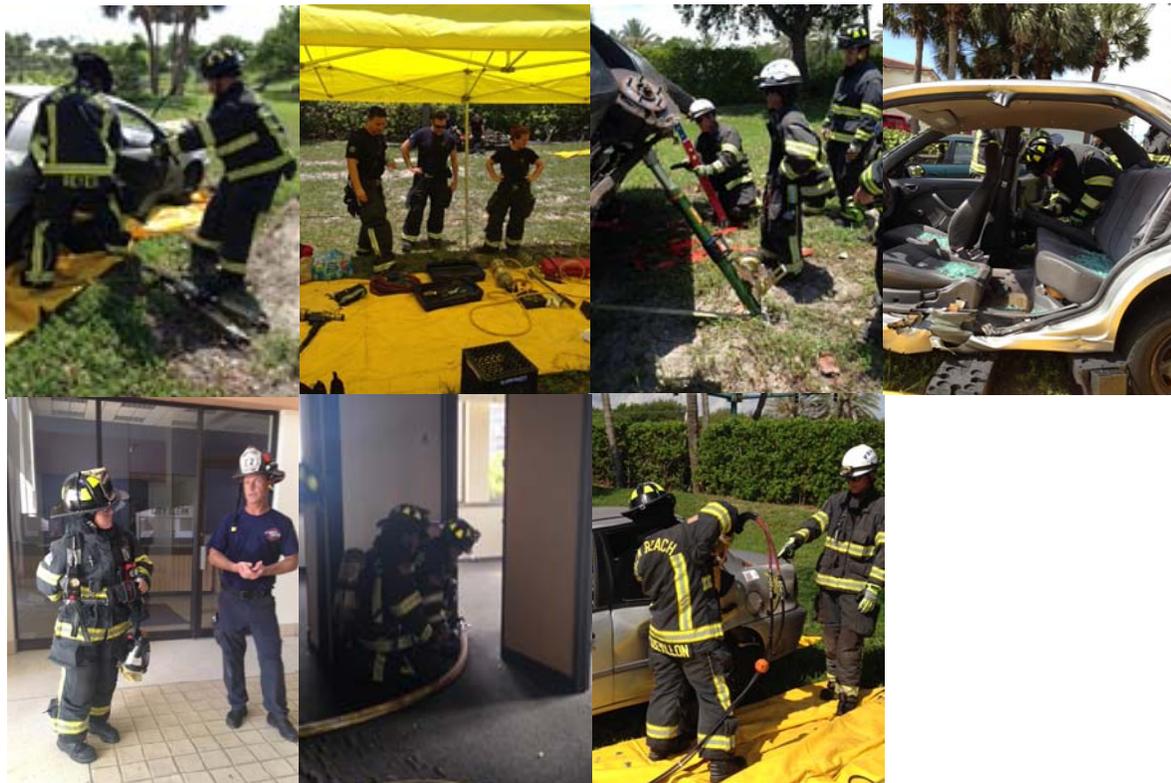
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Photos

Lake Worth Christian School Summer Camp Visit



Recent Probationary Training— Vehicle Extrication and Search and Rescue



Battalion Chief's Message / Blood Draws

By **KEITH GOLDEN**

Battalion Chief

Palm Beach Fire Rescue Paramedics will comply with Police Department requests by withdrawing blood for test purposes under the specific conditions set forth in Florida Statutes 316.1932, 316.1933, 322.63, 327.352, and 327.353.

When a law enforcement officer is at an incident involving a vehicle and/or vessel crash or vehicle/vessel stop, and the officer has probable cause to believe that a person involved is under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, has caused the death or serious bodily injury of a human being, a law enforcement officer shall require the person driving or in actual physical control of the motor vehicle to submit to a test of the person's blood for the purpose of determining the alcoholic content. The law enforcement officer may use reasonable force if necessary to require such person to submit to the administration of the blood test. They may request a paramedic to withdraw a blood sample for testing from the subject. This request is valid and must be complied with and performed in a reasonable manner and within the parameters established by Florida Statutes.

Priority must be given to the examination and treatment of all injured persons. If a person is injured, or has signs/symptoms of a potential medical emergency, the person (patient) is to be treated and transported according to the appropriate Medical Standing Orders (MSO) Protocols/Procedures. If the suspect resists the taking of a blood sample, it is the law enforcement officer's responsibility to inform the suspect of the provisions in Florida Statutes 316.1932 and 316.1933 that permit the use of reasonable force by law enforcement officers to restrain a person in an effort to obtain a blood sample.

A blood glucose test should be performed on the suspect/patient prior to the law enforcement blood draw for the purpose of assessing the suspect/patient for impaired consciousness. The law enforcement officer will provide the blood collection kit. Only the items provided in the approved blood collection kit will be used for this procedure. Once used, all items will be returned to the kit with the Povidone-Iodine prep pad being sealed in the plastic bag provided. The investigating officer will seal the blood collection kit and complete the documentation.

NOTE: Dispose of the used needle properly. DO NOT return the used needle to the blood collection kit. The paramedic is to ensure that the requesting law enforcement officer observes every action of the paramedic withdrawing the blood during these procedures.

