

The All Hands

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

February 2018

Volume 6, Issue 2



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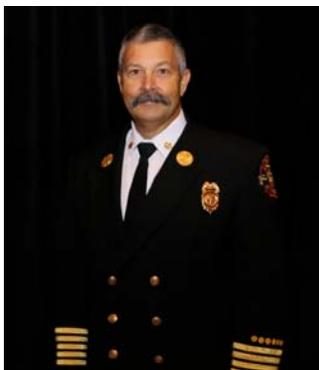
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Deputy Chief's Message

By Darrel Donatto, Deputy Chief



What Makes Palm Beach Fire Rescue Great? Our People!

This month, Palm Beach Fire Rescue had the honor of recognizing the incredible service, dedication, and performance of its members at our Annual Awards Ceremony. Each year we come together to recognize and celebrate the great accomplishment and outstanding performance of our Fire-Rescue team members, and each year I am humbled that I get to be a part of this great organization.

Palm Beach Fire Rescue is truly a great organization. We are a Class 1 fire department, the highest rating a fire department can receive and one that is limited to less than 1% of all the fire departments in the nation. We provide fire and emergency medical services with low response times, great quality care. But what really makes Palm Beach Fire Rescue so great is our people.

Our firefighters are public servants. Our firefighters have talent and a gift for service. They have chosen this profession because they love helping others. They come in each day with a heart to serve this community. They serve each and every day with passion, perseverance, and the intention of exceeding the expectations of their customers. They do this with integrity and a heart of kindness. I am constantly hearing stories from people in the community about the great job our people do – but also about how kind, caring, and compassionate they are when providing service.

Our firefighters provide the Town with a Fire-Rescue service that is uniquely better. We call what they do "The Palm Beach Way." On each and every call, our firefighters provide better than outstanding service, both operationally and relationally, and we refer to what they do as providing WOW service.

At this year's Awards Ceremony, Lt. Anthony Curtis was recognized as our 2017 Firefighter of the Year. While we have an organization full of outstanding firefighters, Lt Curtis clearly stood out. He was selected because of his public servant heart, his integrity, his the intention of exceeding the expectations of his customers each and every day, but mostly, because of his intense passion and perseverance. Lt. Curtis is an incredible model for others in the fire service and he has been an outstanding mentor, guide, and supervisor for the many new employees he has and continues to train. Lt. Curtis is helping to mold and shape a future generation of firefighters by sharing everything he knows and by infusing his passion and perseverance into them.

Lt. Curtis displays incredible grit in everything he does. Lt. Curtis' passion is contagious. He believes that his work is important and he approaches it that way. If you work with him, you find yourself quickly drawn into training at an intensity that you may not have trained at before. If you respond to a call with him, you find yourself operating at a level of professionalism that is seldom equaled.

Continued on page 4

Administrative Update

By Jimmy Duane

Assistant Chief

Department wide pump testing will begin in March. The Insurance Service Office (ISO) and the National Protection Association (NFPA) require that all suppression apparatus be tested annually to ensure that the trucks can pump water to their rated capacities. An example of rated capacities is the ladder truck pictured, which has the ability to pump 2000 gallons per minute. With the exception of the compressed air foam system on Ladder 99, which is tested by Ten 8 Fire Equipment, all apparatus will undergo testing by our personnel utilizing the facilities at EVI in Lake Park, who graciously donates their site for this important testing. Thank you once again to Lt. Dunnam for coordinating this task.



The quality of breathing air and maintenance of our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and equipment used to fill the SCBA equipment is a critical aspect for respiratory protection. Because of its importance, quarterly maintenance and air quality testing is performed. Channel Innovations completed the quarterly maintenance and air quality testing on the department's Air compressor system. Once again the quality of air tested high and the system remains in good working order.

During the February Council meeting, the Town Council approved the purchase of new fire apparatus. Originally, the department was scheduled to replace two individual fire apparatus, both of which are fire engines. During the Comprehensive Review of Town Operations the Fire Rescue Department reviewed all of budget programs relating to the fire department, including emergency response.

