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President Faust's Report

May 6, 2020

To the Executive Committee Members, MSFA Officers, Past Presidents, County Association Officers and our State Partners,

I'm writing this letter on behalf of the three Presidents, our secretary, our executive director and other leaders of the MSFA. As you all know, we are not able to attend meetings around the State and this is one method to get information out regarding some highlights of the things we are doing during the pandemic.

First, I'd like to let everyone know that the three Presidents and our executive director meet via conference call at least once a week to go over the items we are working on. We include other officers of the association on a regular basis.

By now you should have received information about the 2020 convention and the modifications we are making for this year's event. If you have not received the information or if you have questions about the 2020 Convention, please go to Convention.MSFA.org. I suggest you check

Volunteer Trumpet Adjusts

Editor's Note — In this unusual spring of 2020, the coronavirus pandemic has up-ended our normal routines. One of those disruptions involves the *Volunteer Trumpet* and due to several unexpected twists and turns we have adapted by combining the final two issues of volume nine of this periodical.

back often as we are still in the planning process for the event and it is a great way for all of you to stay informed.

Below is list a few of the things we have been working on:

- **Essential Training** - In late March, I was contacted by our partners at the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute regarding their inability to hold essential training sessions for volunteer first responders. This was not intentional but was a result of the closing of all colleges and schools when the pandemic response began. We drafted a letter to the Governor requesting that they modify their amendment to allow

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The President's Corner

volunteer fire, rescue, and EMS to hold essential training to ensure our continued support to the citizens of Maryland. On April 13, I received notification from the Office of Legal Counsel that there was an amendment to the COVID-19 restrictions allowing essential training to go on as long as we follow the social distancing requirements. We will chalk this up as a win and we truly appreciate the Governor's willingness to allow us to continue training.

- **Another letter to the Governor** - We are also working with the State FOP and IAFF on a single document from all three organizations requesting that the COVID-19 virus be added to the presumptive conditions for first responders in the State of Maryland. This is for both Workmen's Compensation as well as Line of Duty Death benefits. We will keep you posted on the progress as updates become available.
- **VCAF Committee** - The Chairman of the VCAF Committee reached out to me regarding a concern that their committee has regarding the ability of some companies to make the required loan payments due to the negative financial impact of the virus.

Upon further review, we feel the likelihood of this becoming an issue



is minimal but if a company truly has a concern we ask that they reach out to their local VCAF representative as soon as possible to give them enough time to investigate the situation and see what steps can be taken to help. It is important to remember that the success of the VCAF program depends heavily on all payments being made on time as those funds are used to help other companies.

- **Tax incentive** - I have been asked by several people and companies about the tax incentive and how people can earn their points since meetings and events have been cancelled. I asked a contact at the Comptroller's office for some guidance and I received the following response. :TG 10-208 allows a subtraction for qualified volunteer fire, rescue, or emergency medical services members. One of the ways a member qualifies

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President's Column

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for the subtraction is if they qualify for active status by earning 50 points per year in a program operated by a locality on a point system. Each volunteer service organization is responsible for keeping a record of the points earned by its members. The Tax General article offers no further guidance on how points are earned; questions about activities and earning points must be answered by the service organizations."

I spoke with our attorney Michael Farlow about this and this is his response:

"There have been a number of questions raised as to how fire company members can obtain 50 points for purposes of the tax subtraction modification. While the Tag General Article specifies that at least 50 points from at least two separate categories must be earned per year to be eligible, there is nothing in the code that specifies how those points may be awarded. Ultimately, each individual fire company and/or County is responsible for awarding points.

For example, up to 25 points may be awarded for collateral duties. Another 25 points may be granted for being an officer or committee member. A fire company could grant members a specific number of points for the duration of this crisis to compensate for the loss of points in other areas such as meetings and drills. A fire company could also hold online meetings and drills (through Zoom, Skype, or another provider). In short, there are alternative ways in which members can earn points to meet their requirements for the tax incentive program."

Please let me know if you have questions about this but basically I sum this up as it is up to the local jurisdictions on how they award points.

