Ron Siarnicki, Executive Director of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and Treasurer of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, was presented with the Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award at the Congressional Fire Service Institute’s 25th Annual National Fire and Emergency Medical Services Dinner on Thursday, May 9, 2013.

The event, held at the Washington Hilton hotel, is a gathering of the leaders of the fire service from all across the nation, along with the many organizations and manufacturers that produce things pertaining to the fire and EMS services. They have many seminars covering current concerns, and meet with their Congressional and Senate representatives to discuss what the Federal government can do to assist us in our efforts to provide our services to our population.

The Lankford Award is co-sponsored by the CSFI and Motorola Solutions, and is presented annually to recognize individuals who have been proactive at the local, state, and Federal government levels to improve and advance fire and emergency services and life safety issues. Previous recipients have included chiefs, instructors, career and volunteer leaders, and public safety advocates. Last year’s award winner was also from Maryland – President Maricine Goodloe of the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association.

New Market VFC Dedicatates Sta. Renovation

On Saturday, May 11, the officers and members of the New Market District Volunteer Fire Company were joined by town residents and elected officials to dedicate newly renovated fire station 15. The project was a culmination of 10-years of planning, designing and working to bring their old station up to the twenty-first century.

With the ever increasing size of fire and rescue apparatus, career personnel on duty, and increasing costs requiring an adequate social hall to help improve fund-raising efforts, the department dug in and came up with a station that is not only very attractive, but also functional. The social hall has been upgraded and the apparatus floor is large enough to house the equipment without feeling crowded. A second story was added to provide living quarters and office space.

The Browningsville Cornet Band entertained as the crowd gathered in the engine room.

Continues on page 4
Former Citizen Truck Co. Chief Richard Horner Named APCO Maryland Telecommunicator of the Year

By Chip Jewell

There are always those individuals in our 911 centers that constantly smile and look at everything positive. They work hard, and are dedicated to the job. But, sometimes, even those individuals can face challenges that can be life altering or even life threatening. One such situation struck a member of the staff of the Frederick County Department of Emergency Communications last year. When someone is told they have cancer, fear and panic take over. When a Telecommunicator is told they have cancer of the throat, it is devastating.

But, ECS (Emergency Communications Specialists) Richard “Mo” Horner always has a positive attitude, and after the initial shock, was determined to defeat the villain and be able to return to work. ECS Horner is a life member of the United Steam Fire Engine Co No. 3 and past chief of the Citizens Truck Company of Frederick.

Communications personnel were very supportive. Cards, letters, calls and visitation were made. Co-workers and friends jumped in to help with transportation. There were days during the height of the treatment our nominee was in great pain. He was unable eat or speak. But, he never lost sight of his goal, get through the treatments and get back to the job he loves.

The many weeks, soon became months. But, eventually, he began to feel better. Little by little he could eat food. And though his throat was still sore, he began to speak. His doctors finally relented. His voice was his job. And even though his throat was still sore, even though he was a bit weak, he could TRY to come back to work part time.

After months of aggressive treatment for throat cancer, Richard “Mo” Horner was back on the job. His voice a little scratchy, and when he finished his partial shift he was really beat. But, his perseverance, tenacity and determination paid off. His voice continued to improve, his stamina returned, and in a month, “Mo” was back to full duty.

The positive attitude and determination of Richard “Mo” Horner is truly an inspiration for anyone that works in emergency communications. His love for the job far outweighed the tremendous pain and suffering by providing a goal, to be seated behind a console, under the headset, taking 911 calls, and dispatching incidents.

On April 18, 2013, Richard “Mo” Horner was honored as the Maryland Telecommunicator of the Year at the APCO (Associate Public Safety Communications Officials) National Telecommunicators Week ceremony held at the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Company. Congratulations, Mo!
I attended my first MSFA convention in 1967 in Frederick at the 75th Anniversary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. William “Bill” Moore of the Citizens Truck Company and United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3 was elected the president at this milestone occasion. At the age of 14, I knew I wanted to be in the fire service, and was amazed at the overall joviality and enthusiasm of the hundreds of members attending. All four Frederick city fire stations were essentially open houses, with food and beverages for all. House sirens sounded, bells rang, and the firemen ruled the town.

