



**CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

**GEOFFREY HERALD, CFO
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 21 January to 21 February and details activities of the Department.

We would again like to draw your attention to the risks of alternate heating devices. Improper uses of space heaters and poor maintenance of other devices such as wood stoves, pellet stoves and chimneys create many risks. Space heaters are especially worrisome as they are often compromised by failure to read the owner's manual and to operate correctly within manufacturer's guidelines. A recent serious fire in the state that was caused by an improperly used space heater points out these concerns.

Though we are nearly through with this winter, there is still the chance for severe cold and snow storms. Please continue to use caution when using fireplaces and space heaters and follow all specifications for safe operations. These precautions must include the installation and use of carbon monoxide detectors. Should you have questions, please contact the Community Risk Reduction Offices of the Fire Marshal for guidance and information at 203-796-1541.

The City of Danbury through cooperation of the Fire Department and the Danbury Hospital has become a very safe city. A medical condition that is especially critical to patients is Stroke. The hospital's ability to treat patients successfully is recognized nationwide. However, to successfully treat these events, the patient and those around them must be aware of the warning signs of strokes and get care by calling 911 immediately. Those symptoms are listed here:

- Numbness or weakness in your face, arm, or leg, especially on one side
- Confusion or trouble understanding other people
- Trouble speaking
- Trouble seeing with one or both eyes
- Trouble walking, dizziness or staying balanced or coordinated
- Severe headache that comes on for no known reason

If you experience any of the symptoms listed do not attempt to drive yourself to the hospital. Note that sometimes symptoms of stroke develop gradually. But if you are having a stroke, you are more likely to have one or more sudden onset warning signs like these.

Public Education/Prevention/Public Relations

Danbury Plaza Hotel, which is under renovation was toured. Another tour was conducted at the New Army Reserve Training Center, which is quite extensive, and should open later this year.

A jump box was used to assist a motorist whose car had a dead battery at the Shell station on Lake Avenue. A company retrieved keys from a storm drain for a citizen.

Meetings and Preparation measures were taken for a large winter storm.

Suppression/Response Activities of Note

Companies responded to 36 Harbor Ridge Road for a reported structure fire for candle wax ignited by heat from a fireplace. The homeowner was able to contain the fire with a dry-chem extinguisher.

The department responded to an MVA of a Kia Soul and Honda Accord at the West St./New St. intersection. Both drivers, one of whom was pregnant, were transported to the hospital, and the debris field filling the intersection was cleared.

A broken sprinkler head at Wooster Manor was quickly isolated and shut down by responding crews, who also assisted in dewatering. A Deputy Fire Marshal came to investigate as Maintenance reported the same head broke twice in a month.

A midday house fire on Dogwood Drive presented some challenges as the occupant was initially trapped in the house. With the help of two female passersby, the occupant was aroused from his sleep and was able to make it to the rear door where he was led to safety by DFD personnel. The fire was extinguished in short order. Four Career Companies, three Volunteer Companies, along with one Fire Unit from Bethel responded. The occupant was transported to the hospital by City EMS and admitted with burns and Carbon Monoxide poisoning; he made a full recovery.

A serious car accident occurred on Great Plain Road, and tragically a young man was killed. Engine 23 along with Squad 1 and Engine 22 utilized recently obtained Paratech Strut to stabilize the vehicle, so that Firefighters could crawl into the wreckage and remove the victim. Career members were assisted by volunteers from Germantown and Water Witch Fire Companies. The victim was quickly transferred to the care of City EMS and taken to the hospital.



Command and Staff Activities

- 1-21-13 Red Cross Blood Drive Fire department Headquarters
- 1-23-13 Meeting with Mill Plain Volunteer Hose Company
- 1-24-13 Fire House Software Meeting
- 1-25-13 Annual Cirma Meeting
- 1-26-13 Volunteer 10 Germantown Hose Company annual dinner
- 1-31-13 Volunteer 3 Padanaram Hose Company annual dinner
- 2-7-13 Firehouse Software Training
- 2-14-13 Telestaff Software Meeting
- 2-15-13 Mass Mutual Meeting at Headquarters
- 2-21-13 Vice President Biden's Visit at WCSU



Donations

A \$100 donation was received from Dr. & Mrs. Efren Rebong.

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

The continuous education program, EMS Wednesday, was designed to meet EMS certification requirements of the Fire Department's First Responder program. These classes held while on duty allow firefighters to stay current with pre-hospital care techniques and to maintain sharp practical skills.

The topic for this month's EMS Wednesday is Patient Assessment. Patient Assessment is a systematic approach to discover immediate life-threatening problems so that treatment can be provided by the Fire Department's First Responders to stabilize the patient's condition during Emergency medical calls before transport to the Hospital's Emergency Department.

The Danbury Fire Department First Responder Program is a key part of the EMS system. Cross-trained firefighters that are continuously trained in lifesaving skills are rapidly deployed to the scene of emergency medical calls, and this training has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

Training - Mark Omasta

Volunteer Division

Quarterly

First quarter training classes are underway covering OSHA mandated Biohazards along with Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives.

Career Division

Web based Training: Our on line training component with Kaplan University Fire and EMS is now active. All personnel received orientation training and are now taking assigned classes including topics in EMS, Firefighting, Haz Mat, Officer and Technical Rescue.

This web based training program will be an efficient and flexible way to deliver a portion of our annual training requirements.

Elevator Emergency Class: All crews attended the Ct Fire Academy's presentation of their Elevator Emergency Refresher class. WCSU allowed the crews to use elevators at the downtown campus for the practical portion of the class.

Driver Training: Four firefighters successfully completed their driver training requirements this month. Gabe Rivera and Nick Velotti for Pump Operator and Jon DeJoseph and Gary Bruce for Aerial Operator.

