

**Gelinas, John**

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**From:** Gelinas, John  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2008 15:02  
**To:** \*All Fire Employees  
**Cc:** \*All ECC Employees  
**Subject:** Company Journal - Issue 46



## ***The Company Journal*** ***and "The Feederline"***

***Fire Department News***  
***Cambridge, Massachusetts***

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*From the desk of*  
**Chief Gerald R. Reardon**

*Issue #46*  
*Friday, 21 March 2008*

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### ***What's new***

The two new pumps have been placed in service with Engine Company No. 1 and Engine Company No. 5. Both were built by Pierce Fire Apparatus of Appleton, Wisconsin.



**Engine 1**, with a Rescue/Pumper body configuration, is a 1250 gpm pump with 500 gallon water tank. Designed with enhanced compartment configuration and a left, rear-side pump panel, Engine 1 will carry additional anti-terror, homeland defense, special rescue, and RIT equipment, as well as conventional urban firefighting equipment.

Engine 1, shop #P-0701, was placed in service at 2030 hours on 15 Jan 2008.



**Engine 5** is a conventional 1250 gpm, 500 gallon water tank pump. Engine 5 is also the RAD company. The members are specially trained and equipped to operate in radiation emergencies.

Engine 5, shop #P-0702, was placed in service 2003 hours on 9 Dec 2007.

- photos above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU)**

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**Who's new**



On Friday, 21 December 2007, six Cambridge FFOPs graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's 12-week Recruit Firefighter Training Program and are Nationally Certified Firefighter I/II. Following two additional weeks of in-house training, they all have been deployed to fire companies.

**FFOP Marvin Ramos** (Engine 6,) **FFOP Ryan Murphy** (Engine 5,) **FFOP Daniel Caceres** (Engine 5,) **Chief of Department Gerry Reardon**, **FFOP Matthew Terenna**, (Engine 8,) **FFOP Jerry Bernardo** (Engine 1,) **FFOP Nathan Dobovsky** (Engine 1.)



**FFOP Jerry Bernardo** (Engine 1, group 4) with son, **Jeremiah**



FFOP Nathan Dubovsky (Engine 1, group 2 and F.Lt. Fred Ikels (Engine 5, group 3)

- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

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***All Companies Working***

**Second Alarm Box 2-791:** Two alarms were ordered for the fire at 95 Reed Street on 7 January 2008, a fire in the 2 1/2 story wood-frame, occupied dwelling. Dispatch time was 1348 hours. Seven engines, 4 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated. Group 3 was on duty.







**F.Lt. Tom Cauchon and FF Fran Gallagher**





- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)



- photos above by **Tom Betschart**



- photo above by **Owen Carrigan**

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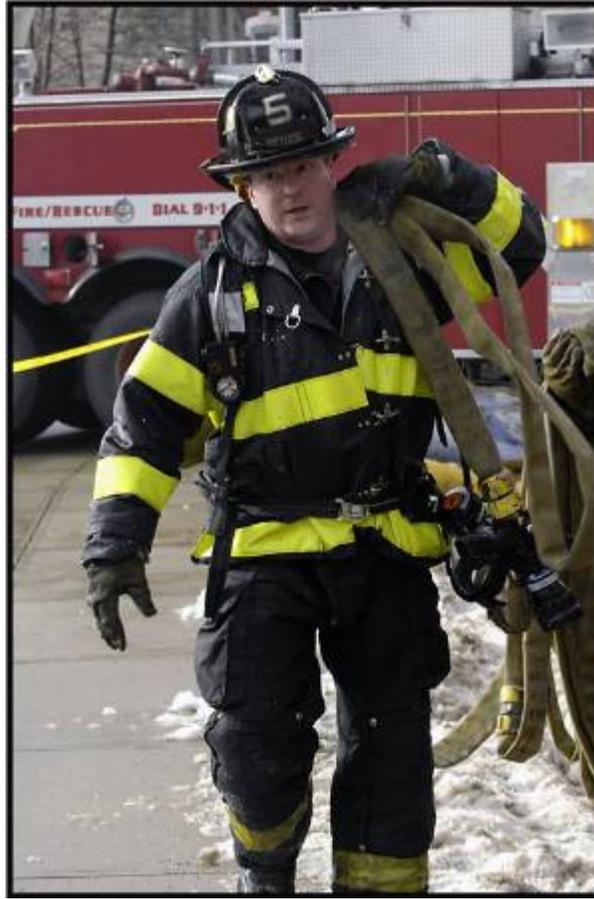
*Photos below:* Engine 5, Ladder 1, and Division 2 worked at the third alarm fire, **Chelsea Box 3-62**, on Chestnut Street in Chelsea on 18 January 2008.



Ladder 1 members (with rakes) **F.Lt. William Wood** and **FF Kyle Hood** report to Chelsea IC for orders.



**FF Ryan DeCoursey** (Ladder 1)



**FF Robert Walsh** (Engine 5)

- photos above by **Jim Daly**

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*Photos below:* **Three Alarms from Box 3-42** were ordered for the fire at 360 Broadway at 0029 hours on 20 Feb 2008. Ten engines, 5 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, 4 line chiefs, and staff and support units operated to contain and knock down this fire in the 2 1/2 story, wood-frame, dwelling. Diligent and aggressive firefighting was able to prevent fire from taking possession of the bravo and delta exposures. **DFC Bokuniewicz** was the IC. Group 2 was on duty.

*Photos below by* **CFD Photo Unit**



On arrival - Opening up



Entry



Fire attack



Protecting exposures



Alpha operations



Delta sector



Hoseline operations - Delta exposure protection



Obstructed ladder raise



Delta sector



Advancing lines



F.Lt. Bill Wood and FF Chris Haynes



Charlie side



Charlie sector



Aerial ladder placement - Alpha side



No kinks - Ladder 2's tower ladder feeder line - in Charlie alley

- photos above by **CFD Photo Unit**

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The new **Engine 1** operating at its first structure fire, **Working Fire Box 45-514** for 52 Brattle Street at 1238 hours on 20 Jan 2008, a fire in a restaurant.

