



HOT TOPICS



Volume 11, Issue 3 City of Delray Beach Fire-Rescue Department September 2011

Mission Statement

The Delray Beach Fire-Rescue Department is resolved to provide the highest quality of emergency services to residents and visitors of our community; effectively mitigating all types of incidents threatening life or property; educating the public in specific aspects of health and safety to assure a superior quality of life.

Vision Statement

“Our vision is to provide Fire-Rescue, Emergency Medical and Special Operations Services at the highest level of excellence, professionalism, and commitment to the community. Proud of our past and embracing our future, the members of Delray Beach Fire-Rescue will work as an effective and integrated team, dedicated to continuous improvement and maintaining a positive environment. The Department will be a model to others and the pride of the community”.



The pain of the world will sear and break our hearts because we can no longer keep them closed. We've seen too much now. To some degree or other, we have surrendered into service and are willing to pay the price of compassion.

But with it comes the joy of a single, caring act. With it comes the honor of participating in a generous process in which one rises each day and does what we can. With it comes the simple, singular grace of being an instrument of Love, in whatever form, to whatever end. -Ram Dass

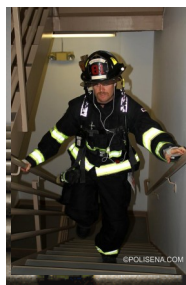
Tribe girls selected to Under Armour's All American watch list.

Lt. Scott Gainer's daughter, **Lauren Gainer** along with **Kristi Chynoweth** were recently named to the 2011/12 "Under Armour" All American watch list. They are 2 of only 38 girls selected in the state of Florida to the list.

Last Years Tribe's Jessica Wynn and Emily McMurtrey were named to the UA watch list team and they took Cardinal Gibbons & Westminster Academy to the state finals.



Lauren Gainer



AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.

2011 FIGHT FOR AIR CLIMB

experience the climb of your life

FightForAirClimb.org 1-800-LUNG-USA

Roxanne Tilghman with her daughter-in-law Paige & grandson Mayson Douglas Tilghman who is now 8 weeks old.



“Preparing for the worst.....Delivering the best”

Big Decisions

Danielle Connor, EFO, RN, Assistant Chief

In the next few weeks, the department will be conducting interviews for the four positions we have been awarded through the SAFER grant, plus we are filling two of our current vacancies. One of the reasons this process is so exhaustive, time-consuming, and thorough is that, quite simply, it needs to be. As public safety personnel, our citizens need to be confident that the employees we send to care for their family members, homes, businesses, and personal belongings are honest, trustworthy, capable, and generally upstanding.

The second reason so much care and time is taken to make employment decisions is that these are literally million dollar decisions. Conservatively, the salary, pension, health insurance, benefits, training, and equipment for one Firefighter for a period of 30 years exceeds \$3.0 million (yes...I calculated it!). From a business perspective, employees are not only your most valued assets, but also the most expensive. Investing time and money to ensure that our future employees can help us meet the mission and vision of the department is money well spent.

This past weekend a number of our personnel attended the 9/11 remembrance ceremony in Wellington. This event, sponsored by the Fire Chiefs Association of Palm Beach County, was very moving and emotional for all who attended. We also had personnel participate in a memorial 5K run (in full gear with SCBA packs) down in Ft. Lauderdale on Saturday. Everyone has their own way of memorializing 9/11, and I think it is vitally important that we truly NEVER FORGET. This is perhaps one of the most significant events that will ever affect our country, and is *the* most devastating event from a loss of firefighter life perspective. All of those who perished on that day should be remembered. The brave souls who fought incalculable odds to save lives should forever be in our memories. I think we'll all probably remember where we were and what we were doing on that fateful morning.

Like everyone, I watched shocked and horrified as the events unfolded that day. A few months before I had booked a trip to NYC for October to take in the fall change of colors, see a few Broadway shows, and just get away for a few days. In the aftermath of 9/11, many were skittish about flying, and certainly, flying to NYC. My Mom decided to make the trip with me after my brother decided he wanted no part of this trip, even though it was all paid for. Being in New York a mere four weeks after this tragedy left a lasting impression on me. The City was still on edge, emotions were high, many still held out hope that their loved ones would be found in a hospital or down near the WTC. Every morning when we turned on the TV, there was a weather forecast, a traffic update, and an updated list of firefighter funerals for the day. Can you even imagine that? My Mom



