

HOT TOPICS

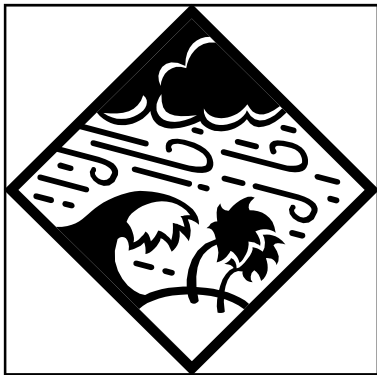
November 15, 2001

Volume 1 – Issue 6



FEMA: Just the Facts

By Assistant Chief John Tomaszewski



What is FEMA?

FEMA stands for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The agency is an executive branch, independent agency reporting to the President of the United States. The agency is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The agency was created by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. Its mission is to: reduce loss of life and property and protect the nation's critical infrastructure from all types of hazards through a comprehensive, risk-based, emergency management program of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

Where is FEMA?

The agency is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with 10 regional offices. Florida is in FEMA Region 4 whose main office is in Atlanta, Georgia. FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, where emergency management, fire administration and other courses are taught, is in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Disaster Field Offices are also set up by FEMA in locations where a federal disaster declaration has been made. These sites, called DFOs, are often unused office buildings that are transformed in a matter of days into a maze of computers, faxes, phones and FEMA staff, including DAEs, which stands for Disaster Assistance Employees. FEMA also operates Disaster Recovery Centers, in conjunction with other federal and state agencies and volunteer organizations such as the American Red Cross. These centers provide disaster assistance to victims of federally declared disasters.

Next month we will see what FEMA does and what FEMA does not do.

QUARTERLY AWARDS PROGRAM

The Awards ceremony to recognize our personnel for their outstanding achievements was a great success. The awards for Firefighter of the Year, Employee of the Year, and various other commendations were given for going above and beyond their normal job expectations. Your efforts are to be applauded.



Administration News

By Ellen P. Wickert

Congratulations to Jim Sampson who was recognized as “Employee of the Year.”



Jim Sampson, Staff Assistant

Telestaff – The first meeting of the implementation team has been held and everyone is working on gathering the necessary data for configuration. The second meeting will be held on November 7th.

EMS Billing News: Remember to make every effort to obtain the patients signature on the billing form. This signature gives us permission to file with their insurance company.

Possible Diagnosis: Many times we receive billing forms stating leg pain or arm pain. If it is possibly a fracture that is what you should state. Recently one form showed arm pain and after insurance rejected the claim we reviewed the report and discovered it was a possible M.I. (Heart Attack). After filing a review, the insurance company paid.

EMS News

By Chief Richard Murphy

The Truth About Leadership

4 leadership & management myths dispelled with tips to guide you through some rough spots.

In the October 2001 issue of Fire Rescue Magazine, I found a very interesting article on leadership. I spoke with Mike Ward, the author, and he gave blessing for us to include his article in our newsletter.

Myth: Leadership and management are the same

Truth: Management is like fireground tactics; leadership is like fireground strategy.

In other words, management consists of the tools and techniques you develop to coordinate control and direct all members of your organization in accomplishing the fire department’s objectives. As the company officer, you are the managerial focal point of these efforts. So the more management tools and techniques you acquire through experience and organizational feedback, the better you’ll be able to finesse assignments.

Leadership (the background or foundation upon which you apply your management techniques and tools) changes, depending on the situation. Example: You must be autocratic and direct when your company performs an occupant search and rescue in a room charged with hot, obscuring smoke. However, on a national holiday, you can be more relaxed when it comes to fire station activities for on-duty crews.

Tip: Each work crew has a unique collection of individuals and histories that shape the company’s performance. So what works at Rescue 1 may not work Engine 2.

Myth: Leaders are born, not made.

Truth: Like athletes, some company officers are innately better leaders than others.

However anyone can improve their leadership abilities given the right feedback and attention to results. In addition, the more experience you get, the better leader you become.

Still, although the 21st century’s explosion of management bestsellers and seminars implies otherwise, there’s no single path to effective leadership. Much of this excitement is just smoke and mirrors designed to sell books and fill seminar seats.

If you’re looking for a text that applies directly to fire-service leadership, read “30 Years On The Line” by Leo Stapleton. In 30 years, Commissioner Stapleton describes his experiences as a Deputy Chief in Boston and includes good insight on the command officer’s view of the company officer.