**FF Mark Davis** (Engine 1, group 2) is the pump operator. **ADFC Mark Cunningham** was the IC.

- photo by **CFD photo unit**

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***Faces of the Fire Service***



**FFs Peter Mickiewicz** (Ladder 3,) **Dan Mahoney** (Ladder 3,) and **Dennis Vigilante** (Rescue 1) operating at Third Alarm Box 3-34 for 592 thru 602 Putnam Av. at 0342 hours on 17 December 2007.

- photo by **F.Lt Brian Higgins** (FIU)



Father and son: **FF Tom Higgins** (Engine 8) and **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU)  
Brian is a 4th generation firefighter!



Class of '75: **FF Tom Higgins** (Engine 8,) **Chief of Operations John Gelinas**, and **F.Lt. Paul Mahoney** (Truck 3)

- photo by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU)



**FF Dan Maloney** (Division 100, group 3,) **Stacia Joyce** (CEMA,) and **F.Lt. Bill Hugh** (CEMA.)  
at the Chauncy Terrace second alarm

- photo by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU)

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**More Faces of the Fire Service**



**FF George Thompson (Div 200), F.Capt. Gerry Mahoney (LEPC), FF Andy Carrigan (Engine 1)**



**FF Richard Rycroft (Truck 4) and F.Lt. Tom Cauchon (Truck 4)**



**F.Lt. Tom Kotowski (Engine 6,) FF Henry Sisco (Engine 6,) FF Wayne Ferguson (Engine 8,) and FF Paul Neal (Engine 6)**



**FF Dan Maloney (Division 100)**



**FF Michael DeAmbrose (Truck 4) and FF Richard Rycroft (Truck 4)**



**FF Laura Prunty (Engine 4) and FF Reggie Pagan (Engine 3)**



**FF Mark Tiede (Rescue 1) and FF Steve Kelley (Rescue 1)**



**FF Stephon Kinn (Engine 8,) Ed MacAskill (Truck 4 - retired,) and FF Rich Shea (Truck 2 - retired)**



**FF Renrick Clarke (Engine 4)**



**FF Ameer Moustafa (Engine 5) and F.Lt. Fred Ikels (Engine 5)**

*- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)*

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**DFC Ed Mahoney (Division 1) and F.Lt. Michael Travers (Squad 4)**



**F.Lt. Chris Towski (Fire Prevention/Electrical Safety Officer)**



**F.Lt. Michael Travers** (Squad 4) and **FF Nathan Jarvi** (Engine 1 detailed to Squad 4)

- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)

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### **Out and About**



CFD Florida delegation - Rotondo West, FL - 2 March 2008

**Back row: John O'Donoghue** (Chief of Ops - retired), **Bob Paone** (Lt. Fire Prevention - retired), **Morgan Sheaffer** (FF. Ladder 1 - retired), **Dave Scholl** (Lt. Engine 9 - retired), **John "Spike" Lawless** (FF. Tech Services - retired), **Ken O'Connor** (FF Ladder 2 - retired), **Ted Bibeau** (Capt. Engine 8 - retired), **John Ruffing** (Lt. Engine 5 - retired), **Donald Gonzalo** (FF. Engine 9 - retired.)

*Front row: Ron Ring (Lt. Engine 6 - retired), Harold Grafe (FF. Engine 9 - retired), Charlie Budryk (FF. Engine 3 - retired), Jack Clark (Capt. Ladder 3 - retired), Dan Flaherty (Lt. Engine 4 - active), and Mike Papsedero (FF. Engine 7 - retired.)*



Brothers in Florida - 14 March 2008

**John "Spike" Lawless** (FF - Tech Svcs - retired), **Bob Paone** (F.Lt. - Fire Prevention - retired), **Joe Lawless** (FF - Engine 8 - retired), **John Ruffing** (F.Lt. Engine 5 - retired), **Gerry Mahoney** (F.Capt.- LEPC)

*- photo by Patty Mahoney*





Buffing with Mom

**FF Andy Carrigan** (Engine 1, group 3,) **Mrs. Sharon Carrigan** (Andy and Meg's mother,) and **FF Meg Carrigan** (Engine 2, group 1) at Second Alarm Box 2-64 for 4 Chauncy Terrace at 1956 hours on 11 Dec 2007.

- photo by **FF Laura Prunty** (Engine 4)

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to **F.Lt. Charles Lowe** (Engine 1, group 4) and wife, **Amy**, on the birth of **Kaitlyn Mary Lowe**. Kaitlyn Mary was born at 1008 hours on 5 December 2007. She weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and was 18 1/2" long. She looks like her mother with lots of dark hair and long eyelashes. She joins brother, **Cameron**, who just turned one on December 1st.

Congrats to **FF Richard Feliciano** (Truck 2, group 3) and wife, Pamela, on the birth of **Kate Elizabeth Feliciano**. Kate was born on 26 Jan 2008, weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and 19 1/4 inches long. Kate Elizabeth joins brother and sister, **Nicholas** and **Eva**, as the newest member of the Feliciano family.

Congratulations also to **F.Lt. Pat Haggerty** (Truck 3, group 1) and wife **Sarah Drewicz**, on the birth of **John Robert Haggerty**. John was born on 11 November 2007. He was 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Congratulations also to uncle **F.Lt. Jim Drewicz** (Rescue 1, group 3.)

Congrats also to **FF Renrick Clarke** (Engine 4, group 3) and wife **Helena**, on the birth of **Esien Zacri Clarke**. Esien was born on 25 January 2008 at 2102 hours. He weighed in at 7 pounds 5 ounces, and was 19.5 inches long. He joins brother **Bakari** as the newest member of the Clarke family.

Congratulations also to **F.Capt Ken Jenness** (Engine 6, group1) and wife, **Tricia**, on the birth of **Molly**. Molly was born on 25 February 2008. She weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces. Molly joins brothers and sisters **Bridgitte**, **Brendan**, **Ben**, **Jack**, **Kaleigh**, **Devin**, and **Emmett** as the newest member of the Jenness family.

**Happy 102nd Birthday**

Best wishes and Happy Birthday to Mrs. **Elisa Camara**. Mrs. Camara is the grandmother of **Melinda Camara** (Headquarters Admin). Mrs. Camara was 102 years old on 5 March 2008.