In 2013 the Fire Rescue Department revised its existing staffing arrangement to better suit its needs and to improve the distribution and concentration of resources in Town. This revision was accomplished by purchasing a single apparatus, a quint, which is a combination aerial ladder and fire engine, replacing two separate pieces of apparatus, an aerial platform and a fire engine. This same quint concept will be adopted at the central fire station. The new quint will replace the existing engine and aerial truck, and the new engine will be placed in service at station two.

The vehicles, which are both made by Pierce Manufacturing will take between nine and eleven months to build. The ladder has a horizontal reach of 90 feet and 110 feet of vertical reach, which is ten feet higher than the current ladder truck. This extra ten feet will give us access to several additional buildings with the town. When placed in service, all front line fire suppression units will be standardized with 1500 GPM pump with compressed air foam technology, helping to assist Firefighters put fires out faster and with far less water damage.



EMS Division

By Sean Baker
Division Chief

A stroke can occur every 40 seconds and kills almost 140,000 Americans each year. It is a leading cause of death and long term disability in the United States. These alarming statistics are part of the reason that the Wall Street Journal published an article on February 6, 2018 about comprehensive stroke centers and their ability to treat stroke patients. Our residents also voiced some concern about the capabilities of both our local hospitals and the EMS branch of our department. Their concerns can be summarized by the following question: "If someone I know has a stroke, what happens here in Palm Beach?"

A comprehensive stroke center is a facility that is equipped with imaging technology, stroke pharmaceuticals, acute stroke treatment specialists and teams focused on stroke rehabilitation. These teams are experts at their craft as they are accustomed to handling high volumes of critically ill patients.

The comprehensive stroke centers offer a treatment called a thrombectomy, a relatively new procedure that can decrease the risk of brain damage and other harmful effects from a stroke, Dr. Raul Nogueira told the Wall Street Journal. Nogueira is chief of stroke endovascular therapy at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta.

Palm Beach Fire Rescue, and Palm Beach County as a whole, has been on the cutting edge of treating patients with stroke symptoms for many years. The department has been transporting our stroke patients to comprehensive stroke centers for more than 2 years due to our commitment to transport our patients to the facility that offers that best treatment for this debilitating condition. This decision was made early on by the department's Medical Director, Dr Kenneth Schepcke, as the science was just starting to prove that a comprehensive stroke center provides the best outcome for the treatment of stroke patients.

Dr. Schepcke has been at the forefront of developing fresh ways to teach EMTs and paramedics how to better care for patients, introducing technology that communicates with hospitals to correctly handle incoming patients, and is recognized as an industry leader in adopting scientifically proven methods to improve patient outcomes after experiencing a medical emergency, especially in the field of strokes and cardiac arrests.

The department would like to remind the public that minutes truly matter when dealing with a stroke patient as their definitive care will be received in a comprehensive stroke center. Patients who arrive at the emergency room within 3 hours of their first symptoms often have less disability 3 months after a stroke than those who received delayed care. We encourage the public to call 9-1-1 immediately if you observe any stroke like symptoms in yourself or your loved ones.

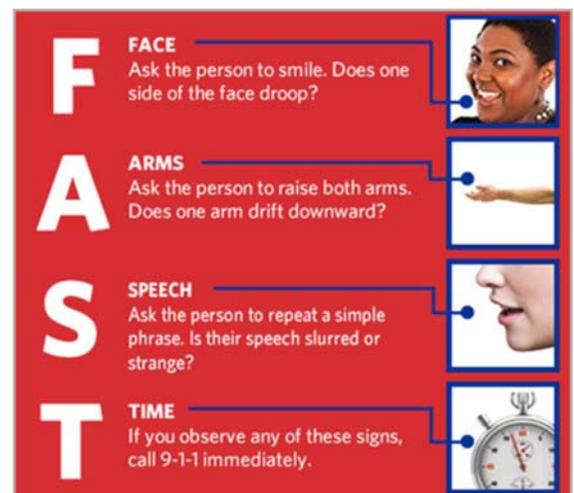
Recognize stroke symptoms by acting FAST

F - Face: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop? Does the face or eye look crooked? If so, the person may be having a stroke.