His books tell us how to handle the 24-hour, fire service working lifestyle. In addition, Stapleton follows a group of firefighters through their careers. You can smell the smoke and taste the coffee. Scenes between company officers and firefighters are interspersed throughout the book.

Once you get educated, remember that effective leaders have a style or approach that closely matches their personal values and attributes. The larger the gap between the “Real You” and “Lieutenant You,” the more difficult it is to be an effective leader.

Tip: Firefighters are more comfortable with a dull but consistent leader. Inconsistent behavior on the part of their company officers makes them uncomfortable. Work to develop a consistent approach to your leadership tasks.

Myth: Management is an application of basic supervisory rules.

Truth: Management means accomplishing tasks through people – a constantly moving target.

To be continued next month...

Community Education News

By Lt. Knabb

Paradigm Paralysis

Last month I spoke to a group of parents and grandparents, the subject: Childhood Drowning Prevention in Backyard Pools. While preparing for this talk I did an inquiry and analysis of the drowning prevention industry in our area. The drowning prevention industry, I found, is alive and all too well. Options for backyard pool safety range from door and window alarms, approved safety covers, to fences with self-closing and self-latching gates. Also, a new law, Florida Bill 86, requires one of these safety features to be around a residential pool, hot tub or spa before it receives a certificate of completion. Still with so many options, most of which are used in combination for increased safety, Florida has the highest drowning rate in the United States according to The Centers for Disease Control. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that toddlers between one and three years of age are the most common victims of back yard drowning. More than half of these drowning incidents occur in the child's own backyard pool.

As I presented this critical situation to my group of parents and grandparents, the obvious became a frightening realization to them. Short of direct supervision, one hundred percent of the time, there is no fail-safe system that prevents backyard pool drowning. As any honest parent will admit, lapses in direct supervision do occur. "But can't we do something else to stop all these tragic deaths?" a mom with a toddler on her lap exclaimed. I then proceeded with the standard pitch to learn C.P.R., have a telephone installed at poolside, and avoid distractions such as: reading, playing cards, talking on the phone [except for an emergency], mowing the yard, and etc when supervising at pool side.

I could have ended the talk at this point but I decided to challenge my audience and present a radical and out of the box concept. I proceeded to show them a virtual reality slide presentation of a company called "Songs of Life: It's a Beautiful Noise". The mission of this company is to "prevent backyard pool drowning in Florida". The objective of this company is to give parents a safe option to prevent backyard swimming pool tragedies and thereby reduce childhood morbidity. The company has a 100% guarantee. Picture one is a typical backyard pool. Picture two is same pool with forty



Picture #1



Picture #2



Picture #3



Picture #4

yards of fill added.

Picture three shows the surface of the pool landscaped as a baseball diamond. Another popular option is a golf putting green. Picture four is the pool restored back to its original condition after approximately a one thousand day drowning free period.

This talk ended with incredulous laughter in the room. There were no takers for this radical and out of box approach for prevention of backyard pool drowning. The drowning problem, as serious as it is in Florida, presents an example of "paradigm paralysis" which is defined as a terminal disease of certainty otherwise known as "it is not

going to happen to me".

Fire Safety News

THIS MONTH IN THE HISTORY OF FIRE

On November 28, 1942, one of the deadliest fires in U.S. history took the lives of at least 492 people. The fire occurred in an overcrowded nightclub called the Coconut Grove, in Boston, Massachusetts. The impact of such a catastrophic event is hard to comprehend but one statistic provides a point of comparison: In the first 24 hours alone, more blood plasma was given to victims of this fire than had been used in Hawaii following the attack on Pearl Harbor!

Several factors contributed to the large number of deaths. The fire spread rapidly over combustible materials used to decorate the interior. The number of occupants vastly exceeded the capacity of the exits. Bodies were piled seven and eight feet high at the doors. Some firefighters had claw marks on their legs from victims trying to pull themselves to safety. Some exits were locked. Others were revolving doors, which quickly became inoperable as patrons pushed and shoved each other in panic.

Following this tragedy, several changes were made to strengthen the codes in areas such as exit capacity, emergency lighting, interior finish, and automatic sprinklers. It is important to remember, however, that codes are only effective if the resources are allocated to enforce them.

Bill Adams

Training and Safety Division

by Division Chief Russell Accardi

The Driver Engineer promotional exam will be given on November 12th and 14th, 2001. Good luck to all candidates!