1967 was the last time a full convention was held outside of Ocean City. A special centennial convention to celebrate the 100th anniversary of MSFA was held in Frederick 1992. And though an enjoyable occasion, it wasn’t quite the atmosphere of the entire event. I am honored to be one of the announcers of the MSFA parade each year in Ocean City, and was scheduled to announce the centennial parade in Frederick, except an errant foul ball off of a 12 year old member of a Babe Ruth Baseball team I coached two days before the parade contributed to 15 stitches in my lip and I couldn’t speak. I did attend the famous monsoon parade and stood drenched at the announcer stand. One of the few times in my life I barely spoke, and it only hurt when I laughed.

Though the last two generations of firefighters in Maryland have only known Ocean City as the hub of the convention, many cities and towns have served host since the first convention in Frederick in 1893. Seven conventions have been held in Hagerstown, while six conventions have been held in Cumberland, Frederick, Baltimore, Frostburg and Westminster. Five conventions have been held in the Allegany County town of Lonaconing. The 1938 MSFA Convention in Baltimore was held in conjunction with the Eastern Association of Fire Chief’s and Ladies Auxiliary at the Lord Baltimore Hotel. The 1938 program book is on display at the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Museum.

The present convention has truly expanded to a conference, educational opportunity and family event. Though I am prejudiced to have a convention in Frederick every 25 years to bring the MSFA back to the city of birth, I am also a realist and know the convention will probably never leave Ocean City again. Some believe a year sabbatical may wake up the local merchants to appreciate the amount of money we bring into the city in just a few days.

My early recollections of the convention were, shall we say, a bit more lively than our modern day conference. This was especially true in the early 70’s when “firemen” and “hippies” shared the boardwalk. There were some situations that today would be a CNN newsworthy event. The convention hall was fairly new, with the long entrance ramp that extended almost to Ocean Highway. I walked Ocean Highway a few times to the convention hall in the sand without the benefit of sidewalks. Times have changed.

I was appointed to my first MSFA committee by President Gerald Glau-bitz, the mayor of Morningside. A fast talker with a black mustache who resembled Ernie Kovacs (look him up on Wikipedia kids). Later, I heard stories of his acts of bravery both as a firefighter and as a Pearl Harbor Survivor. My appointment to the “Communications Committee” required my travel to a warehouse to help inventory surplus radios. That was my first meeting with the warehouse owner, A. Marvin Gibbons, another legendary past president of MSFA.

My journey throughout the years of activity of MSFA began at my first convention. Now, over 40 years later, I serve on several committees and each year stand in the footsteps of Ralph Small as one of the parade announcers. In his honor, each year I always introduce the Berlin Fire Department the same way Ralph did, coming across the bridge to “help Ocean City with the big one’s”
Siarnicki Receives Award

Chief Siarnicki was named Executive Director of the NFF in 2001, after a 24 year career with the Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department. One of their many roles is to conduct the annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service at Emmitsburg, MD. As executive director, Ron has expanded the role of the Foundation to include initiatives that address firefighter health and safety. He arranged for the 2004 National Firefighter Life Safety Summit, attended by the representatives of all of the major fire service organizations, and produced the 16 Firefighter Life safety Initiatives embraced by the national organizations to reduce the number of deaths and injuries in the fire service.

Ron has been active on a number of federal initiatives, working with the major fire organizations, congressional leaders, and administrative officials. He has especially focused on the Public Safety Officers Benefit Program. He has also been actively involved in efforts to advance fire sprinkler programs and burn treatment research.

New Market VFC Dedicates New Station

New Market members in full dress uniforms assembled along one side of the station as the dedication ceremonies started with the Star Span-gled Banner at 11:00 AM. Tim May served as the Master of Ceremonies, introducing the various speakers and presenters for the event.

Department President Paul Hackey and Fire Chief Benjamin Nalborczyk spoke of the planning and work that had to be done to bring this station from a dream to fruition. State Senator Galen Clagett and Delegate Kelly Shultz were in attendance, and Senator Clagett, having been a member of the department for many years, gave some remembrances of the early days of the department. Karen McManus, representing Representative Van Hollen’s office and Julianna Albowicz, representing Senator Mikulski presented resolutions commemorating the occasion. MSFA 1st VP David Keller presented a proclamation to the department.

Several members and guests made comments and a large plaque with the members’ names was unveiled by 1st Vice President Nathaniel Wood-Wilson, Chairman of the welcome Home Committee.

It truly was a homecoming, as the apparatus has been housed in other locations while construction was going on.

After the consecration and benediction by Chaplain Gary White, the apparatus was brought down to the station from the New Market Elementary School, led by Piper Cameron Alexander. The housing was completed, and the guests were treated to refreshments and tours of the station.