A - Arms: stands for Arms. Ask the person to raise both arms. Does the person have difficulty lifting one or both arms? Do one or both arms drift?

S - Speech: Ask the person to speak or repeat a sentence. Are the words slurred? Is the person having difficulty speaking or is unable to speak? Does the person have a problem understanding you?

T - Time: If all these symptoms – face, arms and speech – are present, the person may be having a stroke. Remember, a stroke is a medical emergency. You must get the person to the hospital immediately.

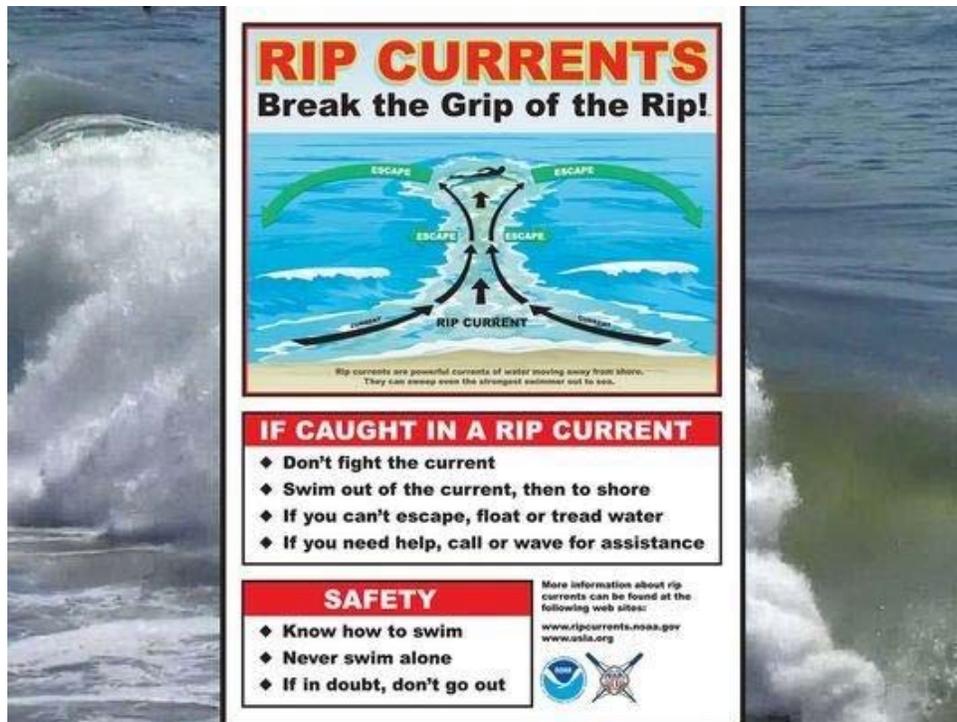


Ocean Rescue

By Craig Pollock

Ocean Rescue Supervisor

Over the month of February Mid-Town Municipal and Phipps Ocean Park had an increase in attendance after a slow January. The warm weather of February have had the beaches packed with visitors, however swimming conditions have not been the greatest, numerous days of strong onshore have produced a daily occurrence of Man-O-War along the shoreline and Rip Currents, lifeguards have stayed busy keeping beach patrons safe.



Deputy Chief's Message (con't)

From page 1

Lt. Curtis displays relentless perseverance. Put a locked door in front of him, and he will get through it, no matter how securely locked it is. Put an impact resistant window between him and where he needs to go, and he will get through it. Give him a green probationary firefighter and he will make them into an outstanding firefighter and professional. He doesn't take no for an answer, he finds a way.



It is truly an honor to work with so many great firefighters here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. Palm Beach Fire Rescue is a great organization – and it is great for one reason – it is great because of our people.