Light Duty: Personnel on light duty are working on data entry and updating our records on our 2,000 our plus city hydrants.

Fire School : We are in the bid process for the installation of safety railings for the roof on the burn building.

Instructor I: Lt. Bart McCleary and FF Rich Krikorian are enrolled in the 48 hr. Instructor course being held on weekends in Winsted.

Meetings/ events for the T.O.

- Jan 31 Engine 3 Annual Dinner
- Feb 7 Monthly CT Instructors meeting
- Jan 30, Feb. 6,14,20, 27 Mentor at Rogers Park
- Feb 11 Union meeting
- Feb 13 Legislative update on the Regional Fire Schools Construction project
- Feb 15 Meet with Elks club over possible training site on Sugar Hollow Rd
- Feb 21 Structure Fire Assignment – 16 Hayestown Rd



FF Rivera and Lt Handau during the Pump Operator practical test



Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

All of the Department's 4 Gas meters were calibrated this month, Truck -1's meter is out of service and needed to be returned to the factory for repair. The oxygen sensor in E-24's meter was replaced. The on board charger from Truck-2 was returned from Kussmaul and reinstalled. The on board charger from Squad-1 was removed and sent to Kussmaul for repair. E-22 was out of service again this month with a defective doser nozzle which was replaced by Detroit Diesel under warranty. We have accomplished the fire extinguisher changeover. Apparatus met with Crowley Ford to discuss vehicle purchases. We installed a modem, laptop charger and laptop in Squad-1. Truck-1 has given us issues while trying to bed the ladder. We are currently working with our dealer in an effort to repair this problem. Our equipment weathered the snowstorm quite well, we had no breakdowns and no equipment incapacitated due to Blizzard of 2013.

Other repairs completed:

- Repair Bullet saw damaged at Hayestown Ave fire.
- Replaced 18 tires on various apparatus.
- Replaced battery in 06FX2.
- Serviced 06FX1.
- Replaced alternator and belt in 03FT1.
- Upgraded Headquarters Plymovents with new quick release kits.
- Repaired snow blower after digging out hydrants.
- Replaced wires and spark plugs in 97F1.

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal - James Johnson

This month DFM Gillotti went with the UNIT team to Townhill Ave for a complaint of storage in an attic which was part of a landlord tenant dispute. DFM Leach spent many hours doing NIFIRS reports for Chief Herald as well as annual surveys and volunteer entries. He also is working with Finance in securing bids for smoke detectors which will be given to those in need.

Classes in Firehouse software have been attended. DFM Osborne has been concentrating on business and mercantile this month. DFM Perry has been overseeing the Shops at Marcus Dairy project on Sugar Hollow Rd which is moving along at a good pace. DFM Russell attended a mock DHS lockdown this month with the DPD. All went very well. Work continues with the Fire Prevention poster contest, such as printing out certificates and making sure each child is recognized for their efforts! We all have been at the ice rink for the Whalers hockey games paying close attention to code enforcement. We also have been at the High School for boys basketball games for code enforcement.

There was a structure fire at 6 Dogwood Drive handled by DFM Weber. This was a Saturday afternoon. Cause determined to be accidental, owner taken to hospital.

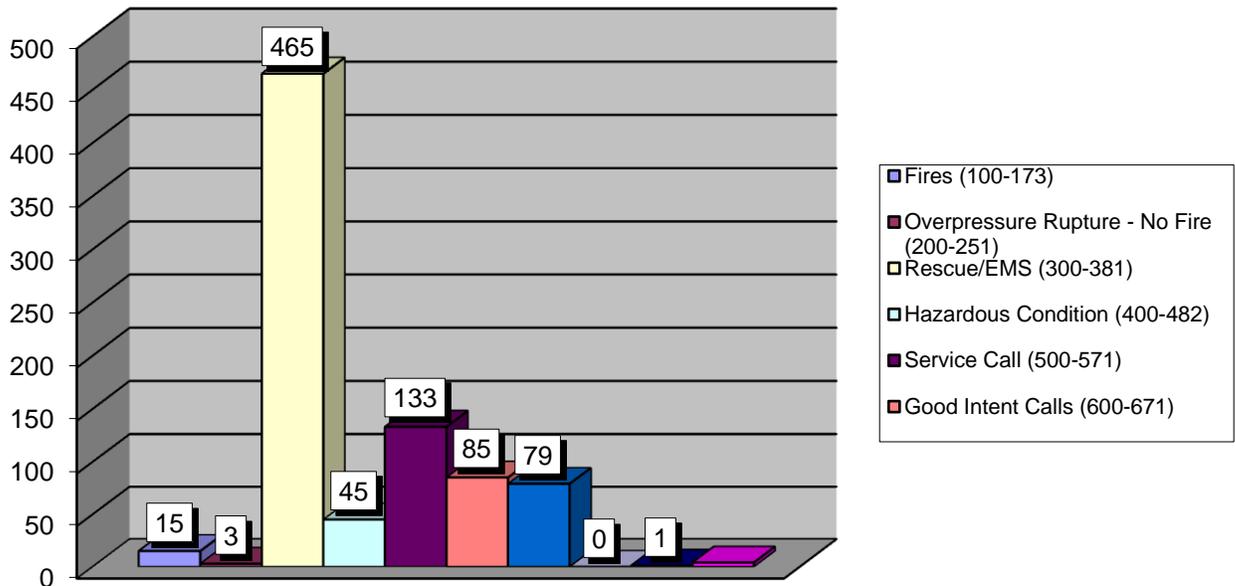
Department Statistical Reports

Monthly inspections: 124

There were no abatement orders written

4 ticket violations issued

Fire Response Breakdown Jan 21 to Feb 21, 2013



911 Center Activity Jan 21 to Feb 21, 2013

