



the General Alarm

April 2013

Fire Chief Steve Earley
3085 St. Lawrence Ave
Riverside CA 92504
951-826-5321
www.riversideca.gov/fire

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RFD Welcomes New EMS Coordinator

A big welcome to our new Emergency Medical Services Coordinator, Kristen Clements, who started her duties on April 12. The responsibilities of the EMS Coordinator have been transferred from Division Chief La Wayne Hearn to Kristen. She will report to Training Division Chief Mitch Wesche. Kristen will carry through with the EMS Coordinator responsibilities of monitoring, evaluating and improving the delivery of our pre-hospital care services and also continue with on-going EMS projects including:

- Continuous Quality Improvement program
- EMT & EMT-P re-verification & college programs
- EMS TargetSafety assignments
- Ensuring compliance with Riverside County EMS mandates.
- In the near future, she will also be responsible for our Emergency Medical Dispatching program.

The Riverside City FD is fortunate in that Kristen brings over 20 years of experience in the Riverside County EMS system where she served as an EMT, paramedic, and instructor.





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Email to Fire Chief Earley from Phil Dominguez, La Sierra Little League Manager, on April 7:

We would like to thank the members of Station 8 for coming out and supporting La Sierra Little League. We had our opening ceremonies recently and the Fire Department made things complete. The members looked sharp and as a city resident myself it was good to see professionalism. The members were engaged with the public and of course the kids. Thanks again stay safe.

Email from Jeff Lewis to RFD Personnel on April 12:

Once again I will be supporting the American Cancer Society and representing the Riverside City Fire Department by participating in the Relay for Life in Murrieta on May 18th to May 19th. It is a 24 hour event and just like last year I promise to remain in my full firefighter turnouts and be active on the track for the entire 24 hours. It's my way of pledging my dedication to finding a cure to this horrible monster that has in some way affected us all. This year will be an extra emotional relay for our family after losing my mother in law Cyndi last August to cancer. I know money is tight right now for all of us but please feel free to make any donation to this cause and support our team. In return, I will place the name of any cancer survivor or victim on my SCBA cylinder that I will be wearing. You can donate by clicking the following link. If the link doesn't work, please feel free to contact me. Also feel free to forward this email to anyone who you feel may be interested in donating. Thank you for your support!



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April 2013

Birthdays



Retirees

May Birthdays

Greg Bluma	5/26
Rand Brinkman	5/27
David Castaneda	5/20
Chuck Clements	5/14
Mike Esparza	5/9
Mike Estrada	5/29
Dustin Fenzke	5/26
Roni Forst	5/4
Tony Garcia	5/17
Steve Hallgren	5/21
Pat Hopkins	5/17
Todd LeSieur	5/28
Tim Odebralski	5/21
Tony Perna	5/3
Roberto Redondo	5/12
Steve Schlom	5/15
Peter Sellas	5/13
Mike Staley	5/26
Matt Stibal	5/8

Medal of Honor Recipient

On Tuesday, April 16th, retired RFD Engineer Joe Ingalls attended a ceremony at Norco City Hall commemorating his brother, George Ingalls, who was a Medal of Honor recipient.

Norco Mayor Kathy Azevedo and Joe Ingalls were part of a flag-lowering ceremony to mark the 46th anniversary of George's heroics in Vietnam that earned him the Medal of Honor. Additionally, Congressman Ken Calvert arranged for the flag to be flown over the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Also flown for the first time in California was the Vietnam 50th Anniversary Commemorative Flag. Norco is the first city in California to become a commemorative partner and only the second in the nation.





April 2013

With Sympathy...

Tedd Taylor: The Chief's Office is saddened to announce the passing of retired engineer, Teddy Taylor, on April 20 at the age of 77. Engineer Taylor retired from the Riverside Fire Department in 1985 and is survived by his wife Janet of 59 years, and his children. Condolences can be sent to the family at 3619 Bunnells Run Road, Harrisville, WV 26362

Donna Weaver: It with great sadness that the department advises you of the passing of Donna Weaver. She passed away May 10 from kidney failure. She was home with her husband Jim. E8 responded to their house. Fire Department Chaplain Tony Braun responded to support Jim.