Michael Brennan

randomly picked out the name of a Ladder 4 FF who had died....his name was Michael Brennan and his services were going to be held that day in Queens. Together we made the trek out there via subways, trains, foot, and taxi....and attended his funeral. Watching the Pipes & Drums perform as if that was their only performance of the day, and having the chance to speak to some of the other firefighters on hand that day, made me realize that I would never fully comprehend what they were going through. One of the guys told me that FDNY was having an average of 5-7 funerals a day at that point. This same guy had lost his best man and two of the groomsmen from his wedding. Attending this funeral personalized this tragedy for me. Of course, I never knew Michael Brennan, but often found myself wondering what was going on in his mind that morning. We'll never know. We do know, however, that these guys laid it on the line and truly made the ultimate sacrifice. I found the following article about FF Brennan and his crew online just the other day. Please take a few moments to read it.....thanks, and be safe. *Article on page 3.*



Remembering Ladder 4, Engine 54 Commentary by John Ring

438th Air Expeditionary Wing

9/10/2011 - KABUL, Afghanistan -- At the memorial service for firefighter Dennis Scauso Oct. 27, 2001, New York City Mayor Rudy Guiliani called the efforts of the Fire Department of New York the "largest single rescue Operation in the history of the United States."

The loss of 343 firefighters on Sept. 11, 2001, doesn't diminish that fact. Even though it was the single most disastrous day in the history of the fire service, thousands of lives were saved.

In October of that year, myself and two other firefighters went to New York City. We attended memorial services for several firefighters and worked at ground zero. We met and got to know the survivors of Ladder 4, Engine 54. This is their story.

The fire station for Ladder 4, Engine 54, is located near Times Square just two blocks from the Ed Sullivan Theatre. Their motto is "Never Missed a Performance." On the morning of Sept. 11, there were 15 firefighters on duty and they responded to the site of the World Trade Center complex after the first airliner crashed into the north tower.

Upon arrival, they were tasked to help evacuate the tower. Advancing up the stairwell, they assisted countless victims outside the building with injuries ranging from lacerations to smoke inhalation to broken limbs.

Engine 54

*Firefighter Jose Guadalupe
Firefighter Leonard Ragaglia
Firefighter Christopher Santora
Firefighter Paul Gill*

On the 18th floor, Ladder 4, Engine 54, firefighters were given a new assignment. Virtually all 56 elevators in the tower were inoperable, many with trapped occupants inside. Their new task was to locate the elevators, force open the doors and free the occupants.

The small tools the firefighters carried were ineffective for the job. That's when Michael Lynch came up with the idea to get the Hurst tool, commonly known as the "Jaws of Life," to get the doors open. The Hurst tool is primarily used at vehicle accident scenes to pry open doors of wrecked cars and trucks. Lynch and his partner went down 18 stories, picked up the Hurst tool and the hydraulic pump, brought it back up and went to work. And that's what they were doing when the tower collapsed.

Exactly six months later, the remains of Lynch and his partner were discovered with the Hurst tool at their side. Engine 54 was later found, 50' below grade. A firefighter crawled into the wrecked cab of the truck and the engine fired up amid cheers at ground zero.

Of the 15 firefighters that responded from Ladder 4, Engine 54, that day, only three survived.

Never, ever forget.

Ladder 4

*Captain David Wooley
Lieutenant Daniel O'Callaghan
Firefighter Joseph Angellini, Jr.
Firefighter Samuel Oitice
Firefighter Michael Haub
Firefighter John Tipping
Firefighter Michael Lynch
Firefighter Michael Brennan*

Hydrants, Hydrants, Hydrants!!!!



Too Low



Poor Visibility

One of the primary components of a fire attack includes fire hydrant access for a water supply. This is why it is important to maintain clearances and accessibility to these devices.

NFPA 1 (2007 Edition) section 18.3.3.1 states: No person shall place or keep any post, fence, vehicle, growth, vegetation, trash or storage of other materials that would obstruct a fire hydrant or fire protection appliance and hinder or prevent its immediate use by fire department personnel. Such fire hydrant or fire protection appliance shall be maintained readily visible at all times.

Section 18.3.4.1 states: A clearance of 7' 6" in front of and to the side of the fire hydrant, with a 4' clearance to the rear of the hydrant must be maintained

If you see that a fire hydrant or other fire protection appliance with limited access that could slow down our firefighters access to water, please contact Fire-Safety Division (561)243-7425.