Training

By Michael Marx
Division Chief

This month was another busy month of training for operations personnel. This newsletter article will focus on one of the accomplished training objectives for the month. This month presented an excellent training opportunity for a few of our firefighters. This conference is offered to firefighter participants who have met their own state standards for operating as an interior structural firefighter. The conference is held over a two-day period and offers firefighters the latest instruction on strategies and tactics for mitigating different types of emergency events. The conference encompasses firefighters from all over the state allowing different perspectives on mitigating emergency events. The conference is comprised of both classroom setting and practical hands on evolutions. This year's conference consisted of Engine Company Operations Classes, which are designed to instruct firefighters on the importance of victim removal and proper techniques for removing them. The class went in depth into removal and care for a victim once outside the fire structure. Our firefighters also had the opportunity to participate in an eight hour hands on class covering the proper techniques of vertical ventilation with a Live Fire component. This training experience is invaluable for our firefighters as it allows the realistic practice of a high-risk low frequency event such as cutting a roof for the purpose of proper ventilation over live fire within a structure.



The conference also instructed on the topic of A.C.E.S. (Air Consumption and Emergency Survival). This class placed emphasis on the S.C.B.A. (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) from the standpoint that it is not only the number one tool that a firefighter has to aid in rescuing victims from smoke and fire, but it is also the firefighters lifeline for survival. Some of the objectives covered were; How well versed are you at using this tool? What will you do when you run out of air? How will you react if you are lost or trapped? Can you function effectively in a dark, smoky environment with a broken SCBA and less than 1000 psi left in the bottle? How well versed are you at using this tool? What will you do when you run out of air? How will you react if you are lost or trapped? Can you function effectively in a dark, smoky environment with a broken SCBA and less than 1000 psi left in the bottle?



Our Firefighters also were instructed on Truck Company Operation Classes. This class focused on several disciplines that are consistent on every Ladder Truck Company throughout the Nation: Ladders, Saws, and Interior Search. Ladders are one of the most misused and intimidating tools in the Fire Service. Our firefighters learned how to conserve energy, throw ladders effectively, and utilize them as a means of survival. As you can see, the Fire Conference was an invaluable training experience offered to our Firefighters. It afforded the opportunity for our firefighters to acquire the knowledge necessary to return and instruct all operations personnel on some of the latest techniques used throughout the Fire Service Industry. This in turn will translate to better customer service and a safer community.

Fire Prevention

By Martin DeLoach
Fire Marshal

The Town of Palm Beach Police Department recently offered some training to employees on active shooter and violence in the workplace. The tragic events that unfolded in Parkland Florida the week of February 12, 2018 as well as the Pulse nightclub shootings in Orlando on June 2016 validate the need for this type of training for everyone. The belief that this could never happen to me should be out of everyone's mind in the world we currently live in.

What is a definition of an active shooter? An active shooter/ hostile intruder is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area by any means including but not limited to firearms (most frequently used), bladed weapons, vehicles, or any tool that in the circumstance in which it is used constitutes deadly physical force. In most cases, there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Most active shooter situations are unpredictable, evolve quickly, and are over within minutes.

What should you do if you find yourself in an active shooter situation? The experts offer three options, Run, Hide, or Fight.

RUN – Always plan an escape route; Get out, even if others choose to stay; Leave all belongings behind; Help others evacuate, if you can; Call 911 when you have reached safety; Prevent anyone from entering the area; Keep your hands visible when law enforcement arrives; Follow instructions provided by law enforcement and direct them to the wounded, do not try and move injured people yourself.

HIDE – Stay out of the shooters view; provide protection if shots are fired in your direction; Don't get trapped with no way out, keep your options open; Find a hiding place, lock the door and block it with whatever heavy object is available; Silence your cell phone; Turn off any source of noise; REMAIN QUIET.

FIGHT – Protect yourself as a last resort and only when you feel you are in danger; Act as aggressively as possible; Commit to your actions and attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the shooter.

WHEN POLICE ARRIVE – Put down any items in your hands and keep your empty hands visible to the officers; Follow instructions; Do not make quick movements toward law enforcement; When evacuating, do not stop to ask the officers for help or direction; Proceed in the direction from which the officers are entering the premises.

The Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department inspected 94 properties in the month of January. There were 21 violations cited and we are working with the responsible parties to get them corrected.