The Officer in charge must document the request to withdraw blood and if it was successful or failed. It will be reported in the narrative section of the Florida EMS Report with the following information:

- a) The name of the Paramedic who performed the procedure.
- b) The name and agency of the requesting officer.
- c) The reason for withdrawing blood.
- d) The procedure/site used for withdrawing blood. 🚒

Congratulations to our New Paramedics

In February of 2013 Max Olivier began Paramedic School at Southeastern College. After 13 long grueling months Max graduated Paramedic School and 3 months later he took and passed his state test. Congratulations to FF/Paramedic Olivier on this accomplishment.

Firefighter Chris Lucas Has become one of Palm Beaches newest Paramedics. Chris started with the Town of Palm Beach on 3/17/2014 as a Firefighter EMT and during that time through the teachings of HCI (Health Career Institute) and the support of his wife Kayla he has acquired his paramedic certification and A/S Degree in EMS. ❄️



Job Well Done

Incident Date: 06/13/2014 Zone: North Fire Station

Engine 2 responded for a service call where a resident had experienced a water leak in their home. The crew found a hot water line under the kitchen sink that had burst and water was flooding into the kitchen, dining room, and den. The water level was about 1-2 inches deep in the house. The crew, led by Acting Lt. Dunnam, shut off the water and then began efforts to protect the resident's property from further damage. They used squeegees and mops to remove the water from the house. The crew even went back to the fire station and retrieved the station bay fan, allowing the resident to use the fan to assist with the drying process until a professional restoration company could respond.

Incident Date: 06/18/2014 Zone: Central Fire Station

Crews responded to possible structure a fire on Worth Avenue. Upon arrival, they found that a light in a display case had fallen over and produced enough heat to cause the wood of the display case to begin smoldering. The crew carefully removed the watches and rings from the display case and then extinguished the smoldering fire. They ventilated the smoke from the building and helped the shop owner to get their business back in service.

Incident Date: 06/23/2014 Zone: Central Fire Station

Engine 1, Rescue 1 and Battalion 1 responded to a service call for a "flood in the lobby" at an apartment building. The caller reported that there was a water main break, and that they didn't know how to shut the water off. The crew found a broken pipe in the lobby area that had significantly flooded the entire first floor. There was dirty brown water coming in at a rapid rate of speed from the ground, walls and electrical sockets. The crew members acted quickly to turn off the electric to the first floor and to turn off the water supply to the building. The crew then turned their efforts to evacuating the over 4 inches of standing water by using a sump pump to pump out the water. The crew removed all the furniture and used squeegees to sweep out any remaining water – all in an effort to minimize the impact of this terrible event for the residents. In all – crew members spent over 4 hours on this call providing assistance.

Incident Date: 07/09/2014 Zone: South Fire Station

Engine 3 responded to a service call for a resident needing assistance. They found an elderly resident with health issues who was unable to get back to their condominium because the elevator was not working. A problem with the fire alarm system was preventing the elevator from being used. This resident was unable to make it up the five floors of stairs to get to their condominium so the quick thing crew got the elevator key and used the elevator in the firefighter mode to bring the resident up to their home.

Training and Safety

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longer be issued via hard copy. At that time, updates will be made. Placing this in Target Safety will help to appropriately document training hours.

Target Safety is a growing "machine" here at Palm Beach. I say machine because we are finding that the opportunities are so great and the uses are endless. We recently moved all of the procedural updates out of Bulletins and into target Safety as an assignment. As Belinda puts out the updates, she will be including in the description a basic summary of which section required

changing. This will automatically document training hours under the policy review section. It is imperative that each member login to their platform EVERY shift to review new assignments and updates. The Training Division is always open to suggestions for training. If you have any ideas, please feel free to give me a call or send an email. 🔥

Farewell

About Paul

Paul Hooper joined Palm Beach Fire Rescue on 11/13/06 after attending the university of Louisiana Lafayette better known as the **Ragin Cajuns** and serving 12 years in the Florida National Guard which involved his participation in the War of Iraq 2003-04. Paul came in as a Paramedic with an EMS degree and the mindset of doing things right the first time. Paul's words are few and soft spoken with a demeanor to match, but in the Kitchen his meals were gregarious, boisterous and bursting with flavor; his meals revealed his alter ego as that of Emeril Lagasse and were definitely a testament of his New Orleans roots. Although Paul in his own words had no formal training in the kitchen but if you ask him he will tell you "he just watched and learned". Paul became known as "The Chef" because of his cooking prowess and what it did to bring the crews together. With the Help and support of his wife Jennifer and support from his biggest fans/daughters Riley and Maddy; Paul was promoted to the position of Driver Engineer on 09/14/2013. Paul displayed his commitment to the Fire Department repeatedly and for more than a year commuted over 3 hours to get to work and was never late during that time period. Paul is a New Orleans Saints and LSU Tiger Fan that will undoubtedly be taking his talents and skills to the City of Orlando Fire Rescue. Paul will be in good company as he joins former Palm Beach Firefighter Paramedic Quincy Schid-erheisel in Orlando.