Donna, along with her husband Jim, were very active supporters of our department. Founding the Fire Buffs, they were always there to help us during big incidents with snacks, drinks and more importantly, their genuine care and concern.

The Fire Buffs disbanded several years ago, but they continued to carry the fire department in their hearts. Donna will be missed greatly by all of us.

It was Donna's wishes not to have any services. Condolences and words of support can be sent to:

Jim Weaver
3889 Middleton Place
Riverside, CA 92505





**MORENO
VALLEY
COLLEGE**

Public Safety Education and Training

April 29, 2013

I am proud to report that the Annual Moreno Valley College Firefighting Workshop for Women was a great success. We had 28 young women attend. Planning an event like this requires a great deal of community outreach. We could not have done it without your help. It turned out to be a really enjoyable and exciting day. First impressions are everything and I am confident we left these young ladies excited and more knowledgeable about the fire services.

I would like to specifically thank:

- MVC Fire Academy staff: Ann Yoshinaga, Ted Yancu, Mark Gilman, Barbara Williams, Sandra Tapia
- MVC Fire Academy Cadets: Andrew Nicholson, Juan Garcia, Bradley Lancaster, Brandon Steiner, Dustin Gooch, Mallory Riss
- MVC Fire Academy Graduate & Cal Fire Dispatcher: Megan Bower
- San Bernardino City Fire Chief George Avery
- Riverside City Fire Engine 2: Engineer Jackson, FF Griffin, FF Fershaw
- Riverside City Deputy Chief Mike Esparza
- Cal Fire Engine 8: FC Kalisek, FF Fortney, FF Briskey
- Cal Fire Battalion Chief Joel Vela
- Cal Fire Battalion Chief Bill Weiser

Again, thank you so much for your participation and support of this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin E Nash Fairfax".

Erin E Nash Fairfax

Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center
16888 Bundy Avenue • Riverside, CA 92518
(951) 571-6300 • www.mvc.edu/bctc

Ragnar Race by Sean Wilde:

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Eight RFD members past and present (myself, P. Gabler, Guzzetta, Elsworth, J. Ryan, Fuentes, Avila, and Jeff Larson) ran 196 miles from Huntington Beach along the Santa Ana Riverbottom into Yorba Linda; through Corona to the 15 FWY; south along the 15 to the Lawrence Welk Resort in Escondido; over HWY 78 to Carlsbad and south along the coast through Encinitas and La Jolla into downtown San Diego in the Embarcadero. The race took 32h15m from 09:30 on April 19 until 17:30 on April 20. We ROCKED IT!!!! There were 646 teams. In our division, we came in 50th place. Overall we came in 71st place including ultras, masters, high school teams everyone. GREAT JOB EVERYONE!!!!!!

My son, Andrew, ran it along with some of my other buddies. It was hot and dry. Temps were around 87 deg F with humidity at 7% that made it brutal, so the real feel was about 101 deg F, but we made it. Our team is trying to get interest to do the Napa Ragnar in Sept. All runners from the SoCal race will get a double medal called the GOLD RUSH that is gold colored. It starts in Frisco and crosses the Golden Gate Bridge and runs through Sonoma, Napa and into Calistoga.



Donate Life

Riverside Community Hospital honored organ and tissue donors and their families by hosting a special Donate Life Flag Raising Ceremony on April 18.

The hospital flew the Donate Life Flag during April in recognition of National Donate Life month. This display is part of a national initiative known as "Flags Across America" which celebrates the hundreds of thousands of donors and recipients whose lives have been affected by organ, eye and tissue donation.

At the ceremony, donor families, community leaders and health care professionals gathered with team members of Riverside Community Hospital for a heartfelt ceremony to raise awareness.

Others who participated in the Donate Life Flag Raising Ceremony included Fran Paschall, chief nursing officer of Riverside Community Hospital; Ron Martin, director of transplant at Riverside Community Hospital; Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey; and Bryan Stewart, vice president of communication at OneLegacy. The ceremony concluded with the Riverside Fire Department together with Riv

To learn more about organ and tissue donation, visit www.donateLIFecalifornia.org.