Peek A Boo

Can't see the hydrant from the road.....
(Hedges are in the way)
Blue road marker missing too!



This pole is a little too close!

Operations Division

Assistant Chief Russell Accardi

On August 29, 30, 31, 2011 our department participated in a countywide training initiative on high-rise firefighting in the vacant West Palm Beach City hall building. Fire Departments participating included: West Palm Beach, Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, Riviera Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Town of Palm Beach, North Palm Beach and some members from other agencies that did not have apparatus with them.

I kicked off each training session with a review of the countywide high-rise SOG's which were followed by a real time scenario involving smoke filled upper floors and unconscious victims that needed to be rescued. Hose lines were able to be charged which made it very realistic trying to maneuver the lines in the stairwells and through the maze of office areas on each floor. Crews gained valuable practice using the high-rise SOG and managing a large number of resources from multiple agencies as the incident commanders. We were only able to send two stations per day from each of our shifts. We will be scheduling further training in the near future to allow the remaining stations the opportunity to participate in this valuable training.

The department is currently working on enhancing our capabilities to manage incidents by the Incident Commander when we have multiple units operating on an incident. We are going to incorporate a new command and accountability board for our personnel to use which will be carried by Battalion 1, and will be expanded once the new budget becomes available.

In last months division report, I shared a fire fighter fatality investigation report related to a company officer being run over and killed by his own apparatus as he was backing his driver up to prepare to do a hose lay to the fire scene. This month I want to focus our attention to another real hazard that our personnel face on a daily basis, operating on the roadways and highways. The regular exposure to this particular hazard is frequent and we must not become complacent to the inherent dangers it presents to our personnel. Emergency responders working incidents on highways are struck and seriously injured or killed all too often.

A review of motor vehicle accidents (MVA's) for August 2011 revealed 32 were on I- 95 and 43 on all other roadways. This does not count vehicle fires or medical emergencies that may have occurred on these roads. This illustrates how often our personnel are working in this high hazard environment. We have all witnessed how fast traffic is moving on I-95 and people do not slow down or move over as they approach accident scenes. For this reason it is especially important for our personnel responding to a scene involving a highway incident, first control the oncoming vehicles before safely turning your attention to the emergency. This is actually one of the NIOSH recommendations from the case study we will review in this months report. The fire officer in charge of our personnel MUST ensure the scene is protected by proper positioning of the apparatus to shield the work area from an out of control vehicle. This responsibility does not end after the initial spotting of our apparatus, the Incident Commander must continue to monitor the scene to ensure a safe work environment is maintained and watch for a vehicle that may pose a threat to responders on scene. Please review the Delray Beach Fire-Rescue Department SOG that accompanies this article to ensure compliance with operating safely on the roadways. *Continues on page 6*

The NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation is just the summary, to view the entire report go to this link: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face9927.html>



NIOSH
Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation
and Prevention Program

Death in the line of duty...

A summary of a NIOSH fire fighter fatality investigation

December 30, 1999

One Fire Fighter Died and a Second Fire Fighter Was Severely Injured After Being struck by a Motor Vehicle on an Interstate Highway-Oklahoma

SUMMARY

On August 5, 1999, two career fire fighters were struck by a motor vehicle on a wet and busy interstate. One 42-year-old male fire fighter (the victim) was killed, and a 41-year-old male fire fighter was seriously injured. Ladder 2 (Captain and two fire fighters) and Squad 2 (two fire fighters, one of which was the victim) responded to a single motor vehicle crash (car #1) that had occurred on an interstate highway. After arriving on scene, the driver of Ladder 2 parked near the median wall approximately 150 yards directly behind Squad 2 with the emergency lights turned on and operating, providing protection from oncoming traffic for both the occupant of the initial motor vehicle crash and Squad 2 personnel. Approximately 2-3 minutes after arriving on scene, Ladder 2 was hit from behind by a motor vehicle (car #2). injuries of the driver, the Captain from Ladder 2 attempted to flag traffic away from car #2 and the Ladder truck.