The ribbon is cut, opening the updated and renovated New Market VFC station 15, of Frederick County.
The Arbutus VFD of Baltimore Co., 1938—2013

by Daniel Coolahan, AVFD Historian

In Nov. 1937, a bitter dispute at the Violetville Volunteer Fire Department (VVFD) resulted in the splitting of the company. Seventeen men seized a fire engine, ambulance, and other property and formed the Community Volunteer Fire Department of Violetville. After a year of litigation the court awarded control of all assets to VVFD. With the suggestion of the Chief Engineer of the Baltimore County Fire Department (BCoFD), the defeated men relocated in the growing town of Arbutus.

The Arbutus Community Association leased a portion of their property to the firemen and donated lumber to help them with the construction of their firehouse. A small, two story, wood frame building was erected to house a 1927 American La France fire engine & 1932 Kissel ambulance downstairs and provided living quarters upstairs. A Ladies Auxiliary was formed and in 1939 was among the charter organizations of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Baltimore County Volunteer Fireman’s Association.

In 1940, AVFD bought the community hall building when Arbutus Community Association moved across the street to present day Town Hall. Five years later an addition was built onto the old community hall building to house additional apparatus.

A new 1942 Ford/Ward LaFrance engine was purchased and was later replaced by a 1947 Seagrave engine. A 1947 International Harvester panel truck was purchased for use as the first rescue squad and that was later replaced by a 1954 Dodge. In 1951 a 1947 Willy’s Jeep was purchased and replaced by a 1967 Jeep CJ-5 and in 1958 a 1957 SeaKing aluminum boat replaced an older aluminum boat. Many different ambulances passed through AVFD in the early years including a 1948 Buick Road master, 1952 & ’56 Cadillacs, Pontiacs, an Oldsmobile, Fords, and Chevy’s in the ’60’s, ’70’s, and ’80’s.

The 1960’s brought about the lowering of the age limit for members from 21 to 18. In 1963 the Ladies Auxiliary was reorganized after a hiatus. In 1965 member Ed Kelly developed a reliable device for the suctioning of fluids from patients mouths. Although his design was the standard used for many years on ambulances everywhere, he was never truly credited for his work because he was denied a patent.

On May 4, 1964 ground was broken for a modern fire station and on October 20, 1964, AVFD moved to its new quarters at 5200 Southwestern Blvd. The new station provided necessary room for the apparatus and men with offices, recreation & bunk rooms, and a banquet hall. The two old buildings were then razed for parking.

The sixties and seventies brought more modern fire apparatus. A 1966 Mack engine replaced the ’47 Seagrave, and a 1969 Brockway replaced the ’54 Dodge in 1971. A 1973 Boston Whaler power boat and ’73 Chevy pick-up truck were purchased after Tropical Storm Agnes wreaked havoc on the east coast in 1972. After about a year the boat was sold when it was realized that it was not needed. In 1978, an additional engine (’78 Seagrave) was purchased with a new lime green/yellow color scheme and the ambulances became modern Paramedic (medic) units.

By 1980, women were finally accepted as regular members of AVFD although it was not without a fight. Many believed strongly that women had no place in the firehouse but the ladies had competently filled nearly every position at AVFD since then and to this day the Department still boasts a higher than average percentage of female members.

The 1966 Mack engine was replaced with a ’87 Hahn and that was replaced with a 1999 Pierce. A ’97 Pierce replaced the 1978 Seagrave, which was nearly identical to the ’99 Pierce. The 1969 Brockway Rescue Squad was replaced by a ’93 Spartan and the medic units were now state of the art Advanced Life Support units on heavy duty Ford and GMC chassis’s. With the new ’93 Spartan squad came the return of a red over white paint scheme which would again become the standard.

Once again in 1995, the age limit was lowered from 18 to 16 with parental consent. The following year AVFD became a specialized company in Swift Water Rescue. The 1988 Ford medic that had been replaced was redesignated as a Swift Water Rescue Response Unit.

In 1990 the Ladies Auxiliary had again disbanded but a group of ladies revived the Auxiliary in 1997 and opened it up to male and female members. In 1998 they made a presentation of new Holmatro rescue tools (jaws of life) to replace the 1970’s era Hurst system. They would continue to work hand in hand with the AVFD raising funds to purchase needed equipment for AVFD.