**Transfers and Assignments**

Per GO 37, Series of 2007, effective Sunday, January 6, 2008 at 0700 hours, the following transfers and assignments were implemented:

**Fire Lieutenant Alan S. Beggelman** from Engine No. 8 to Headquarters  
**F.F. Phillip A. Paris** from Ladder Company No. 2 to Headquarters  
**F.F. Carolyn D. Domond** from Engine Company No. 8 to Headquarters

**F.F. William J. Barry, Jr.** from Engine Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 4  
**F.F. Kyle B. Hood** from Engine Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 1  
**F.F. Kevin M. Pierre** from Engine Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 3  
**F.F. Bryan E. Joyce** from Engine Company No. 2 to Ladder Company No. 3  
**F.F. Donald E. Calvert** from Engine Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 1  
**F.F. John S. McEachern** from Engine Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 9  
**F.F. David J. Puopolo II** from Engine Company No. 3 to Rescue Company No. 1  
**F.F. Joyce T. Bowden** from Engine Company No. 4 to Engine Company No. 3  
**F.F. Reggie Pagan** from Engine Company No. 5 to Engine Company No. 3  
**F.F. Nathan W. Jarvi** from Engine Company No. 5 to Engine Company No. 1  
**F.F. Robert J. Crooker** from Engine Company No. 6 to Engine Company No. 4  
**F.F. Justin C. Cully** from Engine Company No. 8 to Ladder Company No. 2  
**F.F. Charles L. Donnelly** from Engine Company No. 8 to Engine Company No. 5  
**F.F. Joseph W. Waddie III** from Engine Company No. 9 to Engine Company No. 8  
**F.F. Peter J. Mahoney** from Ladder Company No. 2 to Ladder Company No. 3  
**F.F. John W. Hathaway** from Ladder Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 5  
**F.F.O.P. Peter J. Mickiewicz** from Ladder Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 2  
**F.F.O.P. Darron R. Smith** from Engine Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 8

**F.F.O.P. Jerry J. Bernardo** to Engine Company No. 1  
**F.F.O.P. Daniel Caceres** to Engine Company No. 5  
**F.F.O.P. Nathan F. Dubovsky** to Engine Company No. 1  
**F.F.O.P. Ryan T. Murphy** to Engine Company No. 5  
**F.F.O.P. Marvin E. Ramos** to Engine Company No. 6  
**F.F.O.P. Matthew J. Terenna** Engine Company No. 8

**Commendation**

Per GO 38, Series of 2007:

RE: **Commendations for actions at Third Alarm Box 3-34, Incident #7006494 for 592 thru 602 Putnam Avenue, on Monday, 17 December 2007**

On the recommendation of Incident Commander, Acting Deputy Fire Chief Robert D. Blake and Chief Fire Investigator, Deputy Fire Chief Michael J. Morrissey, the following members and units are commended:

Commendation

**Fire Lieutenant Paul F. Mahoney, Jr.** of Ladder Company No. 3

Unit Citations

**Rescue Company No. 1:**

Fire Captain William J. Brathwaite, Firefighter Kurt D. McLaughlin, Firefighter Edward M. Fales, Firefighter Edwin Cruz (callback from Engine Company No. 2)

**Engine Company No. 3:**

Fire Lieutenant Brandon M. Hugh, Firefighter John J. McMahon, and Firefighter Clemente J. Pinto

When Box 34 was transmitted at 0341hrs., on December 17<sup>th</sup>, Ladder Co. #3 turned out for the 12<sup>th</sup> run of the tour, a more or less typical tour for the 'black & blue crew' from Lafayette Square. The tail end of a Nor'Easter was still affecting the area. Snow, sleet & rain had all been occurring over the course of the tour. Winds were gusty, hitting 30+ MPH at times. Temperatures were sub-freezing.

As the first due companies crossed Pacific St. on Sidney St., heading to Putnam Ave., the bright orange glow in the distance gave an indication that they had a 'job'.

On arrival of the fire companies the fire already involved two structures in the congested neighborhood. Occupants were exiting the buildings. FCapt. Robert Morrissey, commanding Engine Co. #2, ordered the 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm.

FLt. Paul Mahoney, commanding Ladder Co. #3, split the company up to accomplish all the tasks expected of the 1<sup>st</sup> due truck. Drawing on his thirty-two [32+] years of experience, FLt. Mahoney headed for what he knew to be the apartment of origin, the top floor of the building on the right. FLt. Mahoney encountered a locked door prior gaining access to the top floor. The space around the door was surrounded with the orange glow that indicated fire on the other side. FLt. Mahoney instructed Rescue Co. #1, FCapt. William Brathwaite, FF Kurt McLaughlin, and FF Edwin Cruz (callback fr E2), to stretch a line from Engine 2's pump. The door was forced and the members of R1, operating the hose line on the fire, pushed the fire back down the hallway towards the kitchen. This allowed FLt. Mahoney to perform a search of the fire apartment, his primary mission. In conditions of near zero visibility, FLt. Mahoney was able to recognize the human shape of occupant Charlie Stead Jr. huddled on the floor of the front bedroom closet only by holding his hand light close to his SCBA face piece and searching thoroughly. FLt. Mahoney drew attention to himself as he struggled to remove the victim, who was barely conscious and unable to help himself.

Additional resources were arriving on the scene, Engine Co. #3, FLt. Brandon Hugh, FF John Mc Mahon, and FF Clemente 'Joe' Pinto, were at the top of the stairway on the top floor & immediately moved to aid FLt. Mahoney. It was an intense, exhausting effort all the way to the ambulance, including dealing with icy sidewalks & snowbanks. Several other members assisted along the way.

The victim was delivered to a Pro EMS unit in the street and transported to the emergency department of the Massachusetts General Hospital. He was immediately placed in a hyperbaric chamber for treatment of oxygen deprivation. It is good to report that Mr. Stead will make a full recovery.

The rescue of trapped civilians is the number one task of each and every member of the fire department on any fire ground. The City of Cambridge's investment in its fire department paid big dividends here. The resources were available to be committed in a timely manner to be able to knock down a rapidly extending fire, driven by the winds of a winter storm, simultaneously, a rescue operation was able to be mounted which resulted in the saving of a life. Command & control was in place and the scene was made as safe as possible for all of the members operating at the scene.

FLt. Paul F. Mahoney Jr., as the supervisor of his company, performing as his years of experience and training drove him, was instrumental in the positive outcome of this incident. While every member operating at the scene contributed to this success, FLt. Paul F. Mahoney Jr. deserves to be recognized. His actions are in the best traditions of the Cambridge Fire Department.