Battalion Chief Article

By Keith Golden
Battalion Chief

I love the fact that Palm Beach Fire Rescue has created a culture of evolution, education and consistent system evaluation. I can remember when I started in the business of firefighting 23 years ago there were a lot of absolutes like; “not flowing water until the seat of the fire has been reached or “don’t flow water into superheated gases” and even the adage of flowing water from the outside of a structure will push the fire and cause more damage and all of these tactical considerations were frowned upon. Fortunately, the tactical considerations were proven inaccurate and replaced in our tactical playbook with things like Transitional attack which is simply an offensive fire attack initiated by an exterior indirect handline operation, into the fire compartment, to initiate cooling while transitioning into interior direct fire attack in coordination with ventilation operations.

Through our culture of training and education, we have come up with many ways to do the job smarter and to maximize our most valuable resources: our time and personnel. We willfully send personnel to other fire departments that are conducting training opportunities or facilitating testing of new tactics and techniques. Palm Fire Rescue usually sends a diversified group from rookies to Senior Chiefs to the training opportunities so there is the diversity of thought, variety of experience, inclusion, and so the creation of our own tactical playbook can be created and/or updated.

The evolution of Palm Beach Fire Rescue is palpable as we strive daily to increase our operational effectiveness, proficiency, and Fire/EMS skills. We have evolved from only using the thermal imaging cameras during interior operations to using them during the initial size up and helping in determining where the initial fire attack should take place. This is an exciting time period as we continue to evolve and develop new techniques to protect lives and property.

The men and women of Palm Beach Fire Rescue are some of the most highly trained and resourceful individuals that are always looking to build on their Knowledge, skills and abilities and it’s those quality individuals I want protecting me in my time of need.



Crews extinguishing a small brush fire behind a residence on Coconut Row caused by arcing overhead power lines in the tree line.

2018 Award Ceremony



F/F Daniel Dirocco and the Palm Beach Honor Guard.



New employees from left to right, Patrick Frawley, Markos McMahon, Kelsey Mazzola, Austin Bradshaw and Jared Wil-



Promotions from left to right, Jacob Brandjes was promoted to Lieutenant and Joe Sekula was promoted to Battalion Chief.



D/E Montoya, previous Firefighter of the Year transferring the title to Lt. Anthony Curtis. Palm Beach Fire Rescue's 2018 Firefighter of the Year.

Passionate Leadership

BY MARK FENNER, MAY 19, 2015

POSTED AT <http://www.risepowergroup.com/passionate-leadership/>

What are you passionate about? Your family? A hobby? A social cause?

Where would your job fall on that list? How important is passion in leadership?

Think of a person who is full of passion. Imagine how they live their life, how they approach each day, how they handle challenges. Imagine how they approach their work, their employees and their customers. What impact does their passion have on their success?

A passionate leader believes in the work that they are doing and has a vested interest in how successful their business is; they understand how their contributions can help their business succeed and often work relentlessly to achieve their goals. Passionate leaders often possess the following traits as well:

Focus – Passionate leaders don't just work towards a goal, they focus on a goal and do whatever is required to achieve that goal. Someone who leads with passion can't help but pour every ounce of energy they have into doing what is needed to achieve their goal.

Dedication – Dedication can be a powerful source of motivation and productivity when channeled appropriately. Dedicated leaders believe in themselves and their team with everything they have and they will not back down when faced with a challenge.

Eagerness – Passionate leaders know there is always something new to learn – whether it's the opportunity to learn a new skill or sharpen one that they already possess. If there is an opportunity to further advance their knowledge, they will take it.

Drive – A leader who is passionate about what they do will produce results – quality results. If they do not have the skills necessary to accomplish a task, they will either learn the needed skills or find someone who has them.

Perseverance – When faced with failure, a passionate leader will not give up; in fact, it only makes them want to work harder. They don't allow anything to stand in the way of achieving what they set out to at the beginning of the project.

The question is how do we increase our passion for what we do? Below are three easy steps.