An ambitious plan to add much needed space to the station commenced on January 17, 2004 when Arbutus native, Gov. Robert Ehrlich and Comptroller/Former Gov. William Donald Shaefer were amongst the continued on page 11
Fire Museum Opens for 2013 Season
by Chip Jewell

With the sounding of the 9/11 Bell of Remembrance, the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum opened for the 2013 season for another year of history and interest.

The Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum and the National Fire Heritage Center were honored to again host a very special tribute to those first responders killed on September 11, 2001. The “9/11 Bells of Remembrance” are transported by trailer to requested locations and on display throughout the day. The Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum and the National Fire Academy were honored to again host, and ring, the bells to honor our lost brothers and sisters in service.

With the anticipated large crowds coming to Gettysburg for the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum and National Fire Heritage Center are cooperating in the development of a special display highlighting the activities of the Frederick fire company militia units and Civil War activities, the 1863 Emmitsburg Fire and fire Zouave units that fought in Gettysburg.

The museum is located at 300B South Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg and is open to the public every Saturday and Sunday through Fire Prevention Week in October from 12 Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Buckle Up Maryland—Day and Night. It’s the Law Program

By James W. Brown, MIEMSS

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) “Click It or Ticket Campaign for 2013” emphasizes the importance of around the clock seatbelt prevention education and enforcement through a multi-agency approach. In a joint letter to Maryland’s EMS, fire, and rescue community, Dr. Robert R. Bass, MIEMSS Executive Director and John Denver, President of the MSFA, asked every EMS, fire, rescue company to display the BUCKLE UP banners from Sunday, May 19 through June 16, as part of Maryland’s seatbelt usage educational program. Seatbelts are the single most effective way to save lives on Maryland’s roads. Please be sure to distribute this safety message to all members in the continued effort to Buckle Up every ride, every time!
MARYLAND FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION INSTALLS 2013-2014 OFFICERS

By Johnie Roth, Jr.

At the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association Annual Spring Meeting on April 14, 2013 at the Cordova Volunteer Fire Company elections were held and the 2013-2014 officers were installed.

This year the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association awarded two scholarships for the Staff and Command Course that is held each year be awarded for tuition, training materials, and costs of breaks and the banquet. The cost of lodging is not

CHIEF JOHN W. HOGULD HONORED BY

By Johnie Roth

At the Annual Membership Meeting of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association held on April 14, 2013 at the Cordova Volunteer Fire Company Chief John W. Hoglund was honored by naming their annual scholarships as the Chief John W. Hoglund Staff and Command Training Scholarship.

The Staff and Command Training Scholarships are available to all chief officers, senior administrative personnel and senior company level officers who are members of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association for a minimum of two years and are active within the fire, rescue, and/or EMS services. The MFCA Scholarship Committee is responsible for establishing the application closing date (at least 30 days prior to the class), reviewing applications, and making scholarship award recommendations. The Chief John W. Hoglund Staff and Command Training Scholarship will be accepted prior to the start of the class and will be judged by the MFCA Scholarship Committee.

Spring Rural Water Supply Drill Held at New Windsor VFD

By Douglas Alexander

The MSFA spring rural water supply drill was held on Sunday April 28 hosted by the New Windsor VFD in Carroll County. There were 115 personnel from nine Maryland counties and two Pennsylvania counties participating in the drill. The drill simulated a major fire in a very large old warehouse in the downtown area with a catastrophic failure of the town water system. Two dump sites were utilized as well as 5 fill sites outside of town. The fill sites had varying distances for the round trip from 3.5 miles to 7.2 miles. Aerial towers were utilized at each discharge to allow some operators to pump the towers that would not get a chance to do so very often.

The drill loosely simulated a two hour ISO drill. Unfortunately we ran out of water for a few short intervals in the early going, but once the shuttle got established, water was maintained for the entirety of the drill. The average flow for the drill was just less than 1400 gallons per minute, with the maximum flow reaching over 1600 gallons per minute for a portion of the drill. It is estimated that over 150,000 gallons of water was shuttled in the duration of the drill. There were 30 pieces of apparatus involved in the drill. Personnel and apparatus came from as far away as Garrett County Maryland, and Dauphin and Lancaster Counties Pennsylvania. Carroll County had 11 of 14 companies participate. Other counties participating were Howard, Harford, Frederick, Baltimore, Montgomery, Anne Arundel, and Queen Anne’s. Career personnel from Montgomery County were also in attendance.

Chief Tom Coe and the personnel of the New Windsor VFD were terrific hosts providing breakfast and lunch for all of the personnel, as well as planning and setting up a very large drill.