All members operated in the highest tradition of the Cambridge Fire Department and are hereby commended for their professional actions.

Per Order,

Gerald R. Reardon  
Chief of Department

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## **Retirements**

Per GO 01, Series of 2008, effective 5 January 2008 at 0700 Hours, **Firefighter Thomas M. Higgins** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Higgins was appointed on August 24, 1975. Following recruit training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, his assignments were as follows:

- August 24, 1975 Engine Company No. 9
- February 12, 1978 Engine Company No. 6
- May 5, 1985 Ladder Company No. 2
- December 4, 1988 Engine Company No. 4
- March 31, 1996 Aide to Division No. 1
- July 29, 2001 Engine Company No. 4
- November 24, 2002 Engine Company No. 8

Firefighter Higgins is a United States Navy Vietnam war veteran.



**FF Tom Higgins, Cammy Fournier** (Tom's sister - Headquarters Admin), **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (Tom's son - FIU), and **Joe** (Tom's nephew) during Tom's last tour of duty at Engine 8.



- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

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Per GO 02, Series of 2008, effective 29 February 2008 at 0700 Hours, **Firefighter John Rose** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Rose was appointed on January 16, 1977. Following recruit training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, his assignment was:

- 13 March 1977 Engine Company No. 5

Firefighter Rose was assigned to Engine Company No. 5 for his entire career. He is a United States Air Force Vietnam war veteran.



The members of Engine 5, group 1 wish **FF Jack Rose** the best of luck in his retirement.  
**FF Ramon Perez, FF Jack Rose, F.Lt. James Desrosiers, FF Mark Massiah, and FF Bill Dusablon** (Engin



Engine 5, group 1: **FF Jack Rose, F.Lt. James Desrosiers, FF Mark Massiah, and FF Ramon Perez**





**FF Jack Rose** and his son-in-law **FF Bill Dusablon** (Engine 3)

- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

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***Special Signal 10-15***

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Harry A. Ryan** of Engine Company No. 6 - retired. Firefighter Ryan was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 20 May 1962 while in the military. His assignments were as follows:

26 August 1962	Engine Company No. 2
29 May 1966	Rescue Company No. 1
5 December 1976	Engine Company No. 6

Firefighter Harry Ryan retired on 27 July 1984. He died on 18 December 2007. He was born on 13 September 1930.

Firefighter Ryan is a United States Air Force veteran.

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The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Wilfred A. Bennett** of Engine Company No. 9 - retired. Firefighter Bennett was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 16 June 1957. His assignments were as follows:

16 June 1957	Ladder Company No. 1
24 November 1964	Ladder Company No. 4
17 March 1968	Ladder Company No. 1
29 October 1972	Engine Company No. 9

Firefighter Bennett retired on 24 April 1986. He died on 14 January 2008. He was born on 28 April 1923.

Firefighter Bennett is a United States Navy veteran of World War II.

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The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter William H Crocker, Jr.** of Engine Company No. 2 - retired. Firefighter Crocker was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 21 December 1952. His assignment was:

21 December 1952	Engine Company No. 2
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On 20 April 1970, FF Crocker left the Fire Department to assume the position of City Electrician for the City of Cambridge.

He died on 22 February 2008. He was born on 12 May 1929.

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The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Fire Lieutenant Stanley C. Fabianski** of Engine Company No. 6 - retired. **Lieutenant Fabianski** was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 15 January 1939. His assignments were as follows:

15 January 1939	Engine Company No. 2
24 August 1952	Promoted to Fire Lieutenant Rescue Company No. 1 pivot Engine Company No. 6
8 March 1953	Engine Company No. 6

Fire Lieutenant Stanley Fabianski retired on 30 September 1978. He died on 8 March 2008. He was born on 14 May 1914.

Fire Lieutenant Fabianski is the father of **Firefighter Stanley C. Fabianski, Jr.** of Ladder Company No. 4.

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The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Francis J. Murphy** of Engine Company No. 4 - retired. Firefighter Murphy was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 4 March 1973. His assignments were as follows:

4 March 1973	Engine Company No. 4
16 November 1980	Engine Company No. 1
9 August 1987	Engine Company No. 7
3 January 1993	Engine Company No. 4

Firefighter retired on 4 April 1999. He died on 2 January 2008. He was born on 27 July 1938.

Firefighter Francis J. Murphy is a United States Marine Corps veteran.

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### **Condolences**

Condolences to **FF Bill Barry** (Engine 4, group 1) on the death of his father, **William Barry**.

Condolences to **FF Dan Lewicki** (Truck 2, group 2) on the death of his mother, **Mrs. Lillian T. Lewicki**.

Condolences to **FF Jeffrey Turner** (Truck 1, group 2) on the death of his father-in-law, **Charles A. Vozella**.

Condolences to **F.Lt. John O'Leary** (Truck 2, group 2) and **FF Robert O'Leary** (Truck 4 - retired) on the death of their mother, **Mrs. Edna L. O'Leary**.

Condolences to **FF Daniel Mahoney** (Truck 3, group 4) on the death of his father, **Arthur T. Mahoney**.

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### **Letters**

*Several of the many letters and e-mails received are shown below.*

*The following was received via e-mail on 23 Jan 2008*

Hello Fire Captain Sheehan,

A note of thanks to you on behalf of your EMT crew from engine co 8.

I had an incident with my commuter bicycle with black ice last night on the sidewalk at corner of Beacon and Somerville. Your crew was passing by and checked me out without a call, offered to take my bike to my house in Arlington if the ambulance couldn't take it. They called Professional Ambulance in Cambridge and stayed until they came to take me to the emergency room.

This may be business as usual for you, but it seemed like beyond the usual for me. Please accept my thanks, especially to Paul, Steve, and Darron.

Yours,  
Steve Gold    Mystic street    Arlington Ma    02474

*(editor's note: This incident occurred at 1935 hours on 22 Jan 2008. Group 4 was on duty. Engine 8 members were **Acting Lieutenant Steven Landry** and **Firefighters Paul Marinelli** and **Darron Smith**. Professional Ambulance PM6, **Paramedic Georgette Cummings** and **EMT John Ryan**, also worked at the incident and provided EMS and transport.)*

Ms. Stephanie Morris  
Eaton Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139

To Chief and Firefighters,

Thank you for being wonderful. On December 29, 2007 at about 3 pm, I had a problem with no heat in the house, I was freezing.