The personnel from Ladder 2, along with the victim from Squad 2, attended to the injuries of the driver from car #2 that hit Ladder 2. While the fire fighters attended to the Captain from Ladder 2 attempted to flag traffic away from car #2 and the Ladder truck. At this time the fire fighter from Squad 2, who was directing traffic near car #1, noticed a car cresting the top of the overpass (note: the overpass has an elevation change which makes it similar to a hill with both sides having a slope), on the inside lane, and was rapidly approaching Ladder 2. He yelled out two warnings over the radio "Ladder 2 Captain, watch out behind you" as the car lost control. As the fire fighter from Ladder 2 and the victim from Squad 2 were attempting to move the injured driver from car #2 to a safer area between the wall and Ladder 2, the car (#3), which was out of control, spun backward. While traveling backward, the car impacted the median wall (approximately 20 yards east of Ladder 2), sliding between the wall and Ladder 2, missing the Captain and one of the fire fighters from Ladder 2, before striking the other two fire fighters and the injured driver from car #2. The two fire fighters and the injured driver were thrown approximately 47 feet from the point of impact, killing the fire fighter from Squad 2 and seriously injuring both the fire fighter from Ladder 2 and the driver from car #2. NIOSH investigators conclude that, to minimize the risk of similar occurrences, fire departments should: *continued on page 7*

Establish and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) regarding emergency operations for highway incidents

Ensure that the fire apparatus is positioned to take advantage of topography and weather conditions (uphill and upwind) and to protect fire fighters from traffic

Ensure that fire fighters responding to a scene involving a highway incident or fire must first control the oncoming vehicles before safely turning their attention to the emergency in the event police have not arrived

Ensure that personnel position themselves and any victim(s) in a secure area when it is impossible to protect the incident scene from immediate danger

Additionally, other agencies, such as the Department of Highways (DOH) should consider:

The use of a "changeable message sign" to inform motorists of hazardous road conditions or vehicular accidents



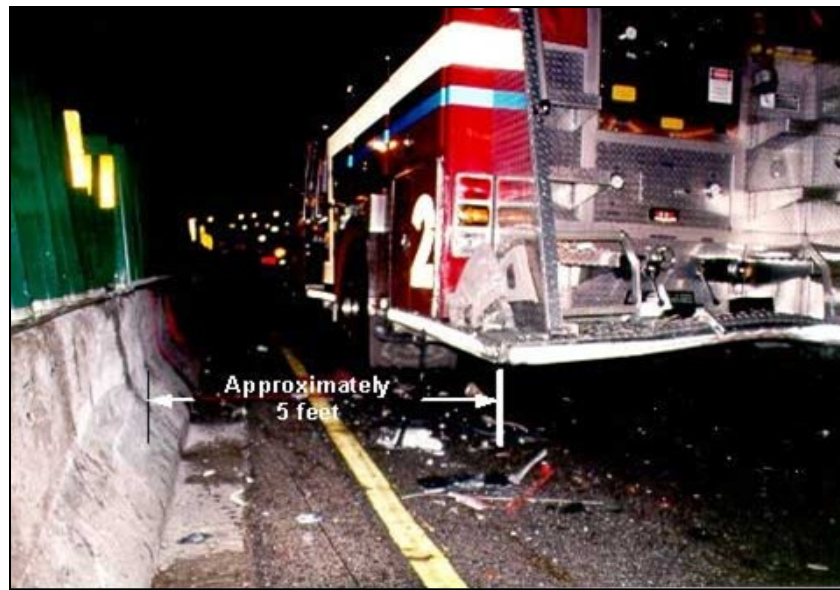
Photo 1 - Incident Scene
View from back of scene