The Training & Safety Division received an inquiry from personnel in the field regarding our medical oxygen cylinders possibly having expired hydrostatic test dates. Upon investigation of the Steel M tanks as well as the thumper cylinders it was determined they do meet the DOT specifications and are in compliance with the industry testing standards. With some of the oxygen cylinders the hydrostatic test period can be as long as ten years.

This month we are conducting the Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) recertification course for all EMT's and Paramedics. This is an eight hour program and renews your certification for another three year period. Please watch for the delivery dates so you do not miss the opportunity for eight CEU's towards your EMT/Paramedic recertification as well.

We also sent four Chief Officers to a 16 hour course on the Insurance Services (ISO) rating system November 1st & 2nd in Plantation. Chief Koen, Chief Tomaszewski, Chief Adams and Chief Fitzer.

The month of October presented us with the challenges of responding to the unknown powder/Anthrax calls. This caused a change in the training already planned in order to provide the Biological Hazards and Responder Safety class from Advanced Technical Education Consultants (ATEC). ATEC also provided two hour training classes on this topic for Delray Beach, Highland Beach, and Gulf Stream Police Department personnel.

The high-rise training that began September 10, 2001 has been postponed twice due to the events related to the World Trade Center and other terrorist activities. We will complete that training in the near future at which time the new county-wide high-rise fire SOG will replace our existing high-rise procedures.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

As of Tuesday, October 30, 2001, the Delray Beach Fire Rescue Department responded to 68 calls related to suspicious packages/powder incidents. In Palm Beach County 587

samples tested at the lab in Dade County during the past 3-4 weeks have all tested negative for Anthrax. Our department has ordered some field test kits for biological agents such as Anthrax and should arrive soon.

A terrorism drill will be conducted involving the four regional Haz Mat teams in Palm Beach County on November 29, 2001.

Training Schedule

November 1st – 2nd

BTLS
Model 12 @ Fire HQ

November 14th – 16th

BTLS
Model 11 @ Fire HQ

November 28th – 29th

Haz-Mat Terrorism Drill

November 7th – 9th

BTLS
Model 13 @ Fire HQ

November 21st – 23rd

Company Level

November 28th – 30th

Company Level



WOW! Every kid dreams of riding in the Fire-Rescue Truck, but for **Ben Perlman** on Halloween Night 2001 it was a dream come true.

From the Chief's Desk

"Homeland Security"...what a strange phrase for us to think about since we have lived our lives relatively free from the hassles" found in most parts of the world. We have been protected by barriers that no longer exist, and now, security must begin at home if we are to be safe. Yet, we must live normal lives and not withdraw into our homes and shrink from participating in events and activities that make us what we are... **AMERICANS, all!**

During the past month, we have responded to calls and incidents that none of us could have imagined as a routine part of our day or shift just a few weeks ago. Some incidents turned out to be amusing, to say the least, others had the potential for serious risk, but all must be approached with deliberate action and adherence to protocol. You all have done an outstanding job of dealing with these issues as well as providing the other emergency and administrative functions which also occur 24/7.

In honor of the Fire Fighters who died in New York City, we are in the process of designing a commemorative patch that will be placed on our turnout coats and also made into a decal for placement on our apparatus. The design will feature the "number" who died as a result of the September 11th attacks, and it is intended to give us reason to pause and remember that each of these Fire Fighters were individuals, with families, dreams and hopes for the future...just like us. **Let us never forget they died doing their jobs in circumstances that we can only imagine.**

Hats off to *Asst. Chief Mike Wigderson*



Chief Koen & Chief Wigderson

who was named Fire Fighter of the Year, and to **Jim Sampson** who was named Employee of the Year for 2001. Both of you deserve this recognition – and more. You really make us proud. Both were recognized at our last Quarterly Awards Program.

Halloween was a great opportunity for the Department to network with the community as we deployed six rescues and six pumpers and trucks throughout the city to keep an eye on the kids, hand out some goodies as well as American Flags and Red Fire Helmets to youngsters and a few adults as well. We were espe-



James Sampson & Chief Adams

cially pleased that the **Mayor and all the City Commissioner's joined us that night to see that our community was safe and as normal as possible.** Additionally, we had a great experience with this year's Halloween Parade as Engine 2 and Rescue 2 led the parade from Old School Square to Veteran's Park as well as the interaction with the crews from Engine 1, Rescue 1 and Truck 1 as they had a chance to visit with a large crowd on Atlantic Avenue as part of the downtown events. Flags and helmets were also the "order of the day" and they were a big hit with our citizens and visitors. Thanks to **Chief Hendricks** for all the logistical help for these activities.

