



CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
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GEOFFREY HERALD, CFO
FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 21 September and 21 October and details activities of the Department.

As this is written we have just terminated emergency operations for Hurricane Sandy. The cleanup has begun and we will detail the response in next months' report. The department safety message for this month is eerily similar to that of last year at this time due to the repeat of a serious storm that has taken out much of our local power grid. We are again urging our citizens to be extremely careful with the use of alternate power sources and generators. These concerns include fire and electrical as well as medical issues.

TO AVOID CARBON MONOXIDE HAZARDS:

- Always use generators outdoors, away from doors, windows and vents.
- NEVER use generators in homes, garages, basements, crawl spaces, or other enclosed or partially enclosed areas, even with ventilation.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Install battery-operated or plug-in (with battery backup) carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home, following manufacturer's instructions.
- Test CO alarms often and replace batteries when needed.

TO AVOID ELECTRICAL HAZARDS:

- Keep the generator dry. Operate on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure.
- Dry your hands before touching the generator.
- Plug appliances directly into generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord. Make sure entire extension cord is free of cuts or tears and the plug has all 3 prongs, especially a grounding pin.
- NEVER plug the generator into a wall outlet. This practice, known as backfeeding, can cause an electrocution risk to utility workers and others served by the same utility transformer.
- If necessary to connect generator to house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install appropriate equipment. Or, your utility company may be able to install an appropriate transfer switch.

TO AVOID FIRE HAZARDS:

- Before refueling the generator, turn it off and let it cool. Fuel spilled on hot engine parts could ignite.
- Always store fuel outside of living areas in properly labeled, non glass containers.
- Store fuel away from any fuel burning appliance.

Public Education/Prevention/Public Relations

Miry Brook, Ward Drive, Wooster Heights, Sugar Hollow, etc. 10/6/2012 - Checked out new construction site at WestConn westside campus, Boggs Pond access. Richter Park access. 111 Main St. and rear of St. Peter Church, Reserve Property, demolition project at Turner Road

10/6/2012 – E21, E22, E23 Home Depot Fire Safety Day

9/24/2012 – Head quarters gave tour to approx. 30 preschoolers from Morris Street School

10/5/2012 – E26 set up of burn units for fire sprinkler demonstration.

10/6/2012 - Fire sprinkler demonstration at Home Depot.

9/21/2012 - FF. Mcgee, FF. Finn, FF. Boullianne Played in softball tournament to benefit the Spanish Heritage Center.

9/21/2012 – Lt Anderson volunteered at the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall at the War Memorial.

9/26/2012 – FF Horosky & FF McGee played in annual softball game between fire department and police department. FF Horosky belted a homerun but the FD narrowly lost the game.

Suppression/Response Activities of Note

On 27 September units responded to the parking garage at Centennial Hall, WCSU, for a car fire on the third floor of the garage. The driver reported that smoke was coming from under the hood of her car, so she pulled into a parking space between other occupied spaces. A short distance beyond was an open area of the garage. As it was dark, it was difficult to discern from the driveway that anything was burning. E26 Lt. Pollard found heavy involvement of the engine compartment of one vehicle, with smoke banked down to within a few feet of the floor. E26 dropped a utility rope and hauled up 200' of attack line, with E21 bringing an additional 150'. The fire was extinguished and DFM Osborne arrived for the investigation. No injuries were reported but there was significant damage to the fire vehicle and the two adjacent cars. The amount of banked down smoke was impressive considering that the garage has openings everywhere.

A call on 14 October to Rt. 7S exit 8 (I-84 exit 3W, the mall exit) was a pickup truck fire. The trailer in tow was not involved but the truck was a total loss. Gaining access was difficult as the ideal access was to go the wrong way up the ramp. However, the traffic on the ramp made things difficult. E22 got water on the fire first by heading West from the North end of Main St.. DFM Osborne investigated. The driver, a music DJ, suffered burns to his hand from attempting to "pat out the fire"...to no avail. Much of his equipment was destroyed in the fire. Luckily, it appeared as though his most expensive piece was in the trailer, undamaged. EMS transported him to Danbury ED, where he was interviewed by DFM Osborne. E23, E26, C30, SPD and John's Automotive towing were on scene with E22 and C46.