Fiscal Impact of COVID-19 In an effort to better understand the financial impact of the virus, we asked the Executive Committee members to reach out to their County Associations and corresponding companies for an estimate of this impact. Although we were not asked for this information, we feel it is important for the MSFA to communicate with the Governor's office and both houses in Annapolis the negative impact the coronavirus has had on the fire companies around the State. If you have not been contacted by your Executive Committee member about this, please reach out to them for details. We would like a response by May 8, 2020, at the latest.

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The Volunteer Trumpet

This periodical is issued six times a year by the Maryland State Firemen's Association. Its purpose is to publish interesting and informative articles for the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of Maryland.

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“In the 128 year history, the MSFA has survived major pandemics, wars, weather and construction. In 1918, the last major pandemic that claimed over 600,000 lives in America, the MSFA held a convention in Hagerstown.”

Chip’s Firehouse Logbook

A Different Kind of Convention

by Chief Clarence “Chip” Jewell, III

In the June issue of the Volunteer Trumpet, I usually write about something pertinent to Ocean City, past conventions, or some other topic that melds into convention week. This year, we will have a different kind of convention. I am one of those on the vulnerable list for COVID-19 and essentially staying home.

The worldwide pandemic has drastically changed our everyday life. As by now you are aware, it has caused substantial changes to the annual MSFA Convention and Conference. But have no fear, MSFA will survive and a time will come that we will gather at the beach.

In the 128 year history, the MSFA has survived major pandemics, wars, weather and construction. In 1918, the last major pandemic that claimed over 600,000 lives in America, the MSFA held a convention in Hagerstown. By newspaper accounts on June 13, 1918, the convention was in full swing with a special patriotic tribute

to firefighters that were veterans and served in wars. There was no mention of the pandemic that was occurring in the midst of World War I.

World War II was more of a challenge for the MSFA. With World War II ramping up, many of the volunteers went off to war in either the Pacific or European Theater.

However, the MSFA Convention was held each year of the war except at the very height of the war in 1943. The late Jerry Glaubitz, Past President (1970-1971) was in Pearl Harbor the fateful “Day of Infamy”. He would proudly wear his “Pearl Harbor Survivor” hat at the convention each year. President Glaubitz appointed me to my first MSFA Committee,

the Communications Committee. The 1946 MSFA Convention in Frederick was a festive event also celebrating the end of the war. The mammoth parade also included military units and military bands. The Frederick News-Post reported on the lively visiting firemen. In one instance, an out of town ladder truck even raised the aerial to the top of the Francis Scott Key Hotel, snarling traffic in downtown Frederick.

The convention challenges of



the MSFA Conventions of the late 1960’s and early 1970’s were the confrontations with the “hippies” and the firemen on the boardwalk at Ocean City. With the Vietnam War in full swing, heated arguments and confrontation occurred. As firefighters are always a very patriotic group, protestors of the day would often direct their comments towards firefighters. And, no doubt, some more vocal firefighters would express their opinions to the protestors. In 1972, the MSFA Convention in Ocean City really dodged a major catastrophe by just missing Tropical Storm Agnes as it moved up the Atlantic Coast. Tuesday of the convention, I was walking along the boardwalk with several friends from the Middletown Volunteer Fire Company as one firefighter looked up and said, “Wow, look at the sky, the clouds are really unusual.” The crystal clear blue sky toward the Dela-

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President's Report

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Recruitment and Retention – The committee met recently and they are concerned about our member companies' ability to retain volunteers after the virus. We understand the concern of our members, especially those in the higher risk categories or living with people in higher risk categories, but we hope we are able to retain as many people as possible. One way we can do that is recognizing those that go above and beyond during this unprecedented time. If you have a member, or members, that truly have gone above and beyond, please send their names to your Executive Committee member. Please include the company name, your name, your contact information, the member's name, their contact information, and a brief description of what they have done.