I called and the Fire Dept was to my assistance in a second. May God bless the Chief of the Cambridge Fire Dept and the Firefighters. You are always in my prayers.

S. Morris

*(editor's note: Truck 3 only responded to this still alarm at 1918 hours. Group 4 was on duty. **Acting Fire Lieutenant Dan Mahoney, and Firefighters Sam Coleman and Peter Mickiewicz** were working.)*

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Hollis Park  
Cambridge, Ma 02140  
February 29, 2008

Chief Gerald Reardon  
Cambridge Fire Department  
Fire Headquarters  
491 Broadway  
Cambridge, Ma 02138

Dear Chief Reardon,

I wanted to express my appreciation and thank the Cambridge Fire and Rescue and the Professional Ambulance Service Team for the extremely professional job they performed in an effort to save my Son Brian Kenneally who was 40 years old.

On February 22, 2008 my son, who had been ill for several years, collapsed in our home at Hollis Park Cambridge. We called 911 and the Fire Rescue Team responded immediately. All the Team's skill and training was challenged and we feel they went above and beyond, exhausting every option, in their heroic efforts to revive my Son. The Team worked tirelessly to stabilize Brian; they placed him in the waiting Professional Ambulance Service that did a great job conveying him to the Mount- Auburn Hospital Emergency Room. The Doctors and staff continued to work on my son, unfortunately to no avail.

We are very lucky to have these specialized experts who really care about the people's live they are trying to save. I wanted to extend my Gratitude on behalf of the Kenneally Family for the wonderful performance of the Rescue and Ambulance Team.

Gratefully,

Robert W. Kenneally

*(editor's note: This incident occurred at 0053 hours on 23 Feb 2008, Inc # 07008882. Engine 4, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance PM1 worked at this incident. Group 2 was on duty. Members working were: Engine 4 - **F.Lt. Thomas Reagan, FF Robert Crooker, and FF Mark Davis**; Squad 4 - **Acting F.Lt. Scott Volz and FF Bryan O'Neil**; and Professional PM1 - **Paramedic Michael Pieretti and EMT James Pianka**.)*

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Pemberton Street  
Cambridge, MA 02140

Dear Cambridge Firefighters,

My 13 year old daughter Maya and I want to thank you so much for your kindness last Saturday morning, December 1st. Because of some problem with my bedroom door doorknob, she and I had gotten stuck in my 3rd floor bedroom. After 45 minutes of trying everything we could think of to get the door open, we called 9-1-1. Your prompt and respectful response was greatly appreciated! (And you did not laugh at us, even though looking back on the situation it was pretty strange, especially given the nature of many of your 9-1-1 calls.)

Anyway, thanks again. You all do wonderful work.

Sincerely,  
Amy Hadley

*(editor's note: Truck 4 was assigned to this incident #7005849 at 0279 hours on 1 Dec 2007.  
Group 2 was on duty.*

***F.Lt. Brad Tenney and FFs Stanley Fabianski and Eric Nugent were working.)***

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Walden Square Road  
Cambridge, MA 02140

Dec. 18 , 2007

This is to thank all those kind Firefighters who came to our aid when the CO Detector gave us a Fright.

Wishing All a peaceful Holiday and Health~Peace~Joy~Compassion in the New Year.

Gratefully,

Edgar and Alexi Gerstmann

*(editor's note: This incident #7006553 at 0828 hours on 16 December 2008 was a full CO response to the hi-rise apartment building. Group 1 was on duty. Engine 8, Truck 4, Rescue 1, Squad 4, with Professional Ambulance, operated under command of Division 2 Chief John Cotter.)*

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## Caru Associates

Chief Gerald Reardon  
Cambridge Fire Department  
491 Broadway  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Chief Reardon,

Following the fire at 600 Massachusetts Avenue later Friday afternoon, November 30, we wanted to write and thank you and your men for the excellent work done there.

Our tenants in the adjacent building, at 614 - 620 Massachusetts Avenue, were understandably concerned with the smoke coming into the premises, but the Cambridge Fire Department arrived within moments of the 911 call that was placed.

We appreciate your prompt response and the professionalism of your men under Acting Deputy Brathwaite in managing the fire extremely capably and eliminating all hazards, and handling the people in the area with care and respect. We are also grateful for the thorough investigation of the blaze by Lieutenant Brian P. Higgins, who was on the scene and contacted me personally on the Saturday following the incident, then followed up on Monday, December 3 with his findings.

Again, on behalf of Mr. Barron and myself, our thanks for all you, your firefighters and your department did for us in connection with the events of last Friday, as well as for what they do every day for all of Cambridge.

Sincerely,

Stephen P. Kazes  
Property Manager

Caru Associates  
20 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Ma 02139

*(editor's note: Box 39, Incident #7005824, was transmitted for this fire at 1553 hours on 30 November 2008. Group 4 was on duty. Engines 2, 6, 5, Trucks 3 and 1, Rescue 1, Squad 2, and Division 1 were assigned. A/DFC Bill Brathwaite was in command.)*

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*the following was received via e-mail*

Good afternoon Chief,

I wanted to thank you and your representatives on behalf of my sister-in-law, Linda Cirurso, Linda's father, Bill Crocker, was a Cambridge firefighter, and had his final services yesterday morning.

An engine and several firefighters were there to meet him and the funeral procession at the St. Mary of the Annunciation Church.

I only knew Bill in his later years, but I know that his family appreciated the CFD's presence.

Thanks again.

Michael F. Fitzpatrick

*(editor's note: Cambridge Fire Department never forgets its members. Group 2 was on duty. Engine 2 and Squad 2 represented the Cambridge Fire Department.)*

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*the following was received via e-mail by Captain Gerry Mahoney*

There was a voice mail message left over the weekend at my office. The caller identified herself as a Ms. Judy Kaplan of Medford. She was at a party on Friday night 2-29-08 at an apartment on Garden Street where a person fainted. She called to compliment the members who responded and assisted the gentlemen.

She is a clinician herself, and said all acted extremely professional but in particular described a tall gentleman with short dark brown hair that was extremely thorough and professional in surveying the patient.

She asked me to relay the message to those who responded.