Speaking of helmets, **an order has now been placed** to provide each of you with a Model 1010 Cairns helmet and a set of Warrington Pro leather fire fighting boots. Funding for this large purchase came from our regular budget and some donations received by our gift trust account. These new components of your personal protective ensemble are the very latest, state-of-the-art products to keep you safe as safe as possible under adverse conditions. **Thanks to the Equipment Committee and Chief Accardi** for a great job with the research on this equipment that led to a final decision and selection.

The Recruitment and Selection process will begin again on November 19, 2001 as we conduct interviews and medical boards for approximately 25 Paramedic/Fire Fighters or Fire Fighters in the 3rd Semester of Paramedic

School. Following this step, we will be advertising again to help fill our current vacancies. We will continue to work aggressively to bring the best possible talent to the organization. Thanks for your assistance during this period by working the extra hours to offset the vacancies on a daily basis. Overtime is nice, but I know that time away from home and the family also has a cost on our lives and activities.

The recognition dinner sponsored by the Professional Fire Fighter's and Paramedics was a tremendous event – very well attended by a great mix of folks including the City Manager, members of the City Commission, the business community, and our old friends at Rainberry Bay. Great job guys, and a special thanks to **Fred McAlley** for the videotape he prepared from the "Night of Pride" events in September.

Staff also participated in a new city program called "**Resident's Academy**" with 28 local residents spending the evening with us to learn a lot more about Fire-Rescue and how we deliver service in the community. This program will become a regular part of our annual programming in the future. Also, the annual session of **Leadership Delray Beach** was held on November 14th. A great PowerPoint presentation was made to the group and lots of time was spent with facility tours and interaction with our on-duty personnel and day crew.

As we head toward the Holiday Season including Thanksgiving, let us remember our individual and collective blessings. We live in the most powerful and generous nation on earth, with great natural resources and wonderful people. This past two months should have taught us a thing or two about ourselves, and about our friends around the world. It also will identify those who do not stand with us in the pursuit of peace and freedom. Take just a few moments every day to say, "I love you" to your family and friends, **and be sure to give the kids an extra hug, for we truly never know when we may never have that opportunity again.**

Kerry B. Koen, Fire Chief



- HALLOWEEN NIGHT -
(L-R) Lt. Tabeck, Commissioner Archer, Commissioner Levinson, Mayor Schmidt, Commissioner McCarthy, Commissioner Perlman & son, Ben Perlman & Chief Koen

Letters from “Mr. & Mrs. Smith”

“I have had the occasion to call twice recently, once for my neighbor, and once for myself. I have nothing but praise for those who answered my calls. I also visit the fire station near my apartment often to have my blood pressure checked (for years) and see the same wonderful service there. I appreciate your kindness and consideration and thanks for all you are doing for us.”

C.M. – Delray Beach

“Thank you so much for the car seats. We will be sending you a picture of both babies in their car seats after the new baby is born. You really don’t know how much you helped me out. We will keep you in our prayers.”

S & C G. – Delray Beach

“As anyone who has tried to install a car seat knows, they are the most difficult things to put in properly. I feel so much safer now that our car seats are secure.”

A.L. – Delray Beach

“We are writing to let you know the extent of our appreciation to Lt. Bush’s presentation for our first grade classes on fire safety. We truly believe, as first grade teachers, that the children left that day with “real world” information that they could take back to their families that may keep (their) lives out of harms way.”

*Yvette, Lindsay, Claire and Chris
Bessy Creek Elementary*

BABY NEWS!

IT’S A BOY! IT’S A GIRL!
Congratulations to **Engineer Rylan Rose** and his wife, **Tammy** on the birth of their son, **Logon Trace**, who was born October 17th, weighing in at 8-lbs., 11-oz.;

Also, congratulations are extended to **Paramedic Walter Hirst** and his wife, **Helen** on the birth of their son, **Jake Matthew** who was born on November 7th, weighing in at 8-lbs., 7-oz.

MORE PHOTOS...



Fumigation of Fire Headquarters

We have found four areas of termite infestation on the second floor in the attic area. We will be tenting Fire Headquarters over the Thanksgiving Day Weekend starting late Wednesday, November 21st through Saturday morning, November 24th.

Three 8’x 8’x 16’ storage pods will be supplied for us to store bedding, recliner chairs, medical supplies, food items, and other equipment that need to be out of the building during the fumigation.

