



PENNSYLVANIA'S 1ST REGIONAL COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENT



Daniel J. Hoff
Fire Chief

John Woods
Battalion Chief

Jay VanPelt
Battalion Chief

Matt Arnold
Battalion Chief

Joe Madzlan
Battalion Chief

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- FIRE PREVENTION
- SEVERE WEATHER
- HYDRATION TIPS
- EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Headquarters
50 Commons Drive
York, PA 17402
Office: 717-718-2383
Hours of Operation:
Mon. thru Fri. - 7:00 to 3:00

www.YAUFR.com



@YAUFRChief



/YorkAreaUnitedFireandRescue

FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER



Welcome to our second edition of the YAUFRR newsletter and welcome to the beginning of summer. 2018 has been a very busy year so far, with several big incidents, new hires, one retirement, apparatus being ordered and everyone doing their best to represent YAUFRR.

In May we wished a happy retirement to FF Rich Mellon after more than 25 years of community service. We wish Rich and his family well in this next chapter of their lives. We have also welcomed several new employees, part time and full time. Also in May, we completed the testing process to establish a new hiring list. We would once again like to extend our appreciation to the members of our department for their commitment to the process and professionalism during testing. Without your assistance, there is no way it could have gone as smoothly as it did. Thank you to all involved!

The department continues to work with the charter townships for consistency with regard to fire safety in different ordinances and recruitment of EMA volunteers is an ongoing process. We are always seeking volunteers at our stations for administrative and operational needs and encourage our current personnel (career and volunteer) to help us recruit more quality contributors to our mission.

On behalf of the YAUFRR Commissioners and the command staff, we would like to wish everyone a safe and fulfilling summer, and encourage all of our personnel to continue striving to be the best they can be.

Stay Safe and Take Care of One Another,

Chief Hoff

TRAINING

- Congratulations to the nine members of the Department who completed the Fire Officer II certification class. You devoted countless hours completing the numerous skill stations and attending the classes. Well done.
- Four of our new members are pursuing Driver Operator/Pumper certification. They will be testing in July. Good luck to them.
- Both battalions have completed the annual Haz-Mat Operations refresher class, annual Respiratory Protection training, and spring company burns.
- Check your EMT con-ed status. Make sure you are on track to have the required hours for recertification. There are numerous members whose certification expires this year.
- Don't forget to enter all your daily training in Target Solutions. Check your training tracker to monitor your progress. Your goal should be to exceed the minimum ISO required training hours for the year.
- Please forward copies of your new EMT card and training certificates when you receive them so BC VanPelt can update your training file.

FIRE PREVENTION

Warm weather is upon us!

This time of year means we stop using the chimney, and start using the fire pit and the gas grill. Please remember that a gas grill should never be used up against a home, and care should be taken when igniting and using them to prevent burn injuries and grease fires. Never throw water on a grease fire – they are best extinguished by closing the lid and depriving the fire of oxygen, using a dry chemical/power extinguisher, or by pouring baking soda over the flames if it's safe to do so. Don't ever hesitate to call 911!

If you have a portable outdoor fireplace (commercially available at most home stores), fire code requires that these be placed at least 15

feet from any structure or combustible material. Should you choose to have a small campfire (in a vessel other than one available commercially), these must be done at least 25 feet from any structure or combustible material.

Any recreational fire should be constantly attended at ALL times, and have a fire-extinguishing agent (fire extinguisher, garden hose, sand, dirt, etc.) available for immediate utilization. More details are available on the FAQ section of our website, which you can visit by clicking the hyperlink located below this article.

<http://www.yaufr.com/Portals/0/Documents/Open-Fire-Code.pdf>



Did you know?

Did you know that York Area United Fire & Rescue offers Fire Extinguisher Training for your organization? We can come to your location with our self-contained demonstration trailer, and provide the following services to your staff:

- Fire Extinguisher Operation
- Classifications of Fire
- Types of Fire Extinguishers
- Hands-On Fire Extinguisher Operation with a propane-based fire

For details on pricing and scheduling, please contact PublicEducation@Yaufr.com or 717-718-2381.