*Capt. Gerry Mahoney*

*(editor's note: Engine 8, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance P7 operated at this Still Alarm, Incident #7009138 at 2225 hours on 29 Feb 2008.*

*Engine 8 members: **F.Lt. Robert Walsh, FF, Wayne Ferguson, and FF Stephon Kinn**; Squad 4 members: **A/Lt. Hugh Devlin and FF Michael DeAmbrose**; and Professional Ambulance PM7 members **Paramedics Nick Menard and Dan Lamme** operated. Group 3 was on duty.)*

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*the following was received via telephone by Captain Greg Carter*

Gentlemen,

The department received a phone call from a citizen who lives at Fresh Pond Place. On March 5, E9, S4, and Pro PM6 responded there. His name is Dr. James G. Marson. Dr. Marson wanted to thank the medical crew that provided him with "superb treatment". He stated that the care was "courteous, capable, efficient and prompt" and that he was "very satisfied with the way they looked after me". I called him back and left a message on his answering machine that I sent this message along to you all. It's nice to receive calls like this one. Keep up the good work.

Capt Carter

*(editor's note: Engine 9, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance PM6 operated at this incident. at 1906 hours on 5 March 2008.*

*Engine 9 members were **F.Lt. David McKinley, FF Simon Camelo, and FF Gary Nangle**; Squad 4 members were **A.Lt Sean Williams and FF Nathan Jarvi**; Professional PM6 members were **Paramedic Devon Abbott and EMT Joe Killion**.)*

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## **History and Tradition**

### **Engine 1**

Engine 1, called, "Cambridge 1," was organized in 1832 and was located in a building on Church Street, near Harvard Square. In 1854, the company moved to new quarters adjacent to the police district station on Church Street.

On 20 June 1859, a new Hunneman hand Engine was placed in service by the company. During 1864, the house was remodeled and on 18 September of that year a new Amoskeag 400 gpm steamer and a Hunneman 2-wheel hose carriage with 900' of hose were placed in service with Engine 1. On 10 Jan 1872, a new 4-wheel hose wagon built by Jones Company was placed in service carrying 1000' of hose.

In 1875, Engine Company #1 moved to new quarters in the city building at the corner of Mount Auburn and Eliot Street (where the Harvard House Hotel is now located). On 15 March 1883, a new steamer built by Manchester Locomotive works was placed in service. During 1885, Engine 1's quarters was renovated. The living quarters was moved to the second floor and the city's first sliding pole was installed.

In 1890, a new Abbot and Downing hose wagon was placed in service. In November of 1921, Engine 1 was motorized when the company placed a new American LaFrance 750 gpm pump and a new American LaFrance hose

wagon in service. Engine 1 was the last horse-drawn engine company in the city. (Ladder 2 was the last horse-drawn company).

In 1928, Engine 1's quarters was condemned and Engine 1 relocated to the quarters of Engine 6 at 176 River Street. On 25 February 1934, Engine 1 moved to new quarters at 491 Broadway. The 491 Broadway fire house is the current home of Engine 1.

In January of 1940, a new Pirsch 1000 gpm pump was placed in service. In July, 1948, a new GMC/Robinson hose wagon was placed in service. In 1960, the 1947 fog wagon, previously in service with Rescue 1, was placed in service with Engine 1. Engine 1 became a 3-piece company and remained so for a few years. Also in November of 1960, the company placed a new 1000 gpm Pirsch pump in service.

On 23 December 1962, Engine 1 placed in service as the pump, the 1948 Pirsch 1000 gpm formerly assigned to Engine 6. In July of 1966, a new International/Farrar hose wagon was assigned to the company. On 14 October 1971, a new Maxim, 1250 gpm pump with 300 gallons of water was placed in service as the pump. On 3 July 1977, a new 1000 gpm American LaFrance pump with 55' Sqrart articulating boom was placed in service as the wagon. This piece was lettered as "Tower Wagon 1." Engine 1 became single-unit on 6 May 1980. The Maxim pump was reassigned to Engine 8. On May of 1984, the American LaFrance Tower Wagon was placed out of service for refurbishing. It returned to service on 31 October 1984. The company ran with a spare pump during this time period. On 9 July 1991, a 1979 Continental 1250 gpm (former Engine 5/Engine 9) was assigned to the company. The American LaFrance Sqrart Tower Wagon was placed out of service.

Engine 1 placed a new Pierce Saber, 1250 gpm pump, with 500 gallon water tank, in service on 24 December 1996. The rebuilt Sqrart boom from the former Tower Wagon is mounted on this pump.

The current Engine 1 pump was placed in service at 2030 hours on 15 Jan 2008. This pump is a 2007 Rescue-Pumper apparatus, built by Pierce, 1250 gpm, 500 gallon water tank. The 1996 Pierce/Sqrart was reassigned to Engine Company No. 8.



Engine 1 - 1883 Manchester Locomotive Works



Engine Company No.1 in front of quarters - Mount Auburn Street  
1883 Manchester Locomotive Works pump  
1890 Abbot and Downing hose wagon



1921- Engine 1's last horses before retirement  
The company was motorized in 1921



1940 Pirsch - 1000 gpm



1948 GMC/Robinson hose wagon



1971 Maxim 1250 gpm/300 gallon tank pump  
1966 International/Farrar hose wagon



1977 American LaFrance 1000 gpm/300 gallon/55' Squrt articulating boom



1996 Pierce/Squrt now assigned to Engine Company No. 8.

**Engine Company No. 1 - protecting mid-town Cambridge for 176 years.**

*- historical information provided by F.Capt.Ed Morrissey*

***Stats and Fires***

The annual run totals for calendar year, 2007 are shown below. **Engine 2** was the busiest company with **2077 runs**. **Squad 2** was the busiest Fire department unit with **3240 runs**. There were **13,372 emergency incidents** during the year which generated **32,868 responses**.