Of special note was a structure fire which was extinguished quite readily. However, the rather direct and successful fire attack suddenly turned into something quite different. An irate resident arrived at the scene and physically assaulted several members of the fire crew. The fire department personnel subdued the assailant and Danbury Police responded quickly and took the person into custody.

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

The topic for EMS Wednesday this month is the OSHA mandated Blood borne Pathogens review. Blood borne pathogens include all infectious and communicable diseases which are a great concern to our First Responders, while there are risks inherent to emergency medical services responses these risks can be minimized by the use of methods that will reduce the risk of exposure and contraction of these diseases. The purpose of the training is to educate personnel in the types of communicable /infectious diseases, the modes that they are transmitted methods and practices that

will reduce the risk of exposure and the procedures that must be followed should an exposure should occur

Meetings Attended this month:

- Supervisors Meeting at the Danbury Hospital
- Regional HazMat Team meeting

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

The communications division continues to train and work toward moving the communications center to the police headquarters facility. Equipment purchasing and specifications are drawn up and some hardware is in the pipeline. The completion date for this phase is indeterminate at this time. Reprogramming of the radios is in process so as to meet federal deadlines for narrow banding of the city emergency radio system.

Training - Mark Omasta

Volunteer Division

Firefighter I course

We are in the 8th week of the 14 week course. The 13 students are working hard to become State certified at the Fire fighter I /Haz Mat Operational level.

Fourth quarter training consisting of live burn evolutions will take place in November and December. Annual hose testing is in progress for all companies.

Vol. Firefighter Eric Svege from Engine 12 successfully completed the Incident Safety Class and exam and is now certified as an Incident Safety Officer.

Career Division

Fire School was utilized by the Hawleyville, Brookfield and Redding Fire Departments, as well as Danbury Career and Volunteer Companies.

The new rappel railing was installed on the top floor which will allow for safe technical rope rescue training.

Hydrant Testing

The annual hydrant testing program is coming to a close. Approximately 1,900 hydrants were inspected and tested.

Hose Testing

Annual hose testing is in progress, with close to 500 lengths of hose being pressure tested by the crews.

Advanced Rope Rescue/ Technical Rescue

FF's Croswell and Ricard completed the week long CMC advanced rope rescue course. Lt. Anderson and FF McGowan attended various technical rescue courses at the CT Fire Academy during "Rescue week" at the Academy.

The New Fairfield Fire Dept. brought their fire boat to the Danbury town park to show our crews their equipment and capabilities.

Officer development

Newly promoted Captains Halas and Lounsbury and Lieutenants Silk and Ryan are participating in classes commensurate with their duties with the Training Officer.

Hospital training

All crews participated in the hospital's patient evacuation training Sept. 25 and 26. Our people worked with hospital staff on patient evacuation techniques.

Meetings/ events for the T.O.:

- Sept. 25 Meeting with Architects over the possible HQ expansion project.
- Oct. 3 Ct Fire Instructors annual dinner-meeting
- Oct. 4 Exchange Club FF of the year dinner for DFM Jim Russell
- Oct. 10 Swearing in for Officers Lounsbury, Silk and Ryan
- Oct 14 Annual Awards Ceremony at Headquarters
- Oct 16 Monthly Staff meeting
- Oct 23 Retirement Dinner for Capt/Asst Chief Ron Bowers



Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

The four gas meter for Engine 26 is still at the factory for repairs suffering from a intermittent issue, all of the remaining meters are fully functional. E -22's air induction issue has been repaired. A Detroit Diesel Technician was here to evaluate what was thought to be an injector/ computer malfunction in E-22. A "cleaner" software version was downloaded and has seemed to have corrected the problem. E-21 however, (its twin) was not affected by this software glitch. Trk-1 which has been our recent