As of right now we are not sure what we're going to be able to do but we would like to have that list so that we can recognize them at some point in the near future. More details to follow on this as well. 1st VP Chuck Walker - I was asked by 1st VP Walker to mention an important part of the 2020 convention; our elections. It will be an electronic voting process and details have been posted on the MSFA website and convention website at convention.msfa.org. We will also be voting on two bylaw changes:

The first change deals with changing the terms of the Secretary from a 1-year term to a 3-year term and the Treasurer and Financial Secretary from 2-year terms to 3-year terms. Voting will be staggered so that the Association will vote on one of these offices every year after the 2020 election. The second bylaw change is requesting that the Recruitment and Retention Committee be changed from a "standing committee" to a "regular committee". The leaders of the MSFA understand the importance of R&R Committee, but we feel the MSFA would be better served if we have the flexibility to make changes to this committee without requiring a bylaw changes. Please understand that

we are NOT proposing that the committee be disbanded as this is an extremely important committee. The incoming President will still be required to appoint members to this committee annually.

In closing, I would like to take a minute to thank everyone that has been working diligently behind the scenes for the members of the MSFA. There are numerous individuals that should be recognized but I will start with the Chair of our convention committee and all those that are working with Ron.

As I have said numerous times as I travel around the State, people really have no idea what it takes to put on a weeklong convention in Ocean City. I believe it is the second largest convention in Ocean City and we manage to pull off an incredible event every year using volunteers. With the current situation we find ourselves in, this task has become even more daunting.

I want to express my sincere thanks for their efforts and those that have participated in the steering committee meetings that led up to the decision about this year's event. It was no easy decision but it is the right thing to do for our members and the citizens of Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael R. Faust
President

Essential Worker Visits Chesapeake City for Easter

By Mike Dixon,
Editor

CHESAPEAKE CITY — April 11, 2020 – This afternoon the Chesapeake City Fire Company escorted an essential worker, the Easter Bunny, through town. As a bright spring sun warmed the old canal on this Saturday firefighters chauffeured Peter Cottontail through the historic community.

Leading the way, brush 12 alerted people that the rabbit was heading their way as he trailed along behind a pickup truck pulling the bunny's platform. He waved at kids and families safely practicing social distancing as they stood in yards, parking lots, and on an occasional street corner.

There was no need to worry as earlier this week Governor Hogan declared the Easter Bunny an essential worker and everyone maintained safe distances. Thank you Volunteer Fire Company # 1 of Chesapeake City for giving the rabbit a tour of the community and bringing a little Easter joy to town.



Top: Brush 12 escorts the essential worker through the historic town.
Center: Chesapeake City Fire Police Captain Tom Scott was on hand.
Right: Firefighter Colman McLennan helps rides along with Peter Cottontail (Bailey Tipton) as the bunny waves to people on the streets.

Additional photo page 12. (Photos by Dixon)

Wally’s Quiz — Round 7

By Jim Jarboe



Are You Smarter than the old time fire chief?

1. Who was President due 9-11?
2. In what city was the first aerial ladder invented?
3. What does NIOSH stand for?
4. What do you call a rapid or expensive burning of super-heated gases in a fire, caused when oxygen rapidly enters an oxygen-depleted environment?
5. Name the 5 Major ICS (Incident Command System) positions?
6. In what year was the National Incident Management System established? 2001, 2003 or 2005
7. Who starred as the Fire Chief in the movie “Roxanne” 1987? Hint: He plays the banjo.
8. Name the NFPA 2020 Fire Prevention Week Theme?
9. Prior to entering a fire area with a charged hose line, the nozzle person should do what with the nozzle?
10. The NFPA diamond consists of four color-coded fields, name them?

See Wally’s answers on page 11



LOYALTY & PROTECTION

Qualities Every Fire Company Expects from Its Workers’ Comp Company

Across Maryland, Chesapeake Employers’ Insurance helps qualified MSFA members keep firefighters safe from accidents and injuries. We’re your insurance partner, and we’re here when you need us.

MSFA members could earn a group dividend*

Ask your local agent for a quote
or visit CEIWC.com

*An individual participant will be eligible to receive a group dividend per Chesapeake Employers’ Dividend Guidelines.