	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Bldg Fires</i>

Engine 1	2087	52
Engine 2	3077	49
Engine 3	1531	22
Engine 4	1625	31
Engine 5	2107	59
Engine 6	1472	50
Engine 8	1234	34
Engine 9	1028	24
Truck 1	2105	68
Truck 2	1362	32
Truck 3	2182	56
Truck 4	1714	39
Rescue 1	2308	70
Squad 2	3240	52
Squad 4	2134	59
Special Units	308	
HazMat 1	30	
Division 1	1763	56
Division 2	1377	45
Mutual Aid Units	184	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32868</b>	

Incidents	13,372
Div 1 Incidents	7681
Div 2 Incidents	5691
Responses	32,868
EMS	6053
Building Fires	98
Inside Fires	631
All Fires	802
HazMat	241

Working Fires	6
2nd Alarms	3
3rd Alarms	2
4th Alarms	0

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### ***America's Heroes - The Greatest Generation***

#### **Final salute to memory of beloved Lowell deputy chief By Jennifer Myers and Robert Mills, Lowell Sun Staff**

LOWELL -- Lowell Fire Department Deputy Chief Patrick McCabe Jr. remembers his early days on the job, staying low inside burning buildings, air masks muffling all voices except for one -- his dad, the guy running the show.

"He was right inside with the guys, directing the operation from the inside without the benefit of an air mask. They were like leather lungs, they were able to do this," he said.

"A lot of the younger guys today would last about 10 seconds and they'd be hacking and coughing and it would go back on."

Retired Deputy Chief Patrick McCabe Sr., who died on Feb. 9 at the age of 88, fought for his country in the Pacific as a Navy machinist during World War II, and then came home to fight fires in the city he loved for 37 years.

"He was a man amongst men, who made me a better firefighter and a better man," said Retired Lt. Tom Hill of the man who was his first deputy when he joined the department in the 1970s.

McCabe was a dad to the eight children he had with his wife of 64 years, Katherine, who is called Kay.

"He was my one and only, and I do miss him," Kay said. The couple would have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this June.

McCabe proposed over the phone, while serving in the Navy.

"He said 'do you think if I came home this weekend we could get married,'" Kay said. "I had an Irish mother who said people will talk -- I said they have nothing to talk about."

Their life revolved around the

Sacred Heart Parish, and they raised their family near the church in The Grove neighborhood, located off Gorham Street.

Both Kay and Patrick attended the Sacred Heart School, as did their eight children.

But McCabe was also a father to young firefighters in the firehouse.

"Paddy always took care of his men. No matter what, he kept us out of harm's way, and inspired a lot of young firefighters," Hill said.

Being a firefighter is never easy, but serving in Lowell in the economic downturn of the '70s was especially difficult.

"They were burning down the Acre," recalled Hill.

On April 19, 1976, McCabe was in command of fire companies from all over eastern Massachusetts, battling a blaze that consumed 15 buildings on Rock Street. There were no fatalities.

The one fire that really shook him to the core, remembers his son, happened on Coburn Street in Centralville in 1970 or 1971.

"I remember him telling me that as they tried to force the door open but couldn't and ended up going in another way," he said. "All of the victims were on the other side of the door. Six people died, a mother and five children."

Despite the challenges of the job, he passed the love of the work on to his family, making firefighting the McCabe family business.

In addition to McCabe Jr., the family includes Lt. Steven McCabe of the Lowell Fire Department, and Robert McCabe, a retired Lowell firefighter. Grandson Patrick McCabe is currently serving in the Navy on a ship in the Persian Gulf, preparing to become a firefighter.

"The biggest thing I learned from him was that if you are a firefighter you have an obligation to go in and do the job and a lot of times you're putting yourself on the line, but that's what you get paid to do and you just go in and do it," McCabe Jr. said.

He describes his dad as "the typical, Tom Browkaw, Greatest Generation guy," an honest, loyal, hard-working family man, who would tell you what he thought straight-up and never tooted his own horn.

"When I did his eulogy, I said if he knew I was up here doing this he'd tell me to sit down." he said of last Wednesday's funeral services at St. Margaret Church.

"If he knew we took him by the firehouse on the way to the cemetery and the guys came out in their turnout gear to salute him as he went by, he'd say, 'send them back in the firehouse, it's raining out.'"

*The above column from **The Lowell Sun** was reprinted with permission.*

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## ***America's Heroes - Korea***

### **Hospitalman Richard De Wert, USNR (1931-1951)**

Richard De Wert was born on 17 November 1931 in Taunton, Massachusetts. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in December 1948. Following "boot camp" and Hospital Corps training at Great Lakes, Illinois, he was assigned to the Naval Hospital at Portsmouth, Virginia, during 1949-50. In July 1950, he joined the Fleet Marine Force and soon sailed for the Far East to take part in the Korean War. Landing with the First Marine Division at Inchon in September 1950, Hospitalman De Wert participated in operations to liberate the city of Seoul. During the rest of 1950, he was involved in the landings at Wonsan, the Chosin Reservoir Campaign and the Hungnam Evacuation.

In 1951 Hospitalman De Wert served with the Marines as they cleared North Korean guerrillas from rural areas of South Korea and as they helped drive the enemy beyond the Thirty-eighth Parallel. On 5 April 1951, while with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines during an attack on Chinese Communist forces, De Wert persistently, and in spite of his own wounds, moved through fire-swept ground to aid fallen Marines. He was killed in action while administering first aid to an injured comrade. For his great heroism on this occasion, Hospitalman Richard De Wert was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.



### **Hell Breaks Loose in The Land of the Morning Calm**

It's April 5, 1951 and Dog Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines has just crossed the 38th Parallel above Hoengsong. The unit's objective is Hill 439. At approximately 1000 hours a fire team from the Company's point platoon is pinned down with heavy and accurate automatic weapons fire.

"Pleas of 'Corpsman' came from everywhere". Hospitalman Richard De Wert ran to the first call, a seriously injured rifleman, only to be shot in the leg, he dragged the wounded Marine to safety and ran, limping, to the aid of another Marine. Throwing the man over his shoulder, he zigged and zagged his way through the bullets to safety.

"Gasping" to catch his breath and with his leg throbbing, De Wert could hear more calls for help. He was up again and dodging bullets on the run. He reached another Marine only to find him dead, and received a bullet in his shoulder as a reward. He heard another call, tired out of breath, and losing blood from his wounds De Wert was up again to a fourth Marine. As he attempted to treat the wounded Marine, HC De Wert fell dead, killed by enemy fire. It was one of the most selfless acts of heroism a man can commit and won him the Medal of Honor.

Fred Frankville, John Alseth, and Robert Gentry witnessed De Wert's heroism and Fred made the recommendation to Lee Wimpee (Third Platoon Leader) that a Medal of Honor be awarded to De Wert. Lee wrote up the citation and passed it on to Al Mackin (Company Commander) who authorized it. The recommendation was then forwarded to Headquarters Marine Corps.

