



**A Tradition of
Excellence
in Public Safety
Since 1872**

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Fire Chief

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Salisbury Fire Department Newsletter

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4th Quarter - 2016

From the Desk of the Chief

What are Operational versus Corporate Responsibilities?

We have moved into the new fiscal year and a new year of challenges and opportunities for the SFD. Over the last year we have identified areas for improving our relationships and our operations. For as long as I can remember the relationships between the fire department administration and the four separate, but equal sections of the department, have seen times of tumult and times of cohesiveness. For the most part, we spend our time in a state of euphoria, but as in all families we occasionally disagree and spat, always returning to being a family oriented and organized to accomplish our mission of protecting our community.



Beginning in January of this year I instituted a new series of meetings with the volunteer corporate leadership, designed to improve our relationships and to create a spirit of unity between the FD administration and the three corporations. Each month we have gathered together to discuss those things that each representative find to be important and to work together to reach common ground solutions. I am proud to say that many good ideas have been generated, discussed, and agreed upon in this group. However, we have struggled to implement any of the solutions to date and so far traction has been elusive.

An example of one issue that has come from the group's efforts was a discussion on what things fall under operational authority and what falls under corporate authority. This was a topic that all felt was important to help delineate responsibility and to un-blur the lines that have occasionally crossed between the two. The final consensus was that any event directly related to the planning, response to, and execution of operations was the sole responsibility of the FD administration to manage. Likewise any event that is sponsored, planned, and managed by one of the corporations falls under the auspices of that corporation.

From the Desk of the Chief (continued)

It is stipulated that there may be something that crosses between the two but we felt that this would be rare if we followed the guidelines presented here. Now, what does this mean? It means that whatever the event (falls into one of the two categories) the authority to manage, direct, and control it falls into the specific authority of either operations or corporations. I should state here that every member of the team (Chief, DC Volunteer Services, and Corporate Presidents) unanimously agreed to this solution and voted to move forward under this agreement. I am very proud of the efforts of the team to accomplish this very important task and look forward to working under this agreement.

There are a still lot more things going on in the SFD!! I am happy to report that there is still work to do as we progress to becoming a best in class emergency services organization. I continue to be amazed at the efforts of our dedicated members. My confidence is high in the men and women of the department and their dedication to excellence. As we work toward our goals, I can state with unwavering certainty that the members of the Salisbury Fire Department deserve all of the credit for our achievements and successes.

In closing, the men and women of the Salisbury Fire Department are proud to provide a tradition of excellent public safety service to the residents of the Salisbury Fire District. On behalf of the citizens we are sworn to protect, I thank them for their continued support and want them to know that their service is valued and much appreciated. As we look forward to another great year, we will continue to remain focused on the mission, core values, and vision for our department. I look forward, with great confidence that we will ultimately be a truly integrated combination fire service that provides the very best in public safety.

Respectfully Yours in Service,

Richard A. Hoppes

Richard A. Hoppes, BS, Chief of the Department

Station I

Assistant Chief Cory Polidore - Captain Ben Waples - Acting Lieutenant Justin Elliott

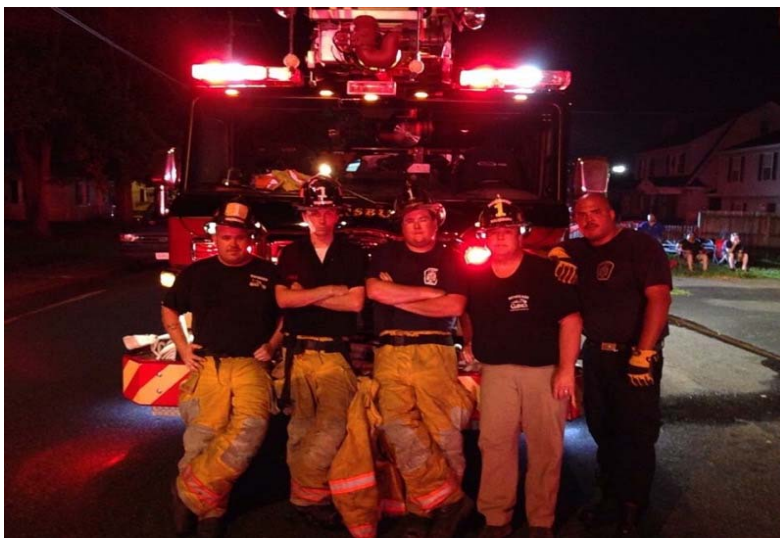


The membership of Station I hopes that everyone is enjoying a safe summer. While the summer is typically a time for rest and relaxation, we have had a lot going on. We recently had three members complete the Department's Firefighter I academy. Congratulations to Firefighters Khara Kessler, Rachel Snyder, and Wilson Cohey. As these members, along with three others, finish the Hazardous Material for First Responders: Operations Level class, they will be fully cleared to ride and operate in hazardous environments. Strong work and we look forward to watching all of you grow and continue to learn.