Personnel and Apparatus will be displaced to out stations as directed by Chief Stravino. They will be back in Fire Headquarters on Saturday, November 24th.



Recipe of the Month

Artichoke Salad

- 2-16 oz. cans** Whole artichoke hearts – drained, washed and quartered
- 1-16 oz. can** Hearts of Palm – drained and sliced into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 pint** Grape tomatoes – halved, length wise
- 1 each** Large red, yellow and green pepper – seeded, 1/2 inch dice
- 1 each** Medium red onion – Julianne cut and halved
- 2 bunches** Scallions – sliced on bias
- 1 pound** Button mushrooms – quartered
- 1 pint** Green olives – drained and halved, lengthwise
- 1 pint** Black olives – drained and halved, lengthwise
- 1 cup** Golden raisins
- 1 cup** Raisins
- 1/4 cup** Minced garlic
- 1/2 cup** Olive oil
- 1/4 cup** Medium chopped parsley
- 3 tbs.** Medium chopped fresh tarragon
- 2 tbs.** Distilled vinegar
- 1 tbs.** Sugar
- 2 tsp.** Kosher salt – more to taste
- 1 tsp.** Fresh ground black pepper

Procedure: Mix all ingredients and refrigerate for 2-3 hours before service. Garnish with tarragon leaves and parsley springs. Crumbled fetta cheese may also be used as a final garnish. Serves: 12

Kerry B. Koen

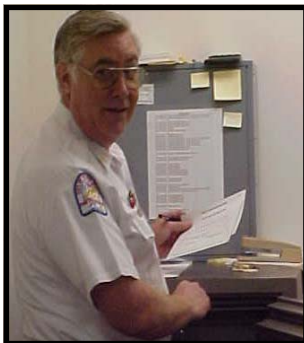
Thought Of The Month



Vision

The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them into the impossible
Unknown

HIS-tory by Asst. Fire Chief M.B. Wigderson



Last month I was telling you about the activities of the Association and its function such as the Fireman's Ball,

fundraiser, steak feeds for volunteers, new equipment for apparatus and for stations. I soon found out that in spite of our voting on each topic, if the Chief voted no, that was the end of discussion and we would move on. Willie Frank Bean seemed to always have a comment about the count of hands and one evening found himself in the Chief's office for a math lesson. As the department grew in numbers, there was talk of forming a new organization. A benevolent association were there would be one man, one vote and so a few brave souls, namely Bob Bradley, Don Webb and Tom Mook started putting together bi-laws and a charter to form the Delray Beach Firefighters Benevolent Association. By the mid seventies the population was around 35,000 and rescue calls were averaging six to one fire call. Our first responders were becoming E.M.T. 1's and the department was very supportive of this training. In the fall of 1976 E.M.T. John Andrews, having completed his training for E.M.T. 1, signed up for E.M.T. 2, at his own expense, at Broward Community College. This was done much to the dismay of Chief Cook, who was under the impression that if John graduated with this higher certification it could be trouble for the City. Insurance rates could go up for the City if an E.M.T. 1 has E.M.T. 2 training. Chief had heard this at a convention he had recently attended where he was told that the City would either have to pay the higher insurance, transfer the E.M.T. to Firefighter or terminate him. So Chief Cook thinking he was doing John a favor, brought this to

his attention. John in turn brought it to the Union and filed a grievance against Chief Cook for discouraging him from completing the course. City Manager Eldon Marriott instructed Chief Cook to go with John and talk with his instructor about his incomplete grade to resolve this matter and instructed Janice Parrish, personnel director, to verify with our insurance carrier that there would be no extra charge. Needless to say the newspapers had a field day with this whole matter. When our department was ready to train for E.M.T. 2, an announcement was made that E.M.T. 2 (or Paramedics) would be paid at a rate 5% less than starting Firefighters. This was done so that not everyone would want to get the training all at once. This too went over like a three hundred-pound pole vaulter. In 1976 Bill Rego was our President and I was the Vice President of Local 1842. I was also the editor of our newsletter and with the help of co-editor Art Neddo, we kept the membership informed of the latest developments. Bill is given credit for making our Local, professional and businesslike, with proper files for record keeping, stationery, and use of committees and agenda run meetings. As always, it was a thankless job, but somebody always would step up and do it. Besides being Vice President of the Union, I would eventually be Secretary, Vice President and multi-term President of the Benevolent. The most fun I had was as chairman of the Muscular Dystrophy Committee. For nine years our Department sponsored the best "Six Mile Run" in south Florida. This race was sanctioned by the Road Runner Clubs of America, and with the help of thirty-six organizations, clubs and businesses we were able to provide a safe, well-managed, official "10K" (6.2 mile) race the last Saturday in August from 1978 – 1987. By our second year we joined with the Sunrise Kiwanis as the kick off to their Beach Festival. Two of my most memorable sponsors