The fall rural water supply drill is currently being planned. Details will be available prior to the MSFA convention.
Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company junior firefighters win NVFC Junior Firefighter of the Year Award

By David Lewis, Past President, MSFA, 2011-12

Congratulations to the Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company junior firefighters for being selected for the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Junior Firefighter Program of the Year Award. The award was presented at the NVFC’s Spring Meeting in Alexandria, VA, on May 11, 2013. More than 30 members of the junior firefighters group raised funds to pay their own way to attend the NVFC banquet to receive their award.

The Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company junior firefighter program was established in 2004. Since then, over 50 junior firefighters have graduated from the program, with 90% going on to become firefighters at local departments. Junior firefighters complete extensive training, including certification in CPR, bloodborne pathogens, first aid, and babysitting. They also partnered with other local programs to train and learn about vehicle extrication, aerial operations, water supply, and SCBA.

The department, including the junior firefighters, also participate in community events, such as a holiday “Adopt a Family” event that gives toys and food to underprivileged families. The juniors contribute to department fundraising efforts throughout the year and raise enough funds to support their own program. In 2012, in honor of the fire company’s 100th anniversary, the Arcadia juniors planned and staffed a celebration and parade. Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company’s junior firefighter program is committed to safe and effective training and instilling a spirit of community service in future firefighters.

The MSFA extends our sincere congratulations to the Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company junior firefighters on receiving this prestigious national award from NVFC.

EDITOR’S NOTE — As you enjoy the 2013 MSFA Convention, welcome to the June Issue of the Volunteer Trumpet. Members of the committee are getting to work on the next edition now so please let us know if you have any ideas for strengthening this product, suggestions for stories or content we may publish. We will be pleased to hear from you. Our goal is to publish interesting and informative articles for the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of MD. Send your material along to the editor, Mike Dixon at list@atlanticbb.net.
JOHNNIE ROTH, JR.
CANDIDATE
FOR 2ND VICE PRESIDENT
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION

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☐ Support ☐ Encouragement
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Chairman of the Training Committee | Montgomery County Tag Representative | Member of the Convention Committee | Member of the Awards Committee | Member of the Trumpet Committee | Serving on the Council of the Academies and Member of the MFRI Board of Advisors

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Special Thanks To:
Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary | Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, Inc. and Alumni Association | Family, Friends, and Supporters
Department Mourns Passing of Former Fire Chief

By Barry Johnson
Montgomery County, MD - - -
Former Fire Chief Thomas Carr, praised for his tireless service and outstanding leadership, passed away on April 24th in Charleston, SC following complications from Multiple System Atrophy (MSA), a rare neurological disorder that causes symptoms similar to Parkinson's disease.

Carr was named the Chief of the Charleston Fire Department in November 2008 after retiring as Fire Chief of the Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service. He was instrumental in helping the Charleston FD recover from the loss of nine firefighters following the Sofa Super Store fire in 2007 and set into motion critical transformations to mold the Charleston FD into a modern service. In April of 2010, Chief Carr announced to the public his diagnosis with Parkinson's disease and pledged his continued commitment to lead the Charleston FD for as long as he could. In March 2012, he retired to focus on his battle with MSA.

Chief Carr was named FIRE CHIEF's 2010 Career Chief of the Year for his outstanding leadership and desire to improve the fire service. He was referred to as the "firefighter's firefighter" and someone who earned his following through innovation and respect. "We are deeply saddened by the passing of Chief Tom Carr. He leaves behind an extraordinary legacy and will probably be best remembered as a world class leader responsible for helping generations of firefighters and as the architect of the Nation's Urban Search & Rescue Response System and the County's Urban Search and Rescue Team," said County Executive Isiah Leggett. "He compiled an unparalleled record of public service and achievements and his loss is deeply felt." "The fire service has lost a great leader and we've lost a great friend," said Fire Chief Richard Bowers. "Chief Carr was respected nationally and internationally. Under his leadership, the department added 4-person staffing, collective bargaining for volunteers and raised education and training standards. He led the department's successful efforts to become a nationally accredited fire department and was a man of great vision, passion and integrity who led from the heart. His impact will be felt for many years to come." Carr began his career in 1973 as an 18-year-old volunteer paramedic with the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad in Montgomery County (MD). He was hired as a career firefighter/paramedic in Montgomery County in 1977 and progressed through the ranks. He became the first operational fire chief of the Montgomery County Fire Rescue service in 2004. He was a long-standing advocate of the fire service, especially firefighter safety, and leaves a strong legacy of innovation and professionalism that will be felt for years to come. Chief Carr is survived by his wife Anne, son West, daughter Amy, his parents, a brother and sister.