“problem child” needed a new turbo charger and an EGR valve. One week later the Horton fan clutch needed to be rebuilt. The non working on board charger from the Haz-Mat unit has been removed and will be sent back to the factory for repairs. The on board charger in E-23’s is also defective and will be removed ASAP and sent to the factory as well

Other repairs completed:

- Repair Plymovents for bays 2, 3 and 8.
- Replaced batteries in E-23.
- Replaced both front seatbelts in Trk-1.
- Replaced both front tires on E-24.
- Replaced all rear tires on E-26.
- Replaced the brakes and service Car 30.
- Replaced the air seat control switch in E-22.
- Remove and rebuild fan clutch assembly in Trk-1.

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal - James Johnson

Thru UNIT inspections, there were three inspection(s) for unsafe occupancy (basement/attic) one involved 3 persons in a basement. All situations have been resolved. Our office investigated several fires, with only minor injuries. One of those fires is being investigated along with the PD as intentional. The Illegal Apartment Enforcement Team (part of the unit) continues to follow up on complaints from citizens.

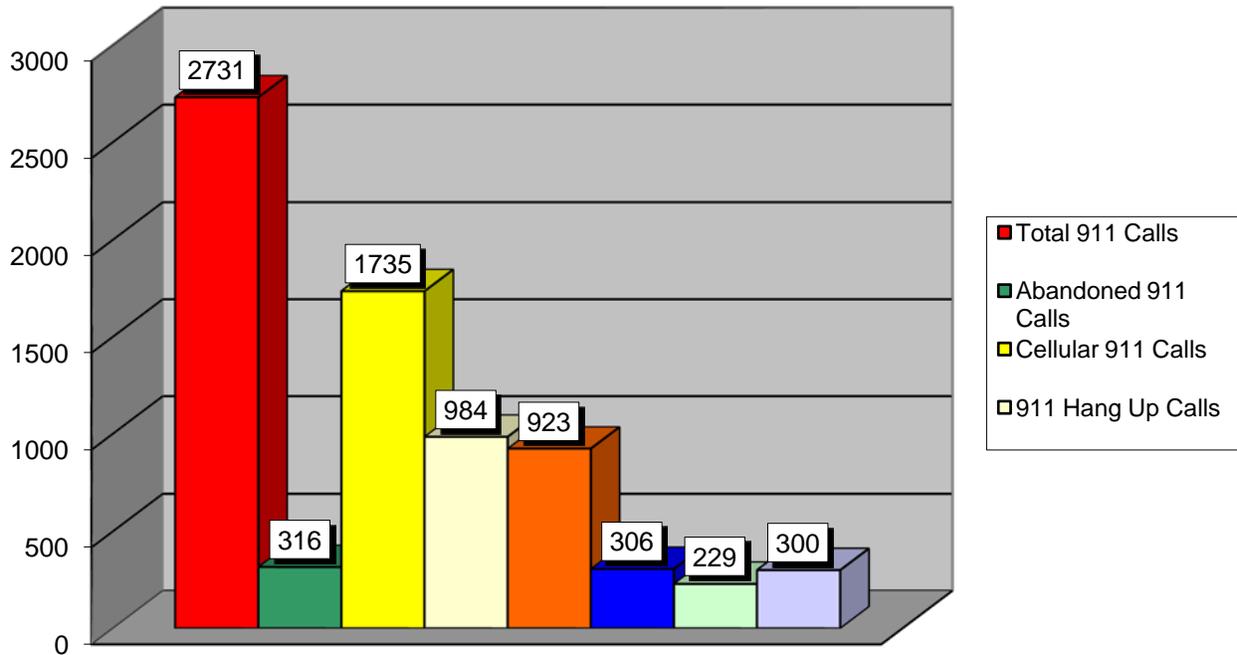
Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention completed follow-up on one young person in Danbury.