Over the past 7 months we have had a large number of members enroll and perform very well in the MFRI EMT program. They are currently finishing up their testing process before they will be allowed to provide emergency medical care to the public. We are very proud of those members, as this class is a long and work-intensive program. We hope all of our new members continue to train, learn and grow so they may better serve the public.

Fire Captain Ben Waples was recently recognized at the promotional ceremony for his completion of the Acting Assistant Fire Chief mentoring process. With his completion of this process, Captain Waples is able to perform the tasks of an Assistant Fire Chief and fill that role as needed. Congratulations Captain Waples.

Keep your eyes and ears open as you may hear or see advertisements on WBOC and 102.5FM. The Department is currently running a membership drive as all three volunteer corporations are trying to increase their membership. Please take a minute to pay attention and listen to the ad. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer member, please do not hesitate to contact the Department and ask questions or submit an application.



Station 2

Assistant Chief Joel Dixon - Acting Captain Corey Allensworth - Lieutenant Doug Parker

The members at Station 2 have had a busy quarter. To start, we would like to congratulate those members who recently completed Firefighter I and those who have completed EMT-Basic. We would also like to congratulate Corey Allensworth on his recent promotion to Acting Captain.

The department was approached by Salisbury Christian School who requested assistance in demolishing a building on their property. After a lengthy preparation process, the health department approved the request to conduct a controlled burn. On May 21 we conducted the NFPA 1403 acquired structure burn. Members from Stations 1, 2, and 16 completed eight exercises with the assistance of the Delmar and Parsonsburg Fire Departments. After the training exercises were safely completed, operations transitioned from an NFPA 1403 compliant acquired structure burn into a controlled burn.



Organizations throughout the country are struggling to find volunteers and ours is no exception. Stations 1, 2, and 16 are authorized to have 120 volunteers, currently we only have 97 active members. With the increase in call volume and the number of active members dropping, Station 2 decided to spearhead a multi-tiered recruiting campaign to address this problem. We have members attending various public events like 3rd Friday, members working in conjunction with WBOC to have radio commercials aired on 102.5 FM and TV commercials played on Fox 21. Finally, we are looking forward to working with WBOC to have a segment on Delmarva Life next month.

Just recently our members moved from the oldest fire house in the city to a new state of the art facility. Our career and volunteer members have vacated our old building located at 801 Brown Street and moved into our new building located at 419 Naylor Street. While many of our members have worked tirelessly to bring this to fruition, there is still much that needs to be done. The leadership at Station 2 would like to give a special thanks to those who helped in this endeavor. We continue to look forward to turning this new station into our home for years to come.

While we recognize that our organization faces many challenges: Failure is not an option! We are proud of our longstanding heritage of serving the citizens of Salisbury and look forward to continuing that tradition in the future.



Historical Corner

Assistant Chief Bryan W. Records

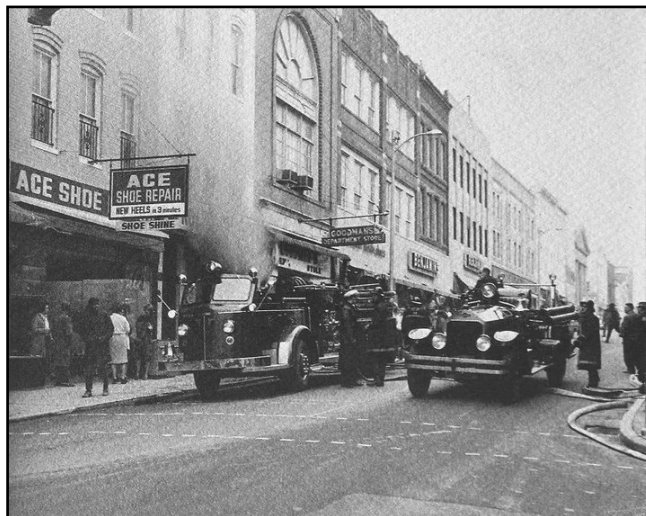
A Century of Service



On July 6, 2016 a major milestone was reached within our department. On that date Old Number 2 celebrated 100 years of service to the Salisbury Fire Department and the City of Salisbury. The Mayor and Council President were authorized to execute the contract for Engine 2 from American LaFrance Fire Engine Company on Monday, March 13, 1916. The City Fathers had