Chip's Logbook

(Continued from page 4)
 ware line were in contrast to the bubbling circular clouds looking south. The cloud formation was a perfect circle in the sky until it vanished into the horizon. We were all unaware one of the most devastating hurricanes (tropical storm when it hit) in Maryland history was about to strike land in the Free State.

At the time, I was a part time dispatcher at Frederick County Central Alarm and just awarded full time capacity beginning July 1, 1972. As we headed west on the ride home, the small creeks parallel to Route 40 were raging rivers. As we entered Frederick, the fire monitor in the car announced for all available dispatchers to report to duty. I got home and immediately responded to the small communications office filling up with other dispatchers. I like to tell people I spent 3 days in the bathroom. Not from

In 1972, the MSFA Convention in Ocean City really dodged a major catastrophe by just missing Tropical Storm Agnes as it moved up the Atlantic Coast.

illness, but, since normally worked one man a shift, we had an extra phone in the bathroom. One of us would literally sit on the toilet with paper and pen so we could answer three emergency phone calls at a time.

The MSFA Convention has also overcome tremendous logistical challenges over the last several years with the expansion of the convention hall. We have been able to change or adjust to a somewhat different layout each year. As always, the MSFA Convention and Conference continues to survive. We are now faced with a new challenge, COVID-19. Thanks to our leadership, ingenuity and technology, we will have the 2020 MSFA Convention and Conference, it simply will not be in traditional form. On line voting, virtual memorial service, and a re-scheduled business meeting on September 12 & 13 at the Maryland Live casino off of Rt. 100 in Hanover, MD, will assure the MSFA will continue to act in the best interest of our member companies.

This year is different, but not cancelled. You will not pick up copies of the Volunteer Trumpet from Clarkie at the front door of the convention hall. You will not have one of the premier fire service "shows" in the nation displaying apparatus, ambulance and the latest advancement in technology. We will not have a parade.

But, what we will have is the heart and soul of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, the annual convention meeting. It will look different, it will sound different and it will continue past the normal June session that have occurred since 1893. We will meet, we will work together and we will survive. Together, we will meet the challenges and strengthen our association and our state.

Stay Healthy, BE SAFE!!

Chip

Safety Reminders from Jim Jarboe

SAFETY FIRST AND ALWAYS

Jim Jarboe submitted this timely reminder written for an earlier generation of firefighters, which still has meaning for us today. Jim notes this item was written by his late brother "Ted" 25 years ago

Safety First... And Always!

The Influence of Tragedy

There is no greater influence of change in the fire service than the line-of-duty death of a firefighter. Yet, there is no greater tragedy than that of a fallen firefighter whose death prompted the passage of a safety policy that may have prevented his (or her) own death.



They Too Served in Times of Emergency

By Mike Dixon, Editor

ELKTON, APRIL 30, 2020 — At fire stations across the greater Elkton area firefighters are ready to respond to fire, rescue, and medical emergency calls, and do whatever is needed to keep the community safe during this unprecedented COVID-19 national emergency.

And while today's personnel stand ready at Elkton's firehouses, The *Volunteer Trumpet* decided to visit an earlier generation of first responders.

It was one of those rare sunny days at the end of the month, so while it felt like spring we did some porch and driveway visiting to maintain social distancing while grabbing a photo of these veterans of Elkton's fire service ranks.

They too served, responding to other major disasters and the day-to-day calls in years gone by.



With Maryland under stay-at-home orders for non-essential workers, Firefighter Robert McKinney waves at the Trumpet from his porch. Bob joined Singerly as a probationary member in 1968



Down in Warwick, MD., the retired Director of Cecil County Emergency Services Frank Muller drove out on his John Deere to the edge of his driveway in southern Cecil County to greet us. Frank joined the ranks of the fire service as a probationary member of Singerly Fire Company in 1972. Over the years, he led Singerly and Cecil County forward in emergency services, establishing the modern Advanced Life Support system that serves residents today.

Continues on page next

MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS



TOP — Veteran Singery Firefighter and Director (retired) Bill Caldwell joined Singery Fire Company (SFC) in 1955
 LEFT — MSFA Past President John Denver waves from his front yard. Chief Denver entered the fire service as a rookie firefighter with SFC in 1968.