View of scene from side



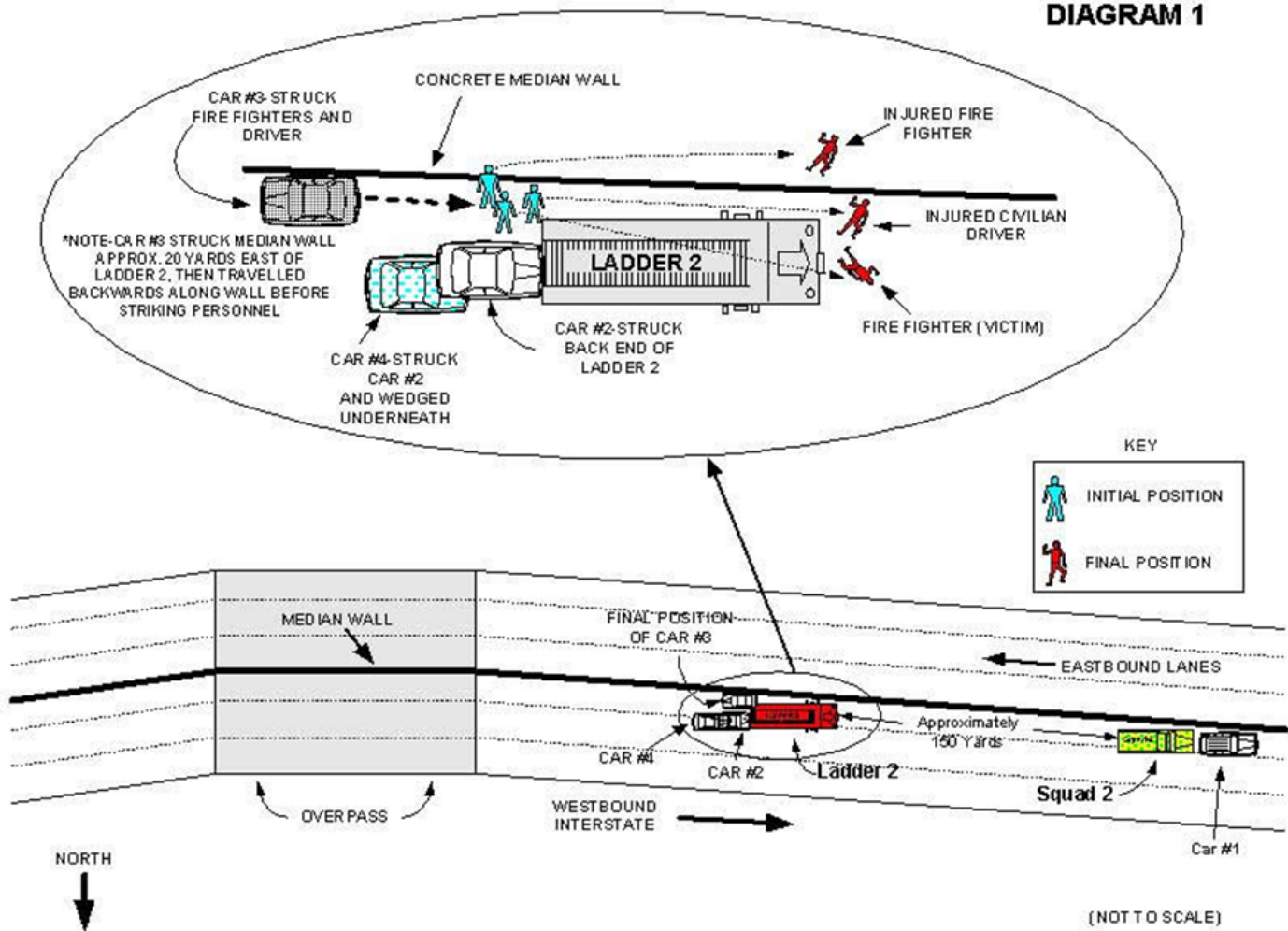
continued on page 8

Photo 2



Ladder 2 after vehicles were removed

DIAGRAM 1





**Delray Beach Fire-Rescue Department
Standard Operating Guidelines**

Volume: II	Operations
Chapter: 1	Operational Procedures
Section: 10	Emergency Response to All Roadways
Date: 11/30/10	David C. James, Fire-Rescue Chief



1.01

PURPOSE:

Provide specific procedures to ensure the safety of emergency personnel (Law Enforcement/EMS) and the general public while conducting emergency operations on the scene of traffic accidents, fires, or other emergencies.

NOTIFICATION:

It is the responsibility of the Incident Manager to notify the necessary agencies needed to provide resources that will successfully mitigate the incident scene and restore normal traffic flow. These may include: D.O.T., D.E.P., private contractors, towing agencies, or additional public safety agencies.

COOPERATION:

Cooperation between law enforcement and fire department personnel is essential. Law enforcement personnel should stop or slow traffic if fire department personnel are working in traffic lanes. Fire department personnel will assist law enforcement personnel in restoring normal traffic flow as soon as it can be safely accomplished.

RESPONSIBILITY:

- A. Law Enforcement – traffic control, scene security/safety, investigation.
- B. Fire Department – life safety, incident stabilization, property conservation, environmental protection.