accepted the recommendation of Chief Engineer Fred Grier Jr. to obtain the Triple Combination motor car which would be the first on the Eastern Shore. Triple combination represented pumping, chemical and hose. The first motorized vehicle in the department had only arrived a year earlier with the new Chiefs Buggy. At the time Fred Grier Jr. was the first and only person to hold a drivers license in Salisbury.

On July 17, 1916 pump testing was completed and on July 18th Engine 2 was placed in service under Chief George E. Serman. At that time the department operated an 1879 and 1875 steamers which combined could not match the flow of the new engine. Engine 2 responded to its first alarm on July 20, 1916 at Disharoon's Mill on Naylor Street for a small fire in saw dust. Over the years Engine 2 has been housed in three different firehouses. The 1896 station on West Church St., Headquarters at 143 S. Division Street and the current museum on Cypress Street. Over the years Engine 2 has responded to some of the largest fires in Salisbury's history including Disharpoons Mill, G.A. Bounds Mill and The Peninsula Hotel fire on January 29, 1929. It was on that sub-freezing night that Engine 2 suffered its only major mechanical failure. On that night where 33 people were saved; Engine 2 threw a rod in the motor. It was immediately sent back to American LaFrance and repaired. It was not uncommon for Engine 2 to travel well outside Salisbury for fires. My father told me stories of Engine 2 responding to



Historical Corner (continued)

Engine 2's length of service is quite impressive. As stated it entered service on July 18, 1916 and pumped at its last fire on December 30, 1963 at the Ulman Theater fire on West Main Street. However 1963 was not its end of service. Old Number 2 was kept on the books for years after that date and could have easily pumped at any major fire without fail. The role of Engine 2 after 1963 has been its most prestigious. The role of a fire service ambassador at parades and musters have made it a favorite with the public. Old Number 2 has carried the casket for funeral details of some of the most honorable men to have ever served the department. It has served in four funeral details thus far in 2016. In today's world of million dollar fire trucks you never know what you'll get. The average life expectancy is 10 to 15 years at best. It would be safe to say that Fred Grier's vision of a motorized fire truck for \$9,000.00 was the best money the department ever spent. At 100, the old girl still runs and can pump with the best of the fleet.



Public Education & Community Service

Assistant Chief James E. Gladwell

The SFD's Public Education and Community Service numbers continue to pour in and continue to rise. Our "Fire Chief for the Day" program, which relates to the strong work AC Donaway began with the local elementary school reading incentive program, was a huge success this past quarter. The SFD provided the young "Chiefs" (who were each winners of their respective school's reading programs) with early morning tours of the Station 16/Admin facility, some additional fire prevention and educational "goodies", and transportation to their respective school as the OIC of E16. The smiles of both the "Chiefs" and their families were well worth the investment of time members of all the shifts spent going to the schools and reading books to the children! Strong work by all involved.

Blazing a Trail to Literacy wasn't the only event the SFD covered this past quarter, however. The members of the SFD were very busy, as usual. The SFD completed three After the Fire programs, 15 community service events, one home safety check, 11 public education events, and one work detail relating to public safety. That's a total of 31 events, or one just under every three days! A total of approximately 53 staff hours was expended while in the process we made positive contact with 1,078 adults and 1,164 children! An outstanding effort, and very much appreciated! The Department has a very strong name in our community, and it's through the efforts of all who participate in these types of events that our name continues to grow even stronger.