Chief Larry Storke joined Singery in 1957



Former SFC President Gary Storke joined 1957. Standing safely apart with his masks ready to be put into action if needed is Firefighter Phil Stanley, who joined in the late 1960s.



TOP SFC Chief Hampton Scott started as a rookie in the the 2nd-half of the 1950s.
 LEFT — Firefighter Roger McCardell joined in the 1970s

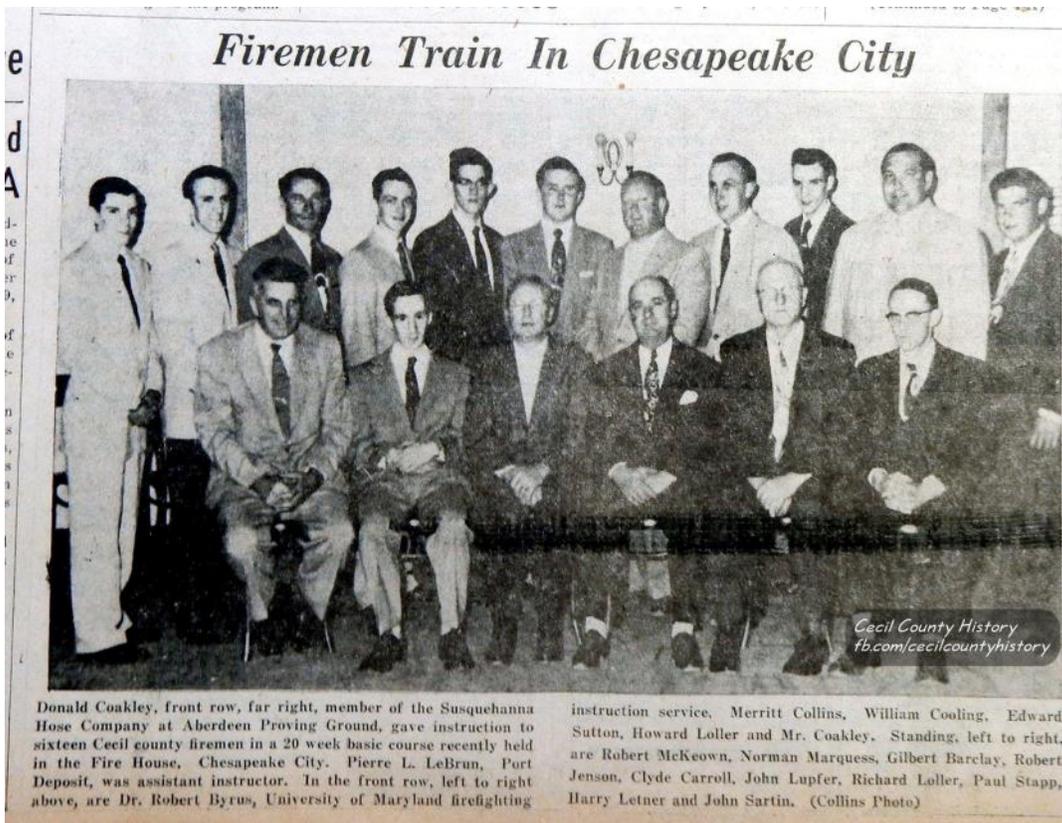
They Served



Norman and Wanda Marquess. Norman joined Singlerly in 1955, as Wanda served and continues to serve the Ladies Auxiliary



Firefighter Sam Goldwater, the Executive Director of the National Fire Heritage Center, joined SFC in 1971.



During the current public health emergency, we did this series to honor the service of an earlier generation of Singlerly members. One of the veterans visited at a distance and featured in this piece, Norman Marquess completed his basic firefighting course in 1956. In this Cecil Whig photo from May 3, 1956, these young first responders from around Cecil County proudly celebrate their accomplishment in the course taught by Water Witch's Pierre L. LeBrun with another Maryland Fire Service Extension Instructor, Donald Coakley. The photo was taken by Chesapeake City Member Lewis Collins.