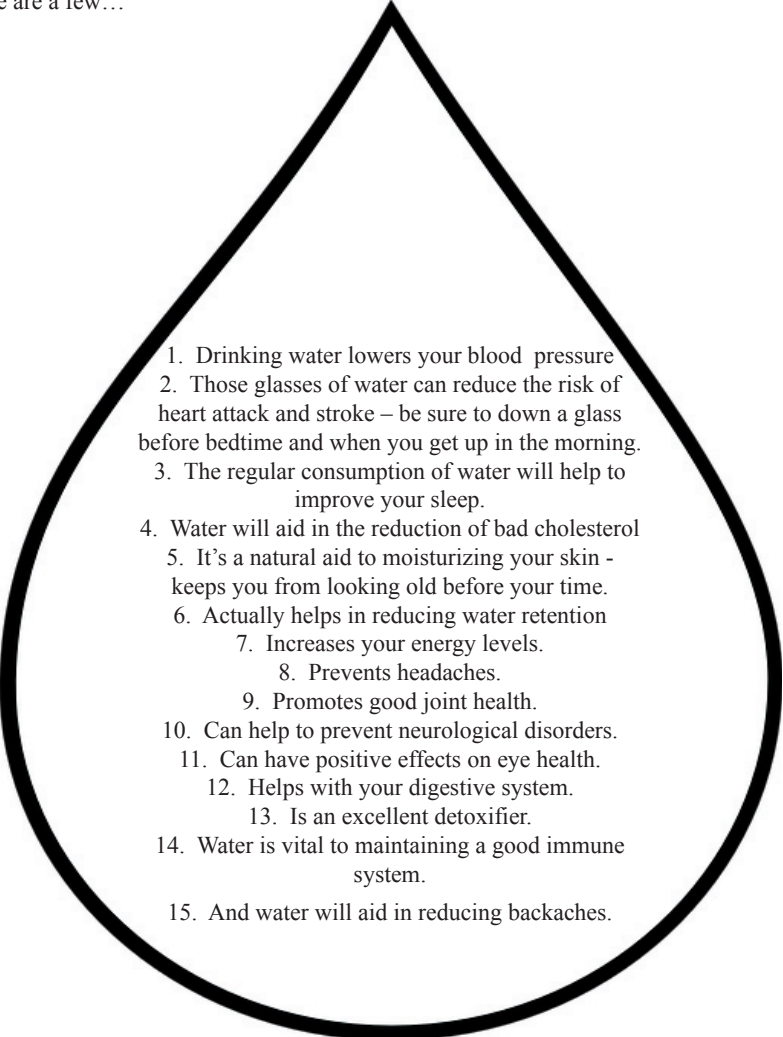
Smoke Detectors

As always, please remember to check the batteries in your smoke detectors as well. We always suggest changing the batteries in your detectors when you change your clocks for daylight savings time in the spring and fall.

Should you find that any of your detectors are over 10 years old, they can be purchased at any hardware store. If you need assistance with installation, obtaining a detector, or if you have any other questions relating to smoke detectors, CO, or fire safety – please contact our office at 717-718-2381. WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES!

CHOOSE WATER !

During warm weather months, there is a lot of attention on staying hydrated. And we have all heard about drinking 8 glasses of water a day – truthfully when it comes to drinking 8 glasses of the beverage of your choice rarely will most people pick water! But did you know that the consumption of plain old water has a lot of benefits, and here are a few...

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1. Drinking water lowers your blood pressure
 2. Those glasses of water can reduce the risk of heart attack and stroke – be sure to down a glass before bedtime and when you get up in the morning.
 3. The regular consumption of water will help to improve your sleep.
 4. Water will aid in the reduction of bad cholesterol
 5. It's a natural aid to moisturizing your skin - keeps you from looking old before your time.
 6. Actually helps in reducing water retention
 7. Increases your energy levels.
 8. Prevents headaches.
 9. Promotes good joint health.
 10. Can help to prevent neurological disorders.
 11. Can have positive effects on eye health.
 12. Helps with your digestive system.
 13. Is an excellent detoxifier.
 14. Water is vital to maintaining a good immune system.
 15. And water will aid in reducing backaches.

And there are many other positive effects from water on your body, so put down the soft drinks, hard drinks and energy drinks and grab a cold bottle of water – bottoms up!

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Severe Weather Season is Here



We have entered the prime season for severe thunderstorms in our area. Storms can move in quickly but can linger or train over an area for extended period. They can produce torrential rains, flooding, hail, strong winds, lightning, and even tornados. The National Weather Service monitors weather conditions and issues severe weather watches and warnings. A watch means that conditions are favorable for severe weather to occur. A warning means that severe weather is either occurring or is imminent.