Goals: fire prevention & education, safety & promoting youth organizations within the fire service

Hacks Point Fire Company 1977 to present
♦ Chairman & Secretary, Board of Directors
♦ Cadet Advisor & Asst. Engineer
Harford Cecil Firemen's Association
♦ VP & Secretary
♦ Delegate or Alternate 30 years
♦ Inducted into LA Hall of Fame—2011
♦ Inducted into Hall of Fame—2010
Cecil Co., County Wide LA
Community Fire Co., of Millington LA—1998-2005
♦ Secretary

Volunteer Fire Co., # 1 of Chesapeake City, 2004—Present
♦ Secretary, Board of Directors & Chaplain
♦ Chaired & worked on many committees
♦ 100th Anniversary Celebration
♦ Inducted into Hall of Fame—2013
Cecil County Firemen's Association
♦ Delegate or alternate—30 years
Maryland State Firemen's Association
♦ Co-Chair Miss Fire Prevention Comm.
♦ Delegate or Alternate—30 Years
Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA - Del. or Alternate 40 yrs.
♦ President, 2004-2005
Arbutus VFD — 75 Years

continued from page 5

dignitaries who helped break ground on a building addition. Phase I of the project added a three story addition to the south side of the existing building with three additional bays, large dormitory areas, meeting rooms, and a working brass slide pole from the closed station of Baltimore City FD E-24. The Department moved in on October 7, 2005 and an official dedication was held on April 30, 2006.

The 1998 Ford/Horton Medic-356 was transitioned into a more reliable Swiftwater Rescue Unit (SU-359) when a new 2007 GMC Topkick/Horton was ordered as a replacement for M-356.

The Department is proud to work with a diverse membership of over 200 members. The largest of any volunteer department in Baltimore County. In part, this can be attributed to a partnership with neighboring University of Maryland Baltimore County that allows us to welcome students from across the U.S. as well as international students.

AVFD’s newest addition is our new Squad 354. A 2012 Pierce Impel, Heavy Rescue Squad officially arrived at the station on September 21, 2012 at 6:17pm. It was placed in service the following month replacing a 1993 Spartan Gladiator/ American Fire & Rescue. The old squad found a new home at the Lubeck Volunteer Fire Department in Lubeck, WV.

AVFD has reached its 75th year of commitment to the community. Through the efforts of the membership, the Department has reached an enviable position among the volunteer fire companies of Baltimore County.

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Your Uniform—Wear It With Pride

By Jim Jarboe, Member Takoma Park VFD

Whenever you wear your uniform, whether it is a tee shirt, sweatshirt, jacket, hat, or dress uniform, if it has your department name or logo on it, you represent it. How you represent your department and logo is especially important when you are out in the public.

What is the purpose of a uniform? It shows that you are a member of a fire or EMS department, and that you work collaboratively to help your community. Wearing your dress uniform is an honor and your pride should be evidenced. Keep in mind, when you are wearing your dress uniform, there may be times that someone may look at you and compliment you regarding how nice you look, while others may appear to be a little jealous, and some people may be disinterested. Don’t let a negative comment keep you from wearing your uniform. You have earned the right to wear it, and it represents both you and your department well.

On dress uniforms you may find many different types of insignias, i.e. Stars – years of service, Stripes – officer ranks, Ribbons/Metals – life saving, and recognition of outstanding accomplishments. You will also have your department patch, and EMT or Paramedic patch. Regardless of the number of insignias you have on your uniform, you will look and feel good in it. However, don’t forget that your uniform needs to be clean and your shoes shined. Also, it must be a complete uniform. All items that are part of the uniform should be worn. Some of the people you meet, especially fire and EMS, will let you know if something is missing.

Should you be so fortunate to receive an award in the form of a military ribbon or metal, wear it. You have earned it, and it belongs on your uniform. Wear it with pride. Other awards, such as certificates, should be displayed proudly or kept in a binder for safekeeping. You never know when you may need them.

In conclusion, when wearing a uniform, whether you are a volunteer, career, a fire chief, or a recruit, wear it properly with respect and pride.

It is said, “The uniform doesn’t make the person.” But, the uniform helps to define who you are, and it makes it clear to the public that one of your roles is to service the community with respect and pride.

In Old Fire Service Tradition, Singerly Dedicates Station

By Mike Dixon, Editor

The William M. Singerly Fire Co. of Elkton formally dedicated its recently renovated and expanded Newark Avenue station on April 27.