The Legacy of Firefighter John Wesley Howard, Jr.

By Clarence “Chip” Jewell

When John Wesley Howard, Jr. was voted into the membership of the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3, a clouded era of Frederick fire history was closed and a new era of equal opportunity was opened. John Wesley Howard, Jr. was the first African American firefighter in the City of Frederick joining the United Steam Fire Engine Fire Co. in 1971. He was admitted shortly after the by-laws of the fire company were amended to delete two words, “white male”.

The by-law change was controversial. Many older members were concerned there would be an influx of black members into the fire company since the firehouse was located in close proximity of the African American community on All Saints St. There was also hesitation to allowing female membership as fire companies were a male bastion. Even some of the wives of the paid drivers were against the change. Though the company vote was contentious, several members expressed the need to change with the times and encouraged passage of the by-law amendment.

When John Howard was voted into the Uniteds membership and became a “Swamper”, he was truly welcomed into the fire service family. He immediately took training to allow him to function operationally. He was proficient in fire-fighting and rescue and, on occasion, would even ride extra on one of the United Cadillac ambulances. Due to his dedication, he was ultimately awarded life membership to the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3. He worked at Frederick Memorial Hospital and was highly respected in the community. John

Howard followed his dad in the service, who joined as a member of the Brunswick Volunteer Fire Company in 1945.

Though a photograph of the 1915 “Liberty Fire Company picnic” shows an unknown black member, the modern fire service in Frederick County was mostly restricted to “white males”. In 1953, the Carroll Manor Fire Company was organized with three black charter members, Mr. Roger Whalen, Mr. Buck Lawson and Mr. Bill Bowens. However, the Frederick County Firemen’s Association advised Carroll Manor charter members must be “white males” and the three black members



John Wesley Howard, Jr.

were asked to resign. In later years, Carroll Manor posthumously made these men charter

members. Over the next decade, the county association broadened requirements for new fire companies to join the association as the present day Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department was admitted to the county association in 1964 with two black charter members.

Ultimately, all fire and rescue companies in the City of Frederick altered their respective by-laws eliminating racial and sexual discrimination. The receipt of county, state and federal funds mandated each fire company in the State of Maryland to amend the constitution or by-laws to include a specific statement that prohibited any discrimination of any kind or risk losing all governmental funding.

John Howard followed in his dad’s footsteps by joining a volunteer fire

company. He could not join when he turned 16 like most young members. He had to wait until the first step of equality was taken by the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3. John Howard’s membership in the United’s opened the door for future generations of African Americans to become a volunteer firefighter, a career firefighter, a fire chief and even a president of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association.

John Howard will be truly missed by the membership of United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3, his family and the Frederick community. He was an unassuming trailblazer that helped end discrimination in the fire service of the City of Frederick. Because of his tenacity to join the fire service, the third generation, John Wesley “Wes” Howard III, has been able to not only join as a volunteer and also awarded life membership at the United’s, but serves as a career firefighter in Loudon County, Va. The Howard family is believed the longest serving three generation African American fire service family in Maryland.

NOTE: Board of Contributors article published on the editorial page of the Frederick News-Post on June 3, 2020 written by Clarence “Chip” Jewell reprinted with permission of the Frederick News-Post.

John Wesley Howard, Jr. was the first African American firefighter in the City of Frederick joining the United Steam Fire Engine Fire Co. in 1971.

MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

James W. Brown, MA, EMT
MIEMSS

MIEMSS Implements Measures to Assist EMS and Health Care Facilities in Response to COVID-19

Maryland's emergency medical services (EMS) system is working on many fronts to execute measures for dealing with the novel coronavirus COVID-19 in Maryland. MIEMSS has implemented an emergency protocol, a process to augment the EMS workforce, designed a process for credentialing certain categories of medical and allied health students to assist with staffing medical facilities, developed Ambulance Strike Teams to assist in the movement of patients, and coordinated COVID Medical Response Teams to support the Maryland National Guard when needed. These actions are important components of Maryland's response to COVID-19. On behalf of Dr. Ted Delbridge and the entire MIEMSS staff, we want to thank you for all you do each and every day to help Marylander's dealing with this pandemic.

