



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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March 30, 2005

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of February 22nd to March 27th and details some of the activities of the Department.

The Department was notified this month that our grant application from the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA has been approved. This award will enable the department to modify radio communication systems to a fixed site system. This modification will improve communications, safety and provide the City with an interoperable channel in cases of major emergency as well as routine incidents.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- c. The Department participated in Danbury Hospitals Kid's Day on April 19th. This annual event always provides an opportunity for hundreds of our City's youth to interact with firefighters and our equipment.
- d. Firefighter Jordan Leach participated in a fire safety presentation to the Hispanic Center. The program was attended by dozens of City residents.
- e. The department provided a "File of Life" presentation for senior residents at 51 Main Street. The program provides education and a storage envelope to secure vital medical information for our seniors in case of emergency. Responders are able to take the packet of information off of the refrigerator and transport patients without delay. The

project is a joint program between the department and firefighters Local 801.

- f. The Department held a class on fire department operations and development for 20 members of the 411th Civil Affairs Unit.
- e. The department continued preplan activities this month. Facilities and areas visited include: 7 West Street, 2 Great Pasture Road, Lyons Condo's, Stetson Place, Liberty Street, Berkshire Shopping Center, Mill Plain Road Agway, Party town, Avalon Apartments, Mt. Vie Terrace, Western's Science Building, crystal Bay Condos, Danbury Fair Mall and 16 Pembroke Road.
- f. The Department participated in the Annual Girl Scout "Know Your City" Day. We were privileged to have three scouts join us for a full day of insight into the inner workings of the fire service.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- a. Two Significant extrications took place this month. No fatalities were involved off of Pembroke Road although the situation required four ambulances to transport patients. A Main street MVA resulted in one fatality after a vehicle struck two houses. The entire roof had to be removed from the vehicle.
- b. A major structure fire on Stevens Place was familiar to many firefighters. The fire was located at a house that burned seven years ago. Ironically not only was the address the same but the location, cause and occupant were similar as well.
- c. Off duty Firefighter's John Halas and Jamie Schiller stopped on the Saw Mill Parkway to assist a trapped woman involved in a rollover accident. They were able to extricate her and hold traction until emergency responders arrived. As a bonus they did not miss their flight and it departed on time.

Emergency Medical Services/Haz-Mat

EMS Wednesday. The continuous education program is designed to meet EMS certification requirements of the Fire department 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 has been an EMT-B curriculum review.

The following Firefighters are scheduled to take the State of Ct. EMT certification test on March 30th, 2005 at Beaver brook Fire House.

F.F. Arteaga	F.F. Johnson	F.F. Daly	F.F. Appley	F.M. Rickert
F.F. Bertrand	F.F. Kennedy	F.F. Delheohery	Lt. Ballard	DFM Perry
F.F. Anderson	Capt .Williams	F.F. Gerlach	F.F. Holister	T.O. Thorne
Capt. Herald	F.F. Rozzi	F.F. Krikorian	F.F. Horosky	
Lt. Kirkwood	F.F. McQuade	F.F. McGowan	Lt. Lounsbury	
F.F. Singer		Lt. McNulty	F.F. Lyle	
		Lt. Plank	F.F. Sedlak	
		F.F. Tomchik	F.F. Easter	

The Danbury Fire Department First Responder Program is a key part of the EMS system, cross-trained firefighters that have the knowledge of lifesaving skills are rapidly deployed to the scene of a medical calls, this ability coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like "CPR Saturday" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

Haz-Mat Team training

Members of Haz-Mat team completed a training evolution on February 25, 2005, this four-hour training evolution focused on metering and monitoring with the metering package that the department has received from the Office of Domestic preparedness. The following individuals that attended the Train the Trainer course on Metering and Monitoring that the Danbury Fire Department sponsored last June Capt Herald, Capt. Williams, Firefighter Tom Corbett, and Firefighter Jeff Tomchik provided an in-depth lecture and a hands on practical skill session on the various meters supplied to the Department by Office of Domestic Preparedness. . The metering package includes the:

The Scott four- gas meter

The APD 2000 Chemical weapon detector

The Mini Rae Carbon atom chemical detector

The Dragger Colorimetric tube and chip set

The Geiger- Ludlum radiological detect

Haz-Mat Thursday

Because of the complexities that Hazardous Materials responses present and the fact that they are labor intensive, education and training is the first responder's first line of defense. The ability for First Responders to switch gears from fire suppression, to rescue, to EMS to support functions to a specialized team is imperative in today's day in age

Following on the success of EMS Wednesday the first continuous education class geared towards Hazardous Materials for all line personnel was held this month on Thursdays. A review on

technical decon and the familiarization of the new decon pools were the focus of this months classes.

COMMUNICATIONS/911

Software Upgrades

The Communications Supervisor continues to play an integral part in public safety upgrades. The current enhancements are providing more options and information to responders and dispatchers.

Emergency Medical Dispatch

The oversight board continues to evaluate the impact of EMD legislation on our resources. Training and proficiency reviews continue to enhance the service delivery.

TRAINING - Jim Thorne

The Firefighter I class for volunteer firefighters is in its 9th week. Many volunteers are opting out of the class early to respond at a support or exterior fashion. This option gets volunteer firefighters to respond earlier with their companies, improving recruitment and retention.

A Fire Officer class is scheduled to begin this month at fire headquarters. Approximately 20 career firefighters will be in attendance.

A Fire Service Instructor class is being set up for the upcoming months. Both the Fire Officer and Instructor classes will enhance the caliber of training for our officers. We will remain the department with the highest

number of certified fire officers and instructors in the State.

The first quarter training for the volunteer component has been completed.

Crew training involved portable tank operation and drafting, Hurst tool reviews, Decontamination drills, aerial operations, ropes/knots, fitness training, apparatus placement, air bag refreshers, ground ladder work, deck gun operations, defibrillator use and lockout tag-out kit use.

Apparatus/Equipment Maintenance

We have received the donated pipe tool from Danbury Hospital and placed it in service on the truck company.

Engine 25 repairs were completed and it is back in service. Repairs consisted of a new fuel tank, two new air tanks, rebuilding discharge valves and a replacement horn relay valve.

Our newly received order of fire hose is currently being tested to be placed into service.

Good of the Organization

- a. The department has chosen Firefighter John A. Kennedy as the recipient of this year's Rotary Club Firefighter of the Year. Kennedy will be honored with the Police Officer of the Year on April 14th at the Amber Room. Kennedy was chosen for his heroic actions at a November trench collapse.
- b. The Deputy Chief conducted an EMS oversight meeting this month. Operational difficulties were discussed. The board is designed to maintain good communication and continually evaluate service delivery.
- c. The Chief attended Career Chiefs, Homeland Security and Fairfield County Chiefs meetings this month.

Facility/Project Updates

Station 25 - King Street

The Engineering Department is still awaiting final plans from the architect. A recent issue with mold and a failing septic system has put some operational pressure on the project. The proposed septic system has been put out to bid, costs will be shared by the City and Volunteer company. A portable housing unit may be used for relocation of firefighters during construction. The unit may be in place sooner if the current mold issues become problematic.

Station 26 - Westside

A draft report on site selection has been forwarded to the City for evaluation. Upon approval of the final recommendation design plans will be finalized.

Fire Training School

We are awaiting construction to resume now that the weather has warmed. New hydrants have been placed in the complex to aid in training evolutions.

Dates of Importance

April 3rd - Half Marathon - 5K Memorial Drive

April 9th - Clean City Danbury Day

April 10th - Tortoise and Hare 5K, Danbury Mall

**April 14th - Rotary Club Firefighter/Police Officer of the Year
Dinner, Amber Room**

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	13
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	3
Rescue/EMS	320
Hazardous Condition	34
Service Calls	42
Good Intent Calls	71
False Alarm/False Calls	65
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	0