For further information about the Riverside Community Hospital's Transplant Programs, visit www.riversidecommunityhospital.com

See photos on Page 7



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Donate Life

(Continued from page 6)



Top photo: Shannon Smith, Brad Fike, and John Wescott of the Riverside Fire Department; Andre Ray, Anthony Blakey, and Daniel Gonzalez, who are Riverside Community Hospital security officers. Bottom photo: (L to R) Ron Martin, the hospital's director of transplant; Riverside Deputy Fire Chief Mike Esparza; Cherie Russell, hospital public relations manager; Riverside Mayor William "Rusty" Bailey; Retired Riverside Fire Deputy Chief Oran Pentz and his wife Laura Pentz; Christy Bethel of One Legacy; hospital chaplain Chris Breyer, Mike Thomas of One Legacy; and Bryan Stewart of One Legacy.

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PHOTO ALBUM

April 2013



Engine 9 covered the recent air show on April 6 at Riverside Municipal Airport. RFD stood by the ARFF unit if it was needed, fortunately it was not but a great experience nonetheless. The crew was: Tim Strack, Evan Green, Steve Wu and Lee Davis.

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AirGas Ammonia Leak: On April 7 at 1530 RFD fire crews and the haz mat team responded to a 5000 gal Anhydrous Ammonia leak from a tanker in back of the AirGas business.

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Visit by John Boogman: RFD Retiree John Boogman paid a visit to Fire Administration. John retired as a firefighter over 22 years ago. He also worked as an electrician.





Attention All RFD Personnel and Retirees Your Presence is Requested

On June 11th, Hunter Botkin will be graduating the 8th grade from Saint Jeanne DeLestonnac School.

Eric and Hallie instilled in Hunter qualities and values that have been reinforced and modeled for him through this school's actions and positive support. These were especially evident during the challenges of losing his father, our brother – Eric. As a result of this love, kindness and nurturance, Hunter is becoming a fine young man whom Eric would be proud and we are honored to know.

The past three years Hunter's school has donated all the proceeds from one of their fundraisers to the Riverside City Firefighters Foundation. A fund inaugurated by the Botkins. Last month, while accepting the funds from Hallie, she mentioned that Hunter was graduating on June 11th and, "It would be great to have a cheering section from RFD and a nice representation for his father." This obviously impacted me – as I hope it will you. Although we can never replace Eric being there...we can, as Hallie said, "represent" the pride and grace that Eric always showed.

As Hunter graduates and moves onto high school, I ask that we help with this important milestone. A strong showing of uniformed RFD/RCFA and retired personnel at his graduation would show our collective pride for our department and respect for Hunter, his school and the Botkin family. Please, let's show our support for Hunter, Hallie and Eric Botkin.

Date: June 11, 2013
Time: Graduation 5:30 pm - RFD/RCFA meet at 5:00 pm
Location: Saint Jeanne De Lestonnac School
Address: 32650 Avenida Lestonnac Temecula, CA 92692
Dress: Class A (preferred) or Class B
Contact: We would like to know how many plan on attending. Please RSVP to Todd Gooch by June 9th, at TGooch@riversideca.gov.



Growing Families

April 2013

Steve Loner's Family: Steve Loner's twins were born on April 12. Carson, Quinn and Mom are all doing fine. Congratulations to the Loner family!

Luis Contreras: Congratulations to Luis Contreras and his wife, Courtney. Their second child was born on April 24. Baby boy, Gideon Raul Contreras, weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces and was 19 3/4" long. They are all doing well.

Girl Scouts Event

Cpt Jennifer McDowell attended a Girl Scout event on April 6 at Rancho Jurupa Regional Park where she spoke to 300 Brownies and Girl Scouts about the life of a firefighter and encouraging the young ladies about empowerment and a "can-do" attitude.



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Engineer Pat Mullen helps Harriet Holloway after her knee surgery.