1.02

POLICY:

Delray Beach Fire-Rescue units will initiate traffic control at emergency scenes until control can be safely transferred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

1.03

AUTHORITY:

The authority vested in the Fire Chief by Florida Statute 166.021; Section 1.02 and 4.04 of the City of Delray Beach Charter; and Section 32.01, 32.21 and 33.20 of the City of Delray Beach Code of Ordinances.

Volume: II	Operations
Chapter: 1	Operational Procedures
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1.04 **RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of the Assistant Chief of Operations to review and update this policy.

1.05 **PROCEDURE:**

A. Incident Management the first arriving public safety agency representative will establish command and report the situation status to the other responding units. Unified command will be utilized if multiple agencies. The Incident Management System, as adopted by the Palm Beach County Fire Chief's Association, will be utilized at all incidents.

B. Scene Safety – No emergency operations will begin until the scene has been deemed safe to operate. All public safety personnel on-scene will make a coordinated initial effort to ensure these procedures are followed.

Fire apparatus shall be utilized as a shield from oncoming traffic wherever possible, when emergency operations require personnel to work in conflict with motor vehicle traffic.

When acting as a shield, apparatus warning lights shall remain on, and warning devices such as traffic cones, highway flares, or other appropriate warning devices shall be used to warn oncoming traffic of emergency operations. The apparatus should be parked at an angle so the personnel operating on-scene will be protected from traffic. Front wheels should be turned away from the incident so the apparatus will not be driven into them if struck from behind.

C. The control and direction of traffic shall be turned over to law enforcement ASAP.

D. Whenever Fire-Rescue personnel are exposed to traffic, they shall wear their assigned traffic vest and use traffic cones.

E. In areas where disputes over police jurisdiction exist, the ranking officer at the scene shall notify Communications to dispatch a Delray Beach Police Officer in order to protect our personnel until the correct agency arrives.

1.06 **REVOCATION:**

Delray Beach Fire-Rescue Department Guidelines Volume II, Chapter I, Section 10; Implemented June 14, 1994; Revision November 30, 2010.

1.07 **REVISION:**

All Sections

Training and Safety News

Joe Falcone, Acting Division Chief of Training and Safety

Firefighter Fitness

As we pass the anniversary of 9/11 several members completed a 5k in the area last weekend commemorating the lives lost on that dreadful day. Myself, Lt. Mockenhaupt, Lt. i Rose, Lt. Jepsen (side note: Curtis ran to the start from his house which is not very close), PM Tyler Adams, PM Fiorey, PM Hansley ran down in Ft. Lauderdale at the 1st annual Tunnel to Towers Run, and Jack Mckessy ran the Jeff Annas Memorial 5k. Myself, Lt. Mockenhaupt and PM Adams along with hundreds of other firefighters across the area ran the 5k in full gear and air pack making a 3.1 mile run that much more interesting. The race was a great way to remember a day that we should “Never Forget”.

Some upcoming races and challenges coming up from some of our members include Lt. Jepsen and Lt. Beardsley representing the IAFF Burn Foundation in the **Chicago Marathon** in October. PM Thompson made the podium in a recent **Miami Speedway Sprint Triathlon** down in Miami. I am competing in the **Escape to Miami Olympic Distance Triathlon** in September and running a **North Face Endurance 50 mile Trail Race** this October in Georgia. Lt. Mockenhaupt has organized a team for the November **Fight for Air Stair Climb** in Ft. Lauderdale in which already has PM Walker on the team. We also have the **Tough Mudder** coming up in December and still looking for teammates to join the fun. Eng Torres competed in the hyper-competitive CrossFit games this past summer with his gym HardCore Fitness and represented very well. If you have competed or are doing something that others may want to join please let me know and share your story.

You may now notice Concept 2 rowing machines in five of our stations and we really are fortunate to have that piece of equipment available to us. Let me know if there are any problems with the machine or if you need help using it.

Health and Safety

I mentioned Cyanide poisoning last month and here are some more facts about the signs and symptoms of Cyanide poisoning and refer to our EMS protocol for how to handle such an exposure. Cyanide kits are carried on EMS 1 and Medic 5.

Cyanide poisoning can be difficult to detect. The effects of cyanide ingestion are very similar to the effects of suffocation; because cyanide stops the cells of the body from being able to use oxygen, which all cells need to survive. The symptoms of cyanide poisoning are similar to those experienced when hiking or climbing at high altitudes: general weakness, confusion, bizarre behavior, excessive sleepiness, coma, shortness of breath, headache, dizziness, and seizures can all present with cyanide poisoning. Typically, an acute ingestion will have a dramatic, rapid onset, immediately affecting the heart and causing sudden collapse. It can also immediately affect the brain and cause a seizure or coma.

