Five families were selected in Riverside to “Shop With a Firefighter” at our city’s Target Stores. The families were selected by City Council based on nominations from schools, civic groups, churches, and their constituents. Two families shopped at the Tyler Target on Dec 16 and three at the Arlington store on Dec 21.

RCFA 1067 and Target donated gift cards to provide each family with money to spend. Target also provided each family with the groceries to make a holiday dinner.

Thanks to our City Council, community partners, RCFA 1067, Target Stores and employees, Spark of Love Committee members, and RFD personnel who made this event possible.
Galleria Incident

On Dec 6, RFD crews responded with RPD to the Galleria at Tyler for what was originally thought to be a shooting. It turned out to be a robbery. Engine 2 donned the URVI tactical PPE. BC McDowell was the fire department liaison with RPD.
Birthdays

January Birthdays

Ryan Agondoni   1/27
Greg Arias     1/10
Paul Avila     1/1
Christopher Boykin  1/19
Brian Fuentes   1/13
Pat Gabler      1/1
Rob Gabler      1/16
Matt Galik      1/7
Ryan Hicks      1/2
Lovieanne Jung  1/11
David Nash      1/6
Norma Pagan     1/9
Zachary Pettikas 1/3
John Peurifoy   1/7
Jacob Proctor   1/25
Tyler Reynolds  1/12
Cesar Rodriguez 1/19
Jim Ryan        1/19
Chad Selk       1/29
Cathy Mitchell   1/16

February Birthdays

Mark Annas      2/4
Cory Bruce      2/26
Kristen Clements 2/25
Romney Ellsworth 2/23
Lee Davis       2/7
Michael Detoy   2/26
Stephen Fisher  2/20
Thomas Jay      2/11
Bob Pina        2/5
Tony Robbins    2/1
Steven Scotti   2/19
Jonathan Trujillo 2/10
Greg White      2/8
Scott Wilson    2/14
Robert Yanes

Congratulations

6 Month Probation:  Eric LeBlanc (Dec 3)

Engine Certification: Dave Juarez (Dec 11)

New Hire: Welcome to Mercedes Daems, Senior Office Specialist, who joined us in Fire Administration on Dec 4 replacing Misty Brown who promoted to a position with Riverside Police Department. Mercedes has worked for the City many years. She comes to us from Community Development/Code Enforcement.

Growing Families

From Steve Hallgren: My wife and I would like to announce the new addition to our family. Elayna Penelope Hallgren was born this morning at 1146am. Mom and baby are both doing well. Our other two daughters are very excited for their little sister. (Dec 1)
L to R: Cathy Mitchell’s granddaughter Cali; A kitten (named Dodge because he ran into the street) rescued by Chris Boykin and Renee Griffin from the engine compartment of a car on Van Buren and Primrose (before and after photos...was adopted from Mary S.Roberts Pet Adoption Center); a beautiful December sunset in Riverside
Vine Street

On Nov 17, the City of Riverside Fire Department responded to a report of a vehicle fire in the 3200 block of Vine Street to the rear of the business BBQ Islands. The first arriving engine company reported a fully involved box truck with two box trucks threatened in Santa Ana Wind conditions. A second engine company and battalion chief responded to assist. The fire extended to two additional box trucks in the Santa Ana Wind conditions. The fire was contained within 12 minutes of arrival. No firefighter or civilians were injured. The estimated loss was at $115,000. Investigators responded and determined the fire was cause was undetermined.

Battle of the Badges

Riverside City Fire and Police Departments played in their annual Battle of the Badges match on Dec 6. Bryan Hoffman and Tim Vanderhorst (and his daughter Rylan and son Jacob) played water polo on the RFD team along with Shannon Smith and his kids. Garen Roehl’s children also played for the RFD team.
Spark of Love

Left Side: Spark of Love Toys collected at the Riverside Dental Associates SAR; Right Side: This giant monkey made its way to Station 13 and 14 before being donated to the Spark of Love Toy Drive
It's been a pleasure and an honor to have written the General Alarm newsletter the past 13 years...A huge thanks to Karen McCoy, the editor-in-chief.