October is Fire Prevention Month. This year Home Depot is building two stand -alone rooms for a Sprinkler/Non-sprinkler fire demo. This will be done on Oct. 6 2012 in conjunction with Fire Department. We will also be visiting all schools to deliver our Fire Safety message. We expect to see about 7000 young people.

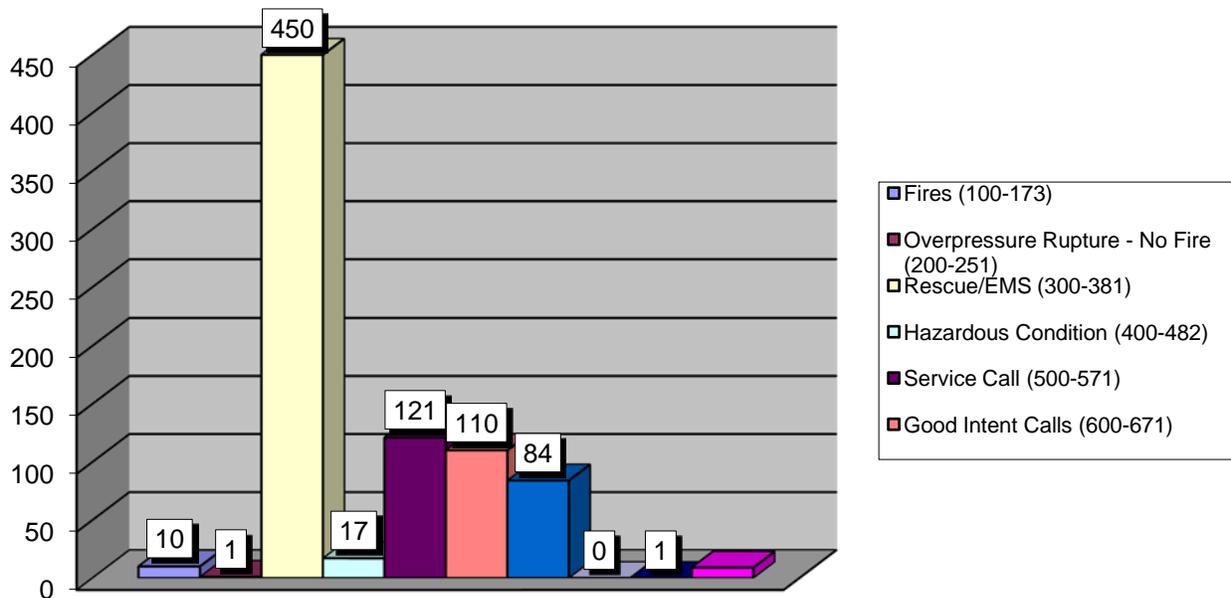
DFMs’ Russell and Weber presented a “hands on” fire extinguisher class for 30 people at GE Capital.

Department Statistical Reports

911 Center Activity September 21 to October 21, 2012



Fire Response Breakdown September 21 to October 21, 2012



Monthly Breakdown NFIRS Ver 5.0 Coding	
Fires (100-173)	10
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)	1

Rescue/EMS (300-381)	450
Hazardous Condition (400-482)	17
Service Call (500-571)	121
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	110
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	84
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	0
Special Incident Type (900-911)	0
No Report/Incomplete	9
Total Fire Responses	802
E911 Statistics	
Total 911 Calls	2731
Abandoned 911 Calls	316
Cellular 911 Calls	1735
911 Hang Up Calls	984
Admin Calls Received	923
Police Calls via 911	306
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	229
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	300
Daily Average	97.54
Dispatch Incident Statistics	
Total Fire Responses	802
Total EMS Responses	799
Unknown Transport Status	4
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	324
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	363
No Patient (CAD 62)	108
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	7
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	22

**** NOTE ****

Multiple 911 Calls received for
Fire And EMS
Incidents are attached to Fire
Incident Reports



Captain Joe Halas rappelling!

Dates of Importance