### **Medal of Honor Citation**

The President of the United States, in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to HOSPITAL CORPSMAN DE WERT, RICHARD DAVID, UNITED STATES NAVY for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a HC, in action against enemy aggressor forces. When a fire team from the point platoon of his company was pinned down by a deadly barrage of hostile automatic weapons fire and suffered many casualties, HC De Wert rushed to the assistance of 1 of the more seriously wounded and, despite a painful leg wound sustained while

dragging the stricken marine to safety, steadfastly refused medical treatment for himself and immediately dashed back through the fireswept area to carry a second wounded man out of the line of fire. Undaunted by the mounting hail of devastating enemy fire, he bravely moved forward a third time and received another serious wound in the shoulder after discovering that a wounded marine had already died. Still persistent in his refusal to submit to first aid, he resolutely answered the call of a fourth stricken comrade and, while rendering medical assistance, was himself mortally wounded by a burst of enemy fire. His courageous initiative, great personal valor, and heroic spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of overwhelming odds reflect the highest credit upon HC Dewert and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

/S/HARRY S. TRUMAN

USS DEWERT (FFG-45), United States Navy frigate, is named in HC De Wert's honor.



Source: US Navy official website. Visit the De Wert website below for more information.

<http://www.dewert.navy.mil/site%20pages/history.aspx>

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### ***From the Archives***

A tug of war, Cambridge FD vs. Boston FD, across the Charles River was held in the late 70's as an MDA fundraiser. The Cambridge team is shown below.



*front row: FF Michael Murphy, with daughter Christina, FF Fred Bokuniewicz (Engine 8 retired.) FF and Local 30 President Emeritus John Rocca (Engine 4,) F.Lt. Bill Hugh (Truck 2,) FF John Watson (Ladder 1 retired.)  
back: FF Dennis Tevlin (Engine 2 retired,) F.Capt. Bill Ridgley (Fire Prevention retired,) FF Kurt McLaughlin (Rescue 1,) FF Jodi Greenidge (Engine 6, ) DFC Jim Burns (Tech Services,) FF Dan Lewicki (Truck 2,) FF George Gibson (Engine 9 retired,) FF Don Burke (Ladder 2 retired,) and FF Jim Bergin (Engine 4.)*

*- photo from the collection of DFC Lester Bokuniewicz*

### **Romantic Cities**

As reported in the *New York Daily News*, Amazon.com compiled a list of the "Most Romantic Cities in America." With 236 cities surveyed, Cambridge, Massachusetts came out as number two in the U.S.A. The top ten are:

1. Alexandria, VA
2. **Cambridge, MA**
3. Miami, FL
4. Irvine, CA
5. Ann Arbor, MI
6. Orlando, FL
7. Berkeley, CA
8. Scottsdale, AZ
9. Arlington, VA
10. Atlanta, GA

In last place at 236 was Salt Lake City, UT.

### **Best Walking City in United States**

As reported in [Cambridgema.gov](http://www.cambridgema.gov) [http://www.cambridgema.gov/deptann.cfm?story\\_id=1614](http://www.cambridgema.gov/deptann.cfm?story_id=1614) Cambridge is the best

walking city in America, with more residents walking to work and more parks per square mile than any other city evaluated, according to a just-released study by Prevention magazine in its April issue and the American Podiatric Medical Association. Walking kudos also goes to New York, ranked No. 2, and Ann Arbor, No. 3. The worst walking cities: Oklahoma City, North Las Vegas, and Gadsden, AL. Prevention and the APMA annually team up to measure the walkability of America's cities as interest in walking for fitness remains strong. Walking is the most popular form of exercise with 87.5 percent of Americans walking for fitness.

For more information on this topic, visit: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/cambridge/homepage/x2052204094>

### **10 Best U.S. Walking Cities of 2008**

1. **Cambridge, MA**
  2. New York, N.Y.
  3. Ann Arbor, Mich.
  4. Chicago, Ill.
  5. Washington, D.C.
  6. San Francisco, CA
  7. Honolulu, HI
  8. Trenton, N.J.
  9. **Boston, MA**
  10. Cincinnati, OH
- 

### **Sexiest Occupation**

For the third time in a row, the job survey conducted by Waltham based **Salary.com** reported that the job of **Firefighter** was ranked as "sexiest job." This was reported in **Boston.com** and **The Boston Globe** on 14 Feb 2008. Poll respondents said that Firefighters are revered for their ability to look danger in the eye, maintain top physical fitness, and demonstrate compassion for others. One said, "Firefighters are trained to rescue, to confront fear, and go in when everyone else is running out; and they help when people need it the most. They also look good in and out of uniform."

The *Salary.com* 2008 sexiest job list in order is:

1. **Firefighter**
  2. Personal trainer
  3. CEO
  4. Bartender
  5. Nurse
  6. Photographer
  7. Pilot
  8. Surgeon
  9. Cowboy
  10. Military personnel (Soldier, Marine, Sailor, Airman, Coastguard)
- 

### **Retirees**

Join the Retired Firefighters Breakfast Club. The club meets at 0730 hours at Andy's Diner (across from Engine 4's house) in North Cambridge. Call John O'Donoghue at 781-483-9217 or e-mail him at [jod3502@aol.com](mailto:jod3502@aol.com) for dates and information. Stay in touch. Have breakfast with good company.

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**Information**

Please submit any information or narratives for inclusion the *Company Journal*.

**E-mail list**

If any retirees or friends of the Cambridge Fire Department wish to be added to the *Company Journal* e-mail list, send us the e-mail address!

**Websites**

Visit the Cambridge Fire Department website at [www.Cambridgefire.org](http://www.Cambridgefire.org)

Visit the Local 30 website at: <http://www.cambridgelocal30.org/>

Visit the Cambridge Retirement Board website at <http://www.cambridgeretirementma.gov/index.asp>

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**"Never, never, never quit."**

- Winston S. Churchill

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**REMEMBER THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD. THEY ARE PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY, OUR LIBERTY, AND OUR FREEDOM.  
THANK OUR VETERANS!**

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**Brothers and Sisters,  
STAY BRAVE!  
STAY VIGILANT!  
STAY SAFE!**

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