In celebration of the completion of this important public safety enhancement, a parade of over 80 units made its way through downtown. Afterwards a packed house of emergency responders, well-wishers, and public officials assembled at Station 13 for remarks, the playing of the bagpipes, and the unveiling of the station plaque.

The ceremony wrapped up, with an old, time-honored, fire service tradition. Members stood in front of the engines and ambulances parked on the outside ramp and gave them a shove, pushing the units into the apparatus bays.

The new structure updates the central station, which opened in 1971. The headquarters station provides a new apparatus wing, along with significant renovations to existing areas. The project included a 24,600 sq. ft, 8 bay addition to house apparatus and space for training, recreation, and fitness, in addition to the renovation of the existing facilities.
By Mike Dixon, Editor
For its centennial celebration in 1992, the Singerly Fire Company commissioned an oil painting that showed the company racing out of the North Street station on a cold winter evening in 1892 to answer its first alarm.

A team of galloping horses pulled the Amoskeag Steamer past the old courthouse as an early evening February twilight descends on Cecil County. Immediately behind the engine, a group of men tugged strenuously on the Gleason and Bailey Hook and Ladder as a fresh coating of snow makes the work a little hazardous. The old hose cart wasn’t too far behind as it was just rolling out the firehouse door.

The toiling courthouse bell had called out the Elkton volunteers for their first general alarm on this winter day in 1892. These pieces of newly acquired equipment protected the county seat from the ravages of flames for decades until they were retired as motorized units came into general use three decades later.

In preparation for the celebration of 100 years of service, the firefighters commissioned Doylestown PA artist Gil Cohen to produce the oil painting and the company sold a limited edition print. When the company decided it wanted a unique scene showing the 19th century volunteers answering the alarm, they launched a search for an artist who could accurately depict the technical nature of the setting and capture the mood. The member of the American Society of Aviation Artists and book illustrator, had done works for the United States Coast Guard Bicentennial and for other major national celebrations so he was selected.

A stickler for historical accuracy, Cohen did lots of research to recreate this scene from another century. His first task was to visit Elkton to get a feel for the town and begin research for the project. He walked down Main Street, studying old pictures and looking at modern vantage points. “I conjure up images in my mind. It’s almost like entering a time machine, where I’m here but trying to visualize the street as it was before the turn of the century,” he commented.

He next utilized company members dressed in turnout gear to pose for him as he dramatically portrayed their 19th-century counterparts. So on a cold Monday afternoon in February 1992, Cohen had firefighters, including Bill Clark, Walter Lee, Bill Baker, Walter Morgan, Bill Caldwell, Vince McMahon, and Walter Trego running down North Street and hanging off apparatus as bystanders leaned over the railings on a tavern porch. As the sun set, long shadows became more apparent on the buildings. It was just the look Cohen was after. His research also took him to fire museums in Philadelphia and elsewhere as he interviewed experts on 19th-century apparatus and viewed old photos.

Once he visualized it all and completed his research, he submitted several rough sketches for the company’s approval. After the drawing was selected, the artist started to work on the oil painting. During the centennial year, the company unveiled Singer’s Call to Alarm, a fitting tribute to past firefighters who established a tradition of service and to the present members who faithfully serve the community.

A limited number of prints are still available at $25 each. For additional information on shipping and tax contact Deborah Storke, who is coordinating sales for the company, at 410-398-6829 or by email at cdstorke@comcast.net.

Creating the look for pulling the hook and ladder. (L to R) Bill Clark, Walter Lee, Bill Baker, Walter Morgan, Bill Caldwell, Vince McMahon, & Walter Trego pose while Mike Dixon creates a little tension.
**Cecil County Awards Banquets**

By Eileen Edelin

**Water Witch Fire Co.**

The Water Witch Fire Company annual awards banquet was held on April 20, 2013 at the VFW Post #8185 in Port Deposit. President Richard T. Hull, Jr. welcomed everyone.

Chief, Gregory Miller and EMS Chief Wayne L. Tome, Sr. presented their respective awards. President Stephanie Gibson presented the “Ladies Auxiliary Awards. The “HCFA Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame” induction by Ladies Auxiliary President Stephanie Gibson and Eileen Edelin.

A Special recognition plaque for 60 years of service was presented to Rev. George Hipkins. Known to all as the “Rev.”, George has been a member for over 60 years. He has served as president, resident photographer, historian, chaplain and philosopher!