If severe weather occurs, you should seek shelter immediately. Lightning can occur miles from the actual storm. Lightning strikes can occur away from a building but follow above and underground utilities into a building. For this reason, you should avoid using any devices with a wire or cord during a thunderstorm, as well as avoid taking baths or showers. Despite the saying, lightning can strike twice (or more) in the same place.

Heavy rains can cause flash flooding. Never try to walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. As little as 6 inches of moving water can knock a person down. 12 inches can move a passenger vehicle. Flood waters can also contain large debris. Avoid bridges over swift water and move to higher ground until the waters recede. Some storms contain strong winds and can spawn tornadoes. Should high winds or a tornado occur, seek shelter in a sturdy building, away from windows, doors, and outside walls. The safest place to be is in a basement. If you don't have one, go to an interior room (without windows) on the lowest level of the building until the storm passes.

Have an emergency supply kit available at all times. For spring and summer storms, the kit should include a flashlight with a full charge, weather radio (battery operated) to monitor weather watches and warnings. Nixle, the YAUFRR public alerting system, will broadcast severe weather watches and warnings, and will also be used to provide emergency instructions in the event of a disaster. To subscribe, simply text your zip code to "888777."

NIXLE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM



**Stay connected to the information
that matters most to you!**

**Stay instantly informed of trusted, neighborhood-level
public safety and community information.**

You choose the information you want, for the addresses you
want, all delivered by text message, email and over the web.

Simple • Trusted • No Cost

**Manchester, Spring Garden and Springettsbury Township
Residents**

YAUFR is now live on the [Nixle Public Safety Notification System](#).

**Text YAUFR to 888777 to sign up and stay informed of important
emergency services messages in our area.**

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Our employee spotlight for this edition of the YAUFRR Newsletter will focus on two of our most recently hired employees: Administrative Assistant Laurie Noel and FF Brandon Banks.

1. How long have you worked for the fire department?

I worked part time for a year before being hired full time three and a half months ago

2. Before working for the fire department what was the most unusual or interesting job you had?

Working EMS in the City of Harrisburg

3. How or why did you become involved in the fire service?

I was born into it. My father is currently a Deputy Chief with the City of Reading Fire Department

4. What is your proudest fire service moment?

When I was offered a full time position with YAUFRR

5. If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who should be cast to play you?

Will Ferrell

6. What is your favorite travel or vacation spot?

Lake Placid, NY

7. What has been your favorite leisure time activity?

Attending Super Bowl 52 and watching the Eagles win the Super Bowl

8. What are the top two items on your bucket list?

To meet Wayne Gretzky and coach a collegiate hockey team

9. If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be and why?

Florida, because its beautiful and there is hockey and fishing

10. Tell us one thing about you that would surprise most people.

I coach high school hockey for the Hershey Junior Bears

11. Anything else you might want people to know about you.

I have a huge family who has supported me since the very beginning



Fire Fighter
Brandon Banks

1. How long have you worked for the fire department?

It has been almost three months. I started on March 23rd

2. Before working for the fire department what was the most unusual or interesting job you had?

I worked at a children's clothing factory for a summer job sewing little boys' pants.

3. How or why did you become involved in the fire service?

My father was a volunteer at Centennial Fire Company when I was growing up. I became involved around the age of 17.

4. If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who should be cast to play you?

Sandra Bullock

5. What is your favorite travel or vacation spot?

Ocean Lakes Campground in Myrtle Beach, SC – on the beach with family and friends

6. What is your favorite past time?

Making homemade party mix with my daughters during the holidays

7. What are the top two items on your bucket list?

I really don't have a bucket list but I guess someday I would like to go on an all-inclusive trip with my husband and a group of close friends and maybe zip line.

8. If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be and why?

Maybe someplace where it stays above 75 degrees. I am not much of a cold weather person.

9. Tell us one thing about you that would surprise most people.

Four years ago, I lost all of the hearing in my left ear. After many treatments, I regained about 45% of the hearing in that ear. I wear a hearing aid to help with the loss but usually don't tell people for fear of being treated differently.

10. Anything else you might want people to know about you.

My husband Ken and I have been married for almost 18 years. We both grew up in the fire service. We have two daughters – Maranda (24) and Cloe (14). I like to cook and bake and enjoy camping in our fifth wheel camper.