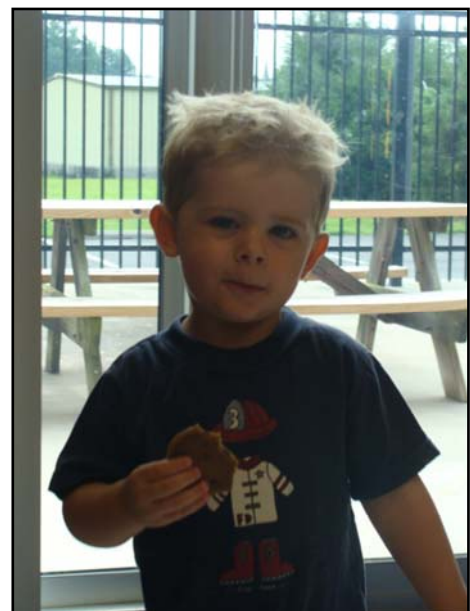
Fire Prevention & Public Education (continued)

Our strength of schedule will continue to grow with some huge events planned for the next quarter, as well. Much support from the entire SFD roster will be needed to support the Red, White, and Boom 4th of July fireworks event, the annual National Night Out event to be held Tuesday, 2 August 2016 from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM in the city park (don't forget the competitions between SFD and SPD!), and the annual SFD Open House event being held on Saturday, 13 August.

I'd like to personally thank each of you who participate and help make all the incoming requests into reality. It is a ton of extra work, and your assistance is greatly appreciated!!

On an unrelated note, I'd like to congratulate FFEMTP Jason Stimis for being nominated and awarded this year's Colburn Trophy Award at the annual MSFA Convention in June. The Colburn Trophy is awarded to firefighters for outstanding acts of heroism and Jason received the award as a result of his actions at last year's Sylvia St fire, where he rescued a two year old boy from a second story window of a well-involved house fire.

Nice job, Jason!!



Hazardous Materials

Acting Lieutenant Ron Wismer

Last time we talked about the training our Hazmat Team members have to go through. Today, we are going to discuss just what equipment the team carries. For those of you who have visited the Cypress Street station, you will notice the largest vehicle in the fleet is Hazmat-I. Hazmat-I is a full sized tractor trailer that replaced our old soda truck. The reason this vehicle is so large is because of all the equipment it carries.



The driver's side of the piece is dedicated to preparation for the response. One whole compartment is dedicated to all of the suits that we carry. The hazmat team needs to be able to respond to a large variety of chemical emergencies. We carry flame retardant overalls for responding to hydrocarbon emergencies, gasoline, and diesel fuel for example. We carry a variety of chemical protective clothing ranging from Tyvek over-suits to full vapor protective encapsulated suits. Much of the training our team goes through is focused on selecting the right personal protective equipment for the response.

Besides suits and the accessories needed for them, Hazmat-I is a giant tool box. It carries all of our gas monitoring devices and chemical testing tools. One compartment is an actual giant tool box. We need to be prepared to be plumbers in the field, turning off valves and the like to isolate a leak. So we carry specialized spark resistant tools to accomplish these tasks.

The largest amount of equipment carried on the truck is for hazardous materials clean up. We carry barrels to do pump offs, as well as over-pack drums. We also carry myriad of spill clean-up materials. Each of these materials accomplishes a specific task.

I hope this gives you a small look into all of the equipment the Salisbury Hazmat Team uses to keep our community safe.