were a towing company who paid for sponsorship in twenty dollar bills and Brown Distributors who provided us with t-shirts, and beer to pass out to all the runners after the race. Who would have thought, over one thousand runners, and volunteers could drink four kegs of beer in just ninety minutes, starting at 7:30 AM. The best total donation to MDA, for any one-year was \$5,000. This would take around three months to coordinate and organize. Now you know why I think it is terrific that we can now do a boot drive over a weekend and collect more for our selected charity than we could do with 90 days effort. While going through some old records, I found lists of names of Department members who took canisters door to door collecting money for MDA in 1956. Our Department, as well as Firefighters all around the State of Florida, was the first Firefighters to join in the fight against Muscular Dystrophy. By the mid-eighties our Department and City had seen many changes. We had a young Department, average age 35; our leadership was hired and trained here. When Chief Jackson stepped down, due to a heart attack, we were in need of new leadership. In December of 1985, I received a letter in my mailbox from Kerry Koen, the newly appointed Fire Chief from Memphis, Tennessee. There were six pages; the first page asked you to list your education experience as well as highest level of certification you had received. The questionnaire went on to ask each staff member to delineate their contribution to our department, to explain exactly what our current assignments were and to give examples of our work. We were asked to list any extra involvement we have with Clubs we belonged to, projects we have worked on, and any additional talents we possess. My eyes welled with tears of joy and I knew that things were going to be different.

M.B. Wigderson

The distribution of our next newsletter is December 15, 2001. All News articles should be turned into Cecelia Shade in the Administrative Office on or before December 1, 2001. Deadline for turning in news articles will be December 1st at 5:00 p.m. We hope that you have enjoyed this issue of "Hot Topics" and we look forward to producing our next new and exciting issue.

Departmental Anniversaries

Richard Bush	November 21	19 yrs.
Wayne Dorcas	November 22	19 yrs.
Scott Gainer	November 23	14
yrs.Victor Williams	November 30	9
yrs.David Marchsteiner	November 8	8 yrs.
Bill Marino	November 8	8 yrs.
Ilene Rose	November 8	8 yrs.
Danielle Connor	November 8	8 yrs.
Mark Reynolds	November 8	8 yrs.
Scott Bitzer	November 8	8 yrs.
Rylan Rose	November 8	8 yrs.
Mark Siciliano	November 8	8 yrs.
Joe Albano	November 8	8 yrs.
Andrew Zimmer	November 8	8 yrs.
Mike Thornton	November 15	8 yrs.
Joseph Drayson	November 15	8 yrs.

TO:



Operations News

By Chief Charles Stravino

Nearly 2 months have past since the attack on our nation. During that time, we have been busy revisiting our preparedness with regards to the threat of terrorism.

Our personnel, along with the Delray Beach, Highland Beach and Gulf Stream Police Departments attended training on chemical/biological incidents. With Anthrax in the media daily, we have certainly had our share of suspicious letters/packages calls. All public safety agencies are experiencing on the job training as we receive new information about personal protective equipment, decontamination procedures, evidence/sample collection, field tests and

interagency issues.

We have kept our personnel in-the-know as information develops. I am proud of our department as everyone has pitched in on these calls to assure the safety and welfare of our team and the folks we serve. Now that we have responded to the first few suspicious letter/package calls, we now have a better understanding of how to handle these types of situations. However, we remain on alert as any one of these calls could pose a very serious health threat to us.

Overall, great job these past two months. Keep your situational awareness up and look out for one another.



A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

by

Joseph A. Clendenning

As we gather for this Thanksgiving Dinner, we count our blessings, one-by-one, and as the list of good things which thou hast given us grows longer and longer, we realize how little appreciation we have expressed for this thy bounty. For all the beauties of nature, for the gentle rain and ocean breeze, for the perfume of the flowers, the sun by day and the moon and stars by night, for the sick and shut ins, and for those not present this day we given thee praise. For life itself we thank thee O Father. May the bounty which we will feast this day and the loyalty to family, friends, and our faith we praise thee, O God, Father almighty, world without end

Amen

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO THE STAFF AND FAMILIES OF DELRAY BEACH FIRE-RESCUE