Some of the efforts that MIEMSS is assisting in response to the crisis include

"Viral Syndrome Pandemic Triage Protocol" Under this emergency protocol, EMS personnel can identify patients who may be able to remain at home, instead of being transported to an emergency department (ED). Using the Protocol, EMS clinicians responding to a 9-1-1 call will evaluate the patient and, if the patient meets certain criteria, may recommend that the patient remain at home and follow home-care instructions, including temperature monitoring, staying well-hydrated, and taking over-the-counter medications for fever and body aches. Patients who are able to home-care can avoid the potential for long wait times and overcrowding at hospital emergency departments. If the patient still wants to be transported to the emergency department, even though EMS has indicated they may stay at home, the patient will be transported. Patients who do not meet the criteria for home-care will be transported to EDs.

Augmenting Maryland's EMS Workforce

Governor Hogan issued an Executive Order specific to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Maryland to respond to the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency. Governor Hogan's Executive Order authorized MIEMSS to issue additional, revised, or supplemental procedures or protocols for EMS licensing, certification, or scope of practice. Based on that Executive Order, the Chair of the State EMS Board and

the MIEMSS Executive Director have developed specific actions. A new EMS Provisional Status Certification/License was developed that is valid from the date of issue until 30 days after the end of the emergency period.

The new Provisional status is available to applicants who are certified/licensed as EMS clinicians in another state, students in EMS educational courses, and individuals with expired Maryland certifications/licenses. Applicants for Provisional status can log into miemsslicense.com to complete and submit a provisional application. Provisional EMS clinicians must function under appropriate medical direction and must notify MIEMSS once they obtain any EMS affiliation or other employment using their Provisional license or certificate.

Credentialing Clinical Externs

A process has been developed for credentialing provisional Clinical Externs with certificates that will be issued to allied health sciences students, e.g., nursing students and respiratory therapy students, who have met certain educational criteria. This will allow them to function as Clinical Externs under the supervision of Maryland licensed health professionals in order to supplement the health care workforce in hospitals and auxiliary treatment sites. The provisional certificate will be valid until 30 days after the state of emergency has been terminated.

Ambulance Strike Teams

MIEMSS is coordinating Ambulance Strike Teams to respond to a situation when multiple patients need to be transported from one location to another, such as from a nursing home facility to hospital. These teams are made up of five ambulances. Staffing includes one ALS clinician and one BLS clinician per unit. A strike team leader, with vehicle, supervises the team.

COVID-19 Response Teams

To support the response to a situation where multiple patients need to be evaluated, e.g., at a nursing home, MIEMSS is working with hospitals and health systems to coordinate response teams to support the Maryland National Guard as they assist facility personnel in determining which patients are able to be treated in their current location. If needed, an Ambulance Strike Team will be dispatched to transport patients to an ED.

Creamer Crowned Miss Fire Prevention in Harford Co.

LEVEL, Nov 3, 2019 — At the annual Harford County Miss Fire Prevention contest held at the Level Volunteer Fire Company Skyler Creamer was crowned 2020 Harford County Miss Fire Prevention.

The Darlington Volunteer Fire Company (DVFC) member is eighteen years old and a recently graduated senior from Havre de Grace High school. She plans on attending Harford Community College in the fall for English and to pursue becoming a teacher.

Skyler loves talking to children and adults about fire safety any chance she can. She loves spending time with children and practicing safety plans and practices. Skyler plans to continue spreading the message about fire safety in the future.

Another DVFC Member, Annie McCullough, held the crown for 2019.

The DVFC stated, "We are proud of Skyler and can't wait to support her throughout the upcoming year. We thank Annie for representing Harford County and the DVFC for the 1st year.



Skyler Creamer at the Level Volunteer Fire Company

Credits: Photos and text courtesy of the Darlington Volunteer Fire Company and the Harford County Fire & EMS Association Fire Prevention Ambassadors Facebook page



Harford County's 2020 Miss Fire Prevention Skyler Creamer (center), her escort (left), Sergeant John Bosley, and 2019 Miss Fire Prevention Annie McCullough (right).