Hot Shots



Salisbury Fire Department Quarterly Report April - June 2016

Fire Incident Type	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD	% of Quarter	Medical Chief Complaints	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD	% of Quarter
Structure Fires	18	52	2%	Abdominal Pain/GI Problem	123	527	5.17%
Cooking fire	12	40	1%	Allergic Reaction/Bites/Stings	14	48	0.59%
Vehicle Fires	5	35	1%	Altered Level of Consciousness	64	189	2.69%
Natural Cover/Brush	26	48	3%	Behavioral/Psychiatric	66	213	2.78%
Trash/Dumpster	9	55	1%	Breathing Problem	45	158	1.89%
Fire, Other	12	34	1%	Burns/Smoke Inhalation	6	22	0.25%
Medical	474	1700	49%	Cardiac/Respiratory Arrest/DOA	32	148	1.35%
Vehicle Accidents	108	527	11%	Cardiac Problems	181	690	7.61%
Rescue Calls	10	40	1%	Choking/Airway Obstruction	3	12	0.13%
Hazardous Conditions	44	188	5%	Diabetic Problem	51	179	2.15%
Service Calls	55	184	6%	Drug/Alcohol	88	315	3.70%
Good Intent Calls	81	307	8%	Nausea/Vomiting	39	171	1.64%
False Alarms	114	507	12%	No Apparent Injury	108	534	4.54%
Other Incident Type	5	31	1%	OB/GYN/Pregnancy/Childbirth	32	78	1.35%
Totals	973	3748		Other	950	3844	39.97%
				Respiratory Distress	99	298	4.16%
				Seizure/Convulsions	77	257	3.24%
				Sick Person/Flu-like	94	363	3.95%
				Stroke/CVA/TIA	26	129	1.09%
				Syncope/Fainting	39	176	1.64%
				Traumatic Injury	125	478	5.26%
				Unconscious	28	92	1.18%
				Weakness	87	326	3.66%
				Totals	2377	9247	
				Training	Classes	Attendees	Hours
				Administrative	31	132	361
				Engine Co. Ops	24	94	127.25
				EMS	43	234	374.5
				Driver Operator	22	109	189
				General	55	245	309.45
				Incident Command	1	1	1.75
				Rescue Company Ops	17	75	131
				Special Ops	21	107	198.5
				Truck Company Ops	18	84	126.74
				Totals - 4th Quarter	232	1081	1819.19
				FY16 YTD Totals	1036	4869	8174.53
				Department Aid Summary	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD	
				Mutual Aid Given	19	65	
				Mutual Aid Received	65	180	

Workers Compensation Summary	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD
2-elbow, 1-ankle, 3-exposure, 1-back, 2-dehydration	9	26
Hours lost due to Injuries	154.5	371.5

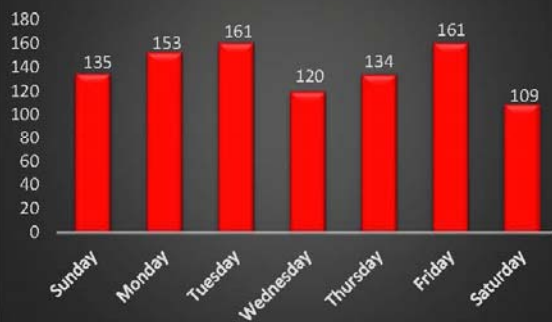
Fire Incidents by Fire Station	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD	% of Quarter
Station 1	269	943	28%
Station 2	254	1028	26%
Station 16	450	1777	46%

Fire Loss Data	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD	% of Quarter
Property Value	\$9,219,909	\$54,778,073	N/A
Property Destroyed	\$1,304,104	\$4,903,284	14%
Property Saved	\$7,915,805	\$49,874,789	86%

Fire Prevention Summary	4th Qtr.	FY16 YTD
Fire Inspections/Preplans	9	46
Plan Reviews	3	15
Smoke Alarms Distributed	24	262
Smoke Alarms Installed	1	9
Public Education Events		
a. Adults in Attendance	1078	7294
b. Children in Attendance	1164	8491