Chronic poisoning (over a long period of time) from ingestion or environmental poisoning will have a more gradual onset. The skin of a cyanide-poisoned person can sometimes be unusually pink or cherry-red because oxygen will stay in the blood and not get into the cells. The person may also breathe very fast and have either a very fast or very slow heartbeat. Sometimes the person's breath can smell like bitter almonds, though this can be difficult to detect. Perhaps most important is the setting, rather than the signs or symptoms. A person, who works in a laboratory or plastics factory, has a higher risk of cyanide poisoning. Home, RV, boat, or building fires, always include the additional concern of cyanide exposure.

As you can see Cyanide poisoning can easily be overlooked at a fire and be simply attributed to general smoke inhalation or Carbon Monoxide poisoning. We need to be vigilant and report abnormal findings to the ER doctor and our own medical director Dr. Kushnir to possibly begin treatment with a Cyano-Kit. Refer to page 104 in our protocols for the use of our own Cyano-kits. Also, “Google” the Cyanide poisoning that occurred in Providence, Rhode Island recently that involved seven of their firefighters.

EMS News

Steve Anderson, EMS Division Chief

This month the EMS Division has been working very closely with Ocean Rescue to bring their personnel up-to-date with Dr. Kushnir's BLS protocols. With the introduction of these new protocols, Ocean Rescue is facing the same learning curve we experienced several months ago. With this in mind, Acting Lieutenant Baker is preparing a joint training exercise for October. Focus of the training will be on improving efficiency while working with Ocean Rescue when removing a patient from the beach. If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see in this training exercise, please contact Acting Lieutenant Baker.

During September 28-30, and October 5-7, we are scheduled to provide Adult Immunizations in our area. If you've received the Flu Training and are on-duty during one of these dates, and would like to volunteer, please notify your Battalion Chief. This is a great opportunity to interact with our elderly citizens during a non-emergent experience.

If you haven't heard the EMS Division has been following up all "Alerts". Weekly we've been receiving patient outcome information from the hospitals and pushing this information out to the treating crew members. To assist use with this process, when notifying dispatch of your "Alert", remind them to enter the "Alert" on the command line. This will initiate the patient outcome feedback loop.

I would like to thank everyone who assisted me with the asset tag inventory. Your assistance made the process move along quickly and the information provided will help your EMS Supervisor in the future track equipment more efficiently.

Keep up the good work. Our reputation for quality patient care continues to be recognized as the highest standards in Palm Beach County.



I want to thank each and every one that participated in this year's boot drive!!!

I am proud that we are able to maintain a high level of professionalism and continue to give back to the community in which we serve.

The following stations will have dinner on the union, please have your receipts to me no later than September 26, 2011.

Station # 3 "A" Shift Lt. Mockenhaupt and Crew \$1026.6

Station # 4 "B" Shift Lt. Dagnan and Crew \$958.74

Station # 5 "C" Shift Lt. Beardsley and Crew \$648.85

Individual Total:

Winner- Paramedic Mike Boyd \$324.25

Second Place- Paramedic Lt. Shawn Beckowitz \$301.84.

I also want to thank:

Station # 4 "A" Shift Lt. McAlley and Crew \$592.55

Station # 6 "B" Shift Lt. Wise and Crew \$600.65

Station # 2 "C" Shift Lt. Staab and Crew \$470.85

Overall, our Local 2928 collected over \$90,000.00 for this three day event. This money will go a long way for Jerry's Kids!!!!

Thanks Again,
Lt. James Tabek

MDA is the world's largest non-governmental sponsor of research seeking the causes of and effective treatments for neuromuscular diseases, sponsoring 330 research projects annually.



September

Birthdays

3rd

*Jerome Weatherspoon
Joseph Drayson*

20th

Richard Bush

7th

*Curtis Jepsen
Odell Lewis*

24th

*Mark Siciliano
Daniel Waldrep*

8th

*Darren Gurley
John Kavanagh*

25th

Mark Dagnan

28th

Conor Devery

10th

John Staab

29th

James Bast

Anniversary

9th

*Michael Boyd
Michael Rodriguez*

Omar Torres

9 years

19th

*Jay Gunsten
Brian Fiorey*

6 years