Wally's Answers (see quiz on page 7)

1. George W. Bush
2. Philadelphia 1870
3. National Institute for Occupational Safety.
4. Backdraft
5. Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics and Finance/Administration
6. 2003
7. Steve Martin
8. Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen
9. Bleed the air from the hose.
10. Blue, Red, Yellow and White

Chief Siarnicki Elected CFSI NAC Chairman

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) is pleased to announce and congratulate Chief Ronald J. Siarnicki, the Executive Director of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, on being elected Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee (CFSI NAC) at their annual spring meeting on May 1, 2020.



Chief Siarnicki is replacing Chief Greg Cade of the National Fire Protection Association, who served as Chairman for three years. Chief Siarnicki served as the Vice Chair for two terms. Chief Craig Hannan of the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) was chosen to fill Chief Siarnicki's former position as Vice Chair.

Chief Siarnicki has been leading the NFFF for the last 19 years. Under his governance, the NFFF was awarded its fifth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Charity Navigator bases its ratings on non-profits' financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

The mission of the NFFF is to honor and remember America's fallen firefighters, assist their families in rebuilding their lives, and work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries.

"I look forward to serving as the NAC Chair and appreciate the support I was given in being elected to this position," Chief Siarnicki said. "I hope to increase involvement within the NAC and CFSI from all aspects of the fire service community, with special emphasis on those future leaders who will be the individuals making progressive advancements to our industry as we move forward. Each of us who are in leadership positions today has the responsibility to support and assist those coming behind us and ensure solid succession efforts are in place."

The CFSI NAC, a coalition of 38 fire and emergency service organizations, was created to provide counsel to the CFSI staff on issues that fire and emergency services organizations can address collectively in Washington, DC.

Again, congratulations to Chief Siarnicki for being elected to this position. We applaud his dedication and passion for advocacy for the men and women in the fire service and public safety.

After nine years as the editor of the Volunteer Trumpet, this will be my last issue as I am stepping down as the editor. Once I accepted the post that Past President John Denver offered, I received lots of help getting acclimated to MSFA organizational practices, news and photograph gathering, and much more internal to the Association.

President Denver and Chief Richard Smith (executive committee) introduced me to many contributors around the State and outlined the expectations. Most importantly Chief Smith's ongoing, patient guidance and support as I climbed a steep learning curve was essential in helping me to transition effectively into the post.

Over the nine years, we have had a strong group of contributors, columnists and photographers gathering newsworthy items around the state.

Thus I want to acknowledge the regulars for their work as it is what made the product. Chief Chip Jewell's popular Firehouse Logbook added immensely to the periodical. Our resident columnist, offered informed fire service commentary, history, and opinion in his corner of this periodical.

Jim Jarobe, one of our most recognizable contributors as our in-house artist, provided timely safety reminders. He also kept us sharp by challenging with his Wally Quizzes, "Are you as smart as the oldtime fire chief." These were things the readers looked for.

MSFA PIO Ron Watkins kept us up-to-date on MSFA news and also provided coverage from central and western Maryland.

On the photography front Bruce Secrist and Nevin Steffy provided high-quality on location coverage of the Eastern Shore. The fine work through the lens often occupied a prominent spot on these pages, on the back fold.

And Heidi McPherson served as a copy editor, proof-reading the submissions and keeping an eye on me, too.

Finally, I think the past presidents and others who provided material as you helped grow this into a solid publication.

Of course, this final year presented challenges as the coronavirus grew from a distant global event to a public health emergency that largely shut Maryland down as Governor Hogan issued stay-at-home orders to stop the spread of the virus.

So, with the closing of this volume, I pass the torch to a new editor. And I thank everyone for the support, engagement, and encouragement.



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**Representing the volunteer fire,
rescue and EMS personnel of
Maryland**



Chesapeake City Firefighters Zach Timchula (driving Bush 12) and Jake Timchula brought an essential worker to the old canal town for Easter. (Photo by Dixon)