Promotion, Merit Awards & Employee Recognition Ceremony

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This year's Promotion, Merit Awards, and Employee Recognition Ceremony was held on April 5 at 6pm at the Riverside Auditorium. The following people were recognized:

Appointments: Training Division Chief Mitch Wesche and USAR Division Chief LaWayne Hearn

Promotions: Battalion Chief: Steve McKinster, Dave Bakas, and Tony Perna; Captain: Pat Hopkins, Greg White, Scott Richmond, Ray Mendoza, Mike Estrada, Tony Garcia, Sean Smith, Kenny Lundgren, (Josh Fudge was promoted after the ceremony); Engineer: Shannon Smith, Cory Bruce, Chad Selk, Steven Loner, Mark Thompson, Denise Delgado, Steve Hallgren, Matt Mathis, and Chuck Tasker

Employees of the Year: Battalion Chief Dave Bakas and General Services Worker Pete Sellas

Award Winners: Unit Citation-The Banner Court Fire-for their actions in the search and rescue of two residents. Robert Ward, Tom Kleveno, Brandon Mollicone, Steve Edwards, Luis Contreras, Greg Bluma, and Ron Rondero

Award of Merit: Tracy McKibbin (Uniform Program). Tracy was recognized for her efforts as manager of the Uniform Program. Christian Adams, Roni Forst, Anna Hauldren, and Cathy Mitchell were recognized for their hard work and participation in the Spark of Love Toy Drive.

Letter of Commendation: Councilman Mike Gardner for his ongoing support and efforts in the Spark of Love Toy Drive. Haz Mat Typing-for their part in obtaining Type 3 and then Type 2 state certification. Lisa Holloway, Mike Staley, Sean Wilde, Bret Bauer, Bruce Harter, Anthony Frausto, Joe Reed, and Renee Griffin.

Customer Service Award: For making that extra effort for an elderly couple by reinstalling the toilet that was removed during a medical response in their home. Michelle Jackson, Chris Boykin, and Ryan Hicks.

Shield Presentations: Luis Contreras, Jesse Norton, Stephen Fisher, Kevin Whitaker, Paul Avila, LovieAnne Jung, Brian Guzzetta, and Michael Detoy received their shields after completing probation



Left: Josh Fudge receives his helmet and badge on his first shift as captain. **Right:** Sean Smith is presented with his new captain badge and shield.



Congratulations

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Left: FF Dan Christensen with his crew on E2A (Lee Davis, Todd LeSieur, Dan, Josh Fudge, and Batt 1A Scott Blair. Right: Dan with Deputy Chief Mike Esparza



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Leadership Class: Chris Adams recently graduated from the Los Angeles Fire Department Leadership Academy Class 13-1; it is four month long course designed to teach methodologies that will assist current and upcoming officers how to lead effectively in the fire service. Chris earned college credits towards his bachelor degree in organizational leadership. Tommy Lasorda was the keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony.

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Congratulations to Matt Dalton for successfully completing his 6 month probation. Also a big welcome to new hire Gary Lingafelter.

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Every 15 Minutes
by John Peurifoy

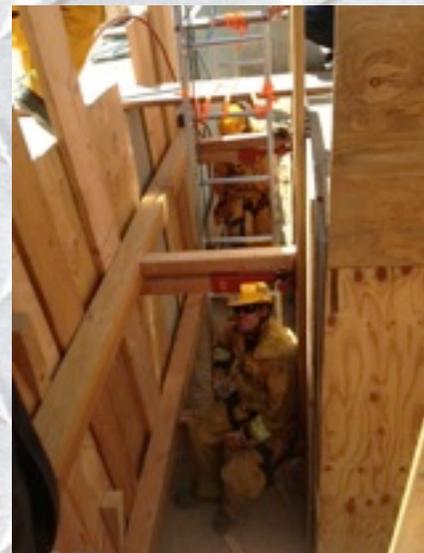
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The "Every 15 Minutes Program" was held on April 10th and 11th. This two day program targets high school students about making smart choices with regards to drinking and driving. Each day in the country, a person is killed every 15 minutes by a drunk driving related accident. The program involves a simulated traffic accident, an over night workshop, and a mock funeral. This was the 14th year we have assisted with this program. The program is sponsored by the State Office of Transportation, CHP, and RPD.



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Trench Training in the Desert



Retirement Party

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L to R: Tim Rise, Mike Fisher, Cari Rise, and Mike Koury; Bob Bock and Bob Abbruzzese; Don Lee and his wife Evelyn; Thomas Jay with Keith Anderson; The Rise Family



More Photos...

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Top (L to R): Wayne Hess; Annual FRO training to review new Decon unit; Below: USAR WMD class reviewing PPE and decon set up. Some of the chiefs donned Level A suits.