Salisbury Fire Department Quarterly Report April - June 2016

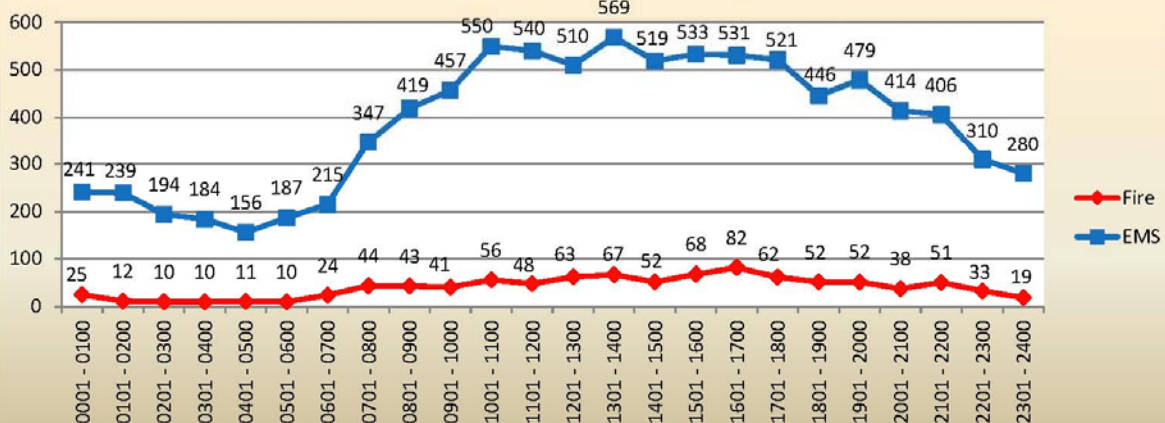
Fire Call Volume Day of Week



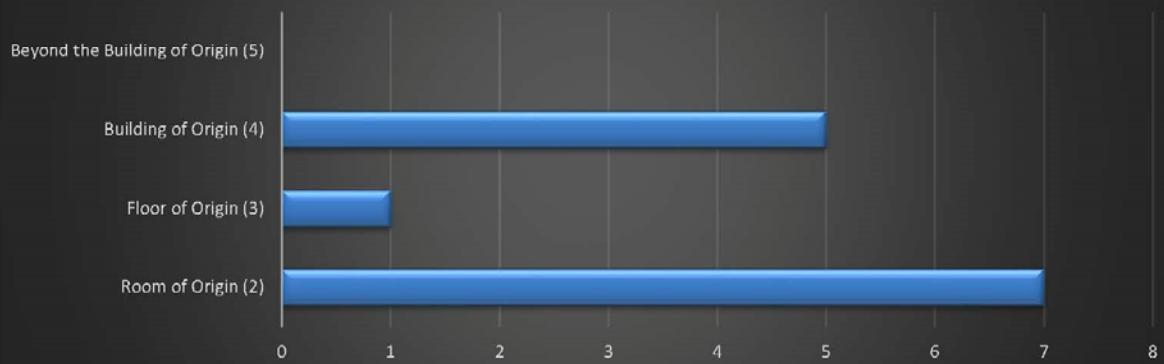
EMS Call Volume by Day of Week



Fire & EMS Call Volume by Hour



Fire Containment 1st Quarter FY16



Academy Corner

Acting Lieutenant David L. Haines

For the past several months, new members of the Salisbury Fire Department and other regional fire departments have attended training hosted here at the Salisbury Fire Department and at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute/LESRTC in Princess Anne.

The Firefighter I Class hosted here at Salisbury Station 16 was a MFRI, Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute; program with some additional practical sessions added to help make it better fit the needs of the department. This program was 129 hours long and ran from January through June. Ten students successfully completed this class out of 16 that began the course.



This group of students included members from several age groups including cadets, younger than 18 years old. There were men and women, from a variety of backgrounds and careers and include several military veterans.

This class proved to be a demanding program and pushed the students as they learned new skills required for them to become certified as firefighters. Attending a program such as this is difficult and comes in addition to existing work and family commitments. Members attending this program had to attend a mix of weeknight and weekend sessions. These sessions were a mix of classroom and practical sessions which also required time beyond the classroom for studying and homework. Students were expected to take the knowledge and skills they learn in this program and apply it at their stations.

Throughout this class, students have spent many hours in the classroom and more hours on the training ground learning new skills and techniques. The first half of the class taught them the basic history, traditions and elements of the fire service. It then addressed individual topics the students needed to learn and develop basic skills with. As the students progressed, they developed newer skills which added to their existing skillset, each one building on the other.



After midterm, the students continued learning new skills and techniques and then started putting things together. The importance of teamwork became evident and was emphasized throughout the training. They learned to work together. They transitioned from being individual firefighters performing individual skills to a team of fire-

fighters performing evolutions together.

Academy Corner (Continued)



The students then moved into the final phase of the program which included Combined Evolutions. In these sessions, the students were given basic live fire scenarios and worked together to mitigate the incidents were given. As a team, they completed the necessary tasks to safely extinguish the fire, ventilate the building, search for victims and make any rescues that may be needed.

During this program, students took two written exams and two practical exams. One written exam was at the midterm, while the other was at the end of the program. These written exams tested the student's basic knowledge of firefighting. Students had to pass these exams in order to be successful. The practical exams tested the students in a set number of skills picked at random. These skills had to be demonstrated successfully for the students to complete the program.

Students also learned basic RIT, Mayday and firefighter safety techniques. The Rapid Intervention Team is a team of firefighters solely used to rescue other firefighters in danger, while the Mayday is the distress call used to summon help by a firefighter. The students learned that firefighting is inherently dangerous work and can place them in situations where they may have to act to avoid danger or rescue other firefighters in danger. These basic skills and techniques helped them prepare for the dangers they may face. Extra time was added to this program to allow for more hands on training in these skills. **Everyone goes home.**

Students in this program have been challenged by these new skills and tasks and worked hard to meet the standard. They have learned that the rigorous fire training made them reach physical and mental limits they didn't know they had. They learned that when they put forth the effort and kept going when they didn't think they could, they were successful.

