National Award Given To Odenton Firefighter

David W. Lewis has received the 2020 National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Chief James Seavey Health and Wellness Leadership Award.

ODENTON, MD — David (Dave) W. Lewis of the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company has received the 2020 National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Chief James Seavey Health and Wellness Leadership Award. Lewis will be presented with the award during a special banquet held during the NVFC's October meeting in North Carolina. The prestigious award recognizes Lewis for his service as a leader in creating and/or promoting emergency responder health and wellness programs or initiatives in areas including, but not limited to, firefighter cancer, heart health, behavioral health and overall health and wellness.

"Dave exemplifies the qualities represented by this award through his actions at a local, county, state and national level. He has always been an advocate for firefighter health, wellness and safety; however, his passion and commitment have become more evident in recent years," the department stated in a press release.

Lewis has held a number of committee positions within the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA), eventually serving as the MSFA President in 2011-2012. As president, he reorganized the association's safety committee and established a new committee, the cancer support committee. The safety committee was given increased responsibilities, advocating for health and safety practices across the state of Maryland. The new cancer support committee partnered with the Firefighter Cancer Support Network to provide a support structure for firefighters and their families who are going through cancer treatments.

As a member of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association (MFCA) Training Committee, Lewis advocated for the delivery of awareness programs on health and safety matters. A decision was made in 2018 to split training from health and safety to form a new committee and Lewis was asked to chair the new health and safety committee in which capacity he pushed to educate firefighters about the dangers of cancer and suicide in the fire service.

At a national level, Lewis serves as one of two Maryland directors to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). As a member of the NVFC's Health, Safety, and Training Committee, he seeks opportunities to advocate, develop and deliver health, wellness and safety programs across the country.

He has been a presenter at three of the five Health and Safety Training Summits hosted by the NVFC. He was one of the authors of the NVFC's paper, "Volunteer Fire Service Culture: Essential Strategies for Success." Following the publication of this paper, Dave was contracted by the NVFC to develop a full-day classroom presentation based upon the paper.

Lewis also has assisted in the development of training programs to accompany the Yellow Ribbon Report on mental wellness and the Lavender Ribbon Report on actions to prevent firefighter cancer as part of the partnership established between NVFC and the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Volunteer and Combination Officers Section (IAFC/VCOS). He has delivered training programs across Maryland and the country to help spread the message of these two critical firefighter health and safety matters.

"It’s like we’re in the middle of a hurdle race. Just when you get over one hurdle, you have another one in front of you and you have to keep going over these hurdles until you get to the finish line."

~ Jean Berger
News....
Cecil Webb, husband, of LAMSFA Past President Peggy Webb passed away from natural causes on April 25, 2020.

Please keep Peggy and her family in your thoughts & prayers.

Cards may be sent to:
Peggy Webb
c/o Country Meadow Retirement Home
5955 Quinn Orchard Road
Frederick, Maryland 21704

LAMSFA Past President Marcia Roth is in the hospital with suspected diverticulitis. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Cards may be sent to her home address if you wish.

Marcia Roth
19104 Treadway Road
Silver Spring, MD 20833
The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.

~ Albert Einstein

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**Birthdays**

- Rose Davis       June 2
- Renee Underwood  June 11
- Joyce Hurlock    June 23
- C Oscar Baker    June 24
- John Denver      June 26

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**Anniversaries**

- Terry & Patty Thompson       June 12