Amplify the words you use. Passion is an emotion, so pack your message with words that motivate. Instead of saying "we are going to provide good service" try saying "we are going to provide exceptional service." Instead of saying "we are going to make a difference" try saying "we are going to change the world."

Build your belief in your message. In any given situation we can focus on what is right and what is wrong. Both are always available. Unfortunately most of us find it easier to focus on what is wrong. Look for examples of exceptional service and then focus on and talk about those examples until the belief is deep in your gut.

Find great meaning and purpose in the work you are doing. Most of us find our greatest inspiration by what we can give to others. In order to "give" more we have to "be" more.

Think back to my first question: what are you passionate about? What great things will happen when you develop and apply that same passion to your work?

Hugo Gabriel Cadet

Hugo Gabriel Cadet was born on Feb 12, 2018 at 0900 hours. He was a healthy 7lb 7oz and 20 inches long. Gabriel, his wife Adriana and baby Hugo are all home and happy as can be. With Hugo being their first child things can be hectic around the house, however the happy couple complement one another well to care for their bundle of joy. Hugo's latest interest include sleeping, eating, pooping and spitting up, but not necessarily in that order! Hugo is healthy, happy and whole. We could not be happier for Gabe and his ever-growing family.



Post Fire Decon Training—C Shift



Photo Ops (con't)



Driver Engineer Grimes with Winston the dog wearing his collar made of Fire-fighter bunker gear.



WPTV News Channel 5 reporter Chris Stewart visiting A-Shift



Leaders become great, not because of their power, but because of their ability to empower others.

~John Maxwell

JANUARY DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Training Hours

A Shift	521
B Shift	591
C Shift	1041
Total	2153

Fire Prevention Inspections

94

Ocean Rescue

Visitors	16,452
Town Ordinance Enforcements	79
Preventative Actions	120
Jellyfish Stings	17

FIRE and EMS

FIRE Calls	86
EMS Calls	179
Transports to Hospital	116

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

Scott McCracken	03/03
Brad Fabben	03/04
Edward Sabol	03/11
Hector Ayala	03/15
Bradley Caudell	03/17
Eric Legore	03/18
Kelsey Mazzola	03/26

MARCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Stephanie Mavigliano	03/94	24 years
Richard Ward	03/96	22 years
Jeremy Stanley	03/11	07 years

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2018:

January	Stephanie Mavigliano	July
February		August
March		September
April		October
May		November
June		December

Employee of the Month—Stephanie Mavigliano



Stephanie Mavigliano has proudly served as part of the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization for twenty-four years. She was previously awarded Employee of the month for November of 2005, January of 2013 and September of 2015.

Stephanie is an incredible employee who is loyal, helpful and eager to do the best job possible at all times. She has consistently found the energy to always be positive and full of life. Stephanie is often the first person that citizens and business people are in contact with when dealing with the Fire Rescue Department. She has an outstanding ability to communicate with the public and to handle any issues that may arise. Stephanie is a confident and competent coordinator willing to assist in all matters. Her attitude and work ethic have led to her success and have always brought positive results to the Fire Rescue department.

Stephanie has worked very hard assisting with the recruitment, hiring and promotional processes for the organization. She played an integral part in the organization of guest Leadership Series speaker Bobby Halton, the editor of Fire Engineering Magazine. Stephanie does all things with enthusiasm and professionalism. Her ability to accept change and view all things as new learning experiences and professional challenges inspires others.

Stephanie never complains and always asks how she can contribute more to lighten the load of others. She plays an integral role in the budget process and coordinates and publishes the department's monthly newsletter. This month, Stephanie spent an enormous amount of time coordinating and scheduling all aspects of the annual awards ceremony. Stephanie's day is seldom routine as she is asked to do a multitude of tasks by all members of Fire Rescue staff. She is truly counted upon to complete tasks correctly and above expectations.

Maintaining a constantly positive attitude, Stephanie always finds a reason to be happy and of service. She conducts herself with professionalism and compassion, always finding a way to give praise or thanks to others. Her dedication and devotion to the Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department, coupled with her hard work and tireless efforts makes Stephanie an outstanding recipient for the January 2018 Employee of the Month Award.