The students that completed this program have met the many challenges presented by this training and now move on to serve Salisbury and the neighboring communities as firefighters. Those students are now the new firefighters and fire department members which are seated before you here this evening. I would like to again congratulate each and every one of them on a job well done. **You made it!**



Academy Corner

Acting Lieutenant David L. Haines

I would also urge them to take the lessons learned here in this class and continue to build on them as you continue to serve your communities as firefighters. The title of firefighter is one that is earned over time. It is a culmination of your training, knowledge, experience and service to your communities. Use this certification you have just obtained as a foundation to build on. Continue learning and training as you continue your career in the fire service, wherever that may take you. Never stop Learning.

I would like to take a moment and give a special thanks to the many instructors that assisted with this program and made it successful. The instructors that taught this program were a mix of career and volunteer firefighters from around the region. I was the Lead Instructor of the program, but I could not have done it without the help and support of some great instructors from around the region. The support instructors that helped teach these classes are from many departments around the region including and especially Salisbury. Some of the instructors teach exclusively for MFRI, some teach for the Salisbury Academy and a small group of us teach for both agencies. Their diverse backgrounds and experiences gave the students a wealth of knowledge to draw from as they learned to become firefighters. The instructors were there every step of the way providing the encouragement and guidance to get the students through it and help them be successful.



Correspondence from the Community

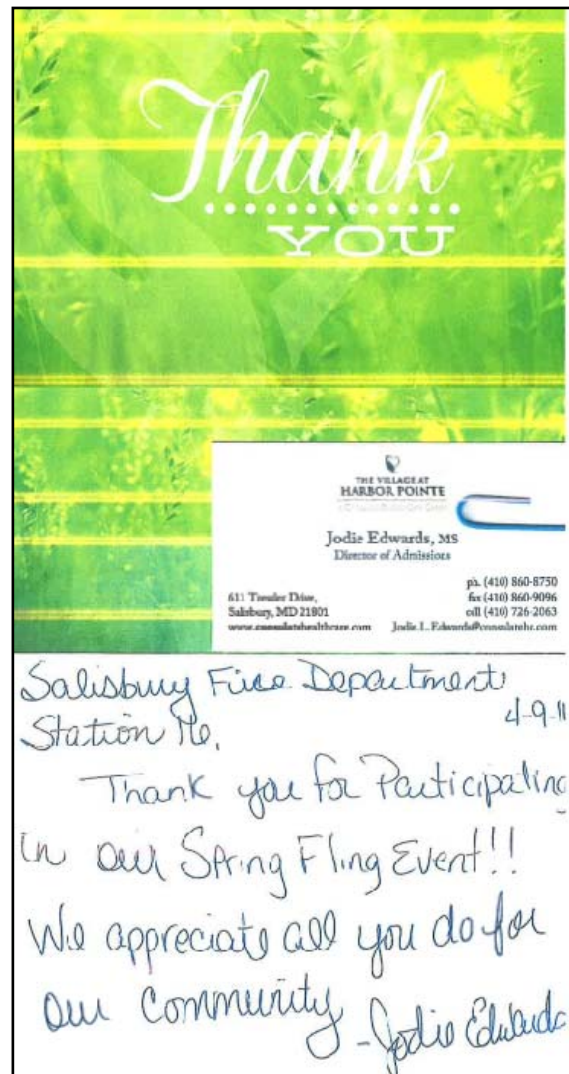
Lt. Parker -

Thank you so much
for your time & assistance during
our recent Evacuation Drills.
Your feedback was greatly
appreciated.

Jer Bock
Atria Sr. Living

With warm appreciation
for your hospitality
and the kindness
you've shown.

The Evelyn Davis Family
4/17/16
Thank you



**Thank
.....
YOU**

**THE VILLAGE AT
HARBOR POINTE**

Jodie Edwards, MS
Director of Admissions

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Salisbury Fire Department
Station No. 4-9-11

Thank you for Participating
in our Spring Fling Event!!
We appreciate all you do for
our community - Jodie Edwards