Administrative Assistant
Laurie Noel



YORK AREA UNITED FIRE AND RESCUE

Office of the Fire Chief

Daniel J. Hoff, Fire Chief

June 28, 2018

TO: General Distribution Memo 18-27

FROM: Daniel J. Hoff
Fire Chief

RE: Changes to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Fireworks Laws

Near the end of 2017, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacted a new law which controls the purchase, possession, and use of consumer fireworks and differentiates between consumer and display fireworks.

Under House Bill 542 which was adopted on October 30, 2017, Consumer Fireworks are defined as:

- (1) Any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances which is intended to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, is suitable for use by the public, complies with the construction, performance, composition and labeling requirements promulgated by the Consumer Products Safety Commission in 16 CFR (relating to commercial practices) or any successor regulation and complies with the 2 provisions for "consumer fireworks" as defined in APA 87-1 or any successor standard, the sale, possession and use of which shall be permitted throughout this Commonwealth.
- (2) The term does not include devices as "ground and hand-held sparkling devices," "novelties" or "toy caps" in APA 87-1 or any successor standard, the sale, possession and use of which shall be permitted at all times throughout this Commonwealth. Anyone 18 year of age or older can now purchase, possess, and use "Class C" or "consumer-grade" fireworks that include firecrackers, Roman Candles, bottle rockets, and similar fireworks the contain a maximum of 50 milligrams of explosive material.

Under the same act, Display Fireworks are defined as:

Large fireworks to be used solely by professional pyro-technicians and designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration or detonation. The term includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) salutes that contain more than two grains or 130 milligrams of explosive materials;
- (2) aerial shells containing more than 60 grams of pyrotechnic compositions; and
- (3) other display pieces that exceed the limits of explosive materials for classification as consumer fireworks and are classified as fireworks UN0333, UN0334 or UN0335 under 49 CFR 172.101 (relating to purpose and use of hazardous materials table).

50 Commons Drive, York, Pennsylvania 17402
(717) 718-2383 Fax 718-0837
www.vauftr.com

Pennsylvania's First Regional Combination Department

Fireworks Memo
Page 2
June 28, 2018

Although the contents of this law are more specific than the information in this memo, it is the desire of YAUFTR to help all department and civilian personnel recognize the difference between the two types of fireworks and the use restrictions imposed for each under the new law.

Essentially, display fireworks may only be possessed and used by a person holding a permit from a municipality at the display covered by the permit or when used as authorized by a permit for any of the following:

- (1) For agricultural purposes in connection with the raising of crops and the protection of crops from bird and animal damage.
- (2) By railroads or other transportation agencies for signal purposes or illumination.
- (3) In quarrying or for blasting or other industrial use.
- (4) In the sale or use of blank cartridges for a show or theater.
- (5) For signal or ceremonial purposes in athletics or sports.
- (6) By military organizations or organizations composed of veterans of the armed forces of the United States
- (7) No one under 21 may be issued a permit for display fireworks and not without proof of a minimum of a \$50,000 bond

The use of consumer fireworks is restricted to persons who are at least 18 years of age. A person may not intentionally ignite or discharge:

- (1) Consumer fireworks on public or private property without the express permission of the owner. This includes all municipally owned properties.
- (2) Consumer fireworks or sparkling devices within, or throw from a motor vehicle or building.
- (3) Consumer fireworks or sparkling devices into or at a motor vehicle or building or at another person.
- (4) Consumer fireworks or sparkling devices while the person is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or another drug.
- (5) Consumer fireworks within 150 feet of an occupied structure.

It is our desire to ensure that department members are aware of the specifics in order to assist our citizens with understanding what is permissible and how to remain safe with the changes to PA Fireworks Laws. Furthermore, we want our citizens to be informed of what the rules actually are to enable them to make responsible and safe decisions.

We encourage all of our citizens to exercise extreme caution if they choose to take advantage of the changes to the law regarding fireworks. However, we would be remiss if we didn't encourage everyone to leave fireworks to the professionals to ensure safe and enjoyable summer celebrations.

Feel free to contact YAUFTR for additional information or read the act for yourself at http://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Business_Industry/fireworks/Documents/New%20Fireworks%20Law%20-%20Effective%20October%2030%202017.pdf.

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