From Paul

As I move forward into the next chapter of my career, I just wanted to leave a parting thank you to everyone here. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve with you for the past 8 years! It has been 4 yrs. since the members of this department helped lift the spirits of me and my family when we needed it the most. I know as a department we were going through a roughest of times, but your generosity and kindness shined bright during that time of need in our lives. My family and I will never forget you and what you meant to us during that time. We truly couldn't have made our way through it, if it wasn't for the members of this department. I thank you from the bottom of my heart! I wish you all the very best and remember a recipe is only a phone call away.

Driver/Engineer Paul Hooper

Fire Prevention

By **TIMOTHY POMPOS**

Division Chief

The Fire Prevention and Life Safety Division have been working aggressively on a False Fire Alarm Reduction program with the Palm Beach Community Managers Association, individual property managers for private residents, along with merchants. This includes site visits by the Fire Marshal to the properties, providing individual assessments on ways they can reduce false alarm activations. Some of the prevention tips may include taking corrective actions with building defects such as loose or faulty wiring, inadequate power, and water leaks that can cause false fire alarm activations. Making sure property managers know how to place their fire alarm system on test/off line mode, while conducting routine scheduled maintenance (i.e. Testing of the Fire Sprinkler and Fire Alarm systems) on their property. Fire Prevention has developed an Occupant verification procedure (similar to burglar/police alarm notification), that allows for the property owner or designated representative the ability to verify whether or not a response by the Fire Rescue Department is required. Also, the property owners and managers are provided a false fire alarm prevention checklist listing how they can reduce future false fire alarms system activations.

In closing, the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Division appreciates the hard work and dedication by all fire operations personnel in completing all Knox Box and Fire Hydrant testing inspections forms in a timely manner. 🧯

JUNE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Training Hours

A Shift	240
B Shift	224
C Shift	315
Total	779

Fire Prevention Inspections

184

Ocean Rescue

Visitors	19,923
Town Ordinance Enforcements	205
Preventative Actions	156
First Aids	4

FIRE and EMS

FIRE Calls	73
EMS Calls	119
Transports to Hospital	70

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

Daniel Barnickel	7/09
Gabriel Cadet	7/22
Dominic Calamita	7/23
Willie Bonfante	7/25

JULY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

Brian Fuller	7/18	20 years
Donald Taylor	7/15	18 years
Michael Marx	7/19	10 years
Marc Bortot	7/18	09 years
Dominic Calamita	7/11	03 years
Oscar Geerken	7/15	01 year

COMMENDATIONS:

Derryl Buckeck	Christopher Lucas
Jordan Euliss	Joseph Sekula
Craig Johnson	Richard Ward

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2014:

January	Frank Mavigliano	July
February	Michael Marx	August
March	Joe Sekula	September
April	Mark Bradshaw	October
May	Willie Bonfante	November
June	Ryan Zabovnick	December

Employee of the Month – Ryan Zabovnick

Ryan has served in the Palm Beach Ocean Rescue organization for 12 years. He is currently assigned to the Beach Patrol and serves in the capacity as a Lifeguard. Ryan has received several accolades while serving with Ocean Rescue, citing his hard work and dedication for serving and protecting the public who come to enjoy the Town's beaches. His Supervisor states "Ryan is a true team player who gets along with everyone, always bringing a positive attitude to Ocean Rescue".

During the month of June, Ryan truly went above and beyond what is expected of him, helping two separate visitors to the beach. While enjoying her time at the beach, a woman realized that her phone had been stolen when she set it down to mark a turtle nest location. After spending a long time looking for it, Ryan met up with her and offered his help. He allowed her to reset her password using his phone, and then used his phone to track hers using the 'track my phone' feature. Once Ryan determined that the phone was no longer on the beach, and had been taken several miles west, he called the police who quickly was able to find the person responsible and retrieve the phone.

The second incident, Ryan was on duty at the Mid-Town Municipal Beach. While Ryan was scanning the water, he noticed a couple who appeared to have lost something about 15-20 yards offshore in chest deep water. After a few minutes a person came out of the water and asked Ryan if he could borrow a dive mask because his wife had lost her wedding ring in the water. Ryan kindly let the beach patron use a mask to look for the ring, unfortunately, after searching the couple was not able to find it. As they exited the water, he noticed the woman was extremely upset and crying about her lost ring. Ryan spoke to the man and got a description of the ring along with their contact information. Ryan placed a phone call to a friend and local beach patron whose hobby is using a metal detector. He told him about the lost ring and gave a very detailed description of it, the location where it was lost, tidal information, wind and wave action. Within two hours the ring had been found and the couple was contacted.

This is exactly what we hope for on each and every interaction with the public; that we would leave our customers with a sense of great appreciation for the exceptional service we provide and great surprise at the steps that we as an organization are willing to go.

Ryan is an individual who always strives for excellence. We highly commend him for his positive attitude, his enthusiasm and service of dedication to the Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department, Ocean Rescue Division and the Town of Palm Beach. We highly commend your service to the community and urge you to continue the great work that you are doing.