This year marks his 50th year recognized by the Cecil County VLOSAP, this is the maximum years allowable for the program.

A tremendous accomplishment for George’s dedication and humble service.

**North East Fire Co.**

The North East Fire Company annual awards banquet was held on May 4, 2013, celebrating 91 years of service to the community. President Otis Isaacs welcomed everyone.

Chief, Steve Piatelli and EMS Chief Harold Hathaway presented their respective awards. Mrs. Terri Hamilton presented the “Years of Service Awards”. President Ruth Gonce presented the “Ladies Auxiliary Awards”. MSFA President John Denver presented gifts to Fire Company President Hicks & Auxiliary President Nancy Caldwell.

Chief Fred Hill and his officers presented the “Chaplain’s Fire helmet” to Reverend John Solomon, SFC Chaplain.

The “HCFA Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame” induction by Eileen Edelin, Hall of Fame committee member representing Cecil County Auxiliaries. Wanda Marquess.

The “HCFA Hall of Fame” inductions by Gary Armour and Eileen Edelin, Hall of Fame committee members representing Cecil County Fire Companies. Austin Conway, posthumously; Anna Hufsett; & Steve Piatelli

**Singerly Fire Co.**

The Singerly Fire Company annual awards banquet was held on May 11, 2013 celebrating 121 years of service to the community. President Donald Hicks welcomed everyone.

Chief Fred Hill and EMS Assistant Chief Cheryl Norman presented their respective awards. Donald Hicks presented the “Years of Service Awards”. President Nancy Caldwell presented the “Ladies Auxiliary Awards”.

MSFA President John Denver presented gifts to Fire Company President Hicks & Auxiliary President Nancy Caldwell.

Chief Fred Hill and his officers presented the “Chaplain’s Fire helmet” to Reverend John Solomon, SFC Chaplain.

The “HCFA Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame” induction by Eileen Edelin, Hall of Fame committee member representing Cecil County Auxiliaries. Wanda Marquess.

The “HCFA Hall of Fame” inductions by fire company members by Gary Armour and Eileen Edelin, committee members representing Cecil County Fire Companies. E. Rosemary Culley, posthumously; William Caldwell

Fire Ambassador’s received tiara’s and sashes: Miss Danielle Brown, former Miss Singerly Fire Prevention crowned:

Miss Singerly Fire Prevention, Courtney Streets; Jr. Miss Singerly Carol Poltowicz; Little Miss Singerly, Addyson Marquess;


A special presentation of $65,000.00 from the Singerly Ladies Auxiliary members to President Donald Hicks was made.

Note: Ms. Brown is Maryland Fire Chief Miss Fire Prevention, 2013-2014.

Leonardtown Squad Member Supports Medical Mission

Editor’s Note; The Leonardtown Vol. Rescue Squad spotlights one of its members, Jake Cooper. Jake, a member of the squad for one year is a big asset to Leonardtown. The company is proud of his service outside the squad too, where he has participated in a Medical Mission trip.

For many years, the Living Word Community Church (LWCC) in York, PA has teamed up with the Fraternidad Cristiana de Guatemala (FRATER) church to continues on page 15
Harford—Cecil Firemen’s Association Inductee William R. Caldwell receives certificate from Chief Gary Armour

Singerly’s Wanda Marquess was inducted into the Harford—Cecil Counties Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame. Chief Armour presents the certificate

Leonardtown

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perform three medical missions trips per year to rural Guatemalan villages in need.

This year, these trips have been supplemented by a fourth mission supported by members of multiple Christian churches from the Southern Maryland area.

The Guatemalan Medical Missions trips provide medical services to very poor villages throughout that country.

Services include general medical, OB/GYN, pediatrics, dentistry, limited surgical, and eyeglasses. However, the most important clinic is the Soul Clinic, where the love of Jesus Christ is shared with the villagers through prayer and sharing the Gospel.

The clinic also provides food, clothing, and medicine to those in need. It is a blessing for all involved.

Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department, 1943

Leonardtown Rescue Squad’s Jake Cooper

Chief Thomas Carr passed away on April 24, 2013. See article on page 10
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www.msfa.org
55 Sunnybrook Drive
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Representing the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of Maryland

MSFA leadership (l—r President John Denver, Second VP—David Keller, and PP Phil Hurlock) are provided a tour of the new AW—139 helicopter by members of the Maryland State Police Aviation Command flight crew following the May meeting of the Maryland EMS Board — Photo Credit: James W. Brown MIEMS