



The Company Journal **and "The Feeder Line"**

Fire Department News
Cambridge, Massachusetts

A Class 1 Fire Department

From the desk of
Chief Gerald R. Reardon

Issue #43

Friday, 29 June 2007

All Companies Working

Box 3-19: The Working Fire was ordered on arrival, quickly followed by the Second Alarm, on the orders of **Acting Lieutenant Joseph Johnson** of Ladder 2 for the fire at 58 7th Street. The picture below shows conditions on arrival in the highly-congested East Cambridge neighborhood. Ultimately 9 engines, 6 trucks, the Rescue Company, 2 Squads, 4 Line Chief Officers, and multiple staff and support units operated to contain and knock down this fire.

Optimal placement of initially arriving apparatus, quick advancement of attack hoselines, and aggressive search and action by companies prevented what could have been a conflagration.

The Box was transmitted @ 0718 hours, the 2nd @ 0723, and the third alarm @ 0734 hours. **Acting Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cunningham** was the Incident Commander. Group 2 was on duty.







- photos above by **F.Lt Jeremy Walsh** (Squad 2, group 3)

Box 2-432: Second alarm was transmitted for the fire in the 5-story, OMD at 10 Soden Street on 4 April 2007. Six engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, the Rescue Company, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units quickly contained and extinguished this fire in the basement. All residents of the upper floors were evacuated safely. The box was transmitted at 1105, the signal "45" at 1111, and the 2nd alarm at 1114. **DFC Edward Mahoney** of Division 1 was the Incident Commander. Group 4 was on duty.



Truck 3: F.Lt. Paul Mahoney, FF Sean Williams, and FF Dan Mahoney



FF Edward Morrissey (Truck 2 retired) and F.Capt. Robert Morrissey (Engine 2)

- photos above by Dan O'Neill

Box 894 was transmitted for the **Level 1 Working Hazardous Materials Incident** at the Cambridge Water Works. Companies, with the HazMat Task Force, contained and mitigated the ammonium hydroxide (28% solution) spill. The time was 1609 hours on 20 June 2007. There were no injuries. **Deputy Fire Chief Edward Mahoney** of Division 1 was the IC.





- photos above by **Glenn Turner** (Tech Services)

Retirements

Per General Order No. 13, Series of 2007, effective at 1900 hours on 4 April 2007, **Firefighter Frank A. Beninati, Jr.** is retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Beninati was appointed on 20 February 1979. His assignments were as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 15 April 1979 | Engine Company No. 7 |
| 27 April 1980 | Engine Company No. 2 |
| 11 June 2000 | Engine Company No. 4 |

Per General Order No. 15, Series of 2007, effective at 0700 hours on 30 April 2007, **Firefighter Richard F. Shea** is retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Shea was appointed on 7 August 1977. His assignments were as follows:

2 October 1977	Engine Company No. 2
2 July 1978	Ladder Company No. 3
27 June 1993	Ladder Company No. 2

Transfers

Per General Order No. 11, Series of 2007, effective at 0700 hours:

Firefighter Brian M. Peebles from Engine Company No. 2 to Rescue Company No. 1
Firefighter Brian E. Joyce from Rescue Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 2
Firefighter Shawn M. Burke from Engine Company No. 5 to Ladder Company No. 2

Per General Order No. 14, Series of 2007, effective 0700 hours:

Firefighter **Kevin B. McGonigal** from Rescue Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 9

Memorial Sunday

Firefighters Memorial Sunday was held on 10 June 2007. A good turnout of members, active and retired, stopped to remember those Firefighters who have gone before us.





Hathaway Family



Landry Family



FF Tom MacNeil and F.Lt. Paul Mahoney



MacNeil family



Caitlin and John O'Donoghue



Retirees

- photos above by **Glenn Turner** (Tech Services)

Out and About

F.Lt. Fred Ikels (Engine 5, group 3) recently visited **Airman First Class Joe Fournier** at his duty assignment, Charleston Air Force Base in South Carolina, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, Fire Protection Flight. Joe is an Air Force Firefighter at the base. Fred also was assigned there for part of his Air Force deployment in 1998 and 1999.

Joe Fournier is the son of **Cammy Fournier** (Headquarters Admin.), the cousin of **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU) who is currently United States Army active duty, deployed to Iraq, the nephew of **FF Tom Higgins** (Engine 8, group 4,) the grandson of **FF Frank Higgins** (Engine 8, retired,) and the nephew of **F.Capt. Joe Higgins** (Somerville FD, retired.)



PFC Brian Souza, USMC, standing guard at The Commandant's House USMC Barracks, Washington D.C. 6/1/07. Private Souza is the son of FF **Ken Souza** (Rescue 1, group 3) and the grandson of FF **Ron Souza** (Engine 7, retired.)



- photo by **F.Capt. Gerry Mahoney (LEPC)**

Ensign Paul Mahoney (middle), United States Navy is shown while in transit to duty assignment in the mid-East. Ensign Mahoney is the son of **F.Lt. Paul Mahoney** (Truck 3), the nephew of **F.Capt. Gerry Mahoney (LEPC)**, and **F.Capt. Michael Mahoney** (Fire Prevention - retired.)



March 8, 2007- Cambridge Firefighters Local 30 IAFF, in conjunction with the Mt. Auburn VFW Post, Local 30 Attorney Neil Rossman, and Operation American Soldier, has donated over \$700 worth of softball equipment to American troops serving in Iraq .

Operation American Soldier (www.operationamericansoldier.com) is run by **John and Wendy Rocca** of Watertown . John's father, **John Rocca Sr.** is a retired Cambridge Firefighter who served as President of Local 30 for over twenty years. The donation came about as a result of an e-mail exchange between **Army Sgt. Sandra Ramirez** and Wendy Rocca. Sgt. Ramirez explained how there was only 2 bats and 5 gloves for a group of 24 soldiers.

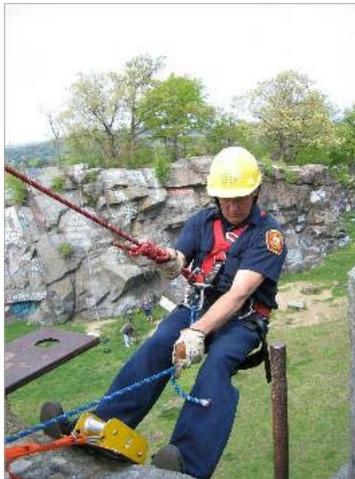
The motto of Operation American Soldier is "**No soldier walks away from mail call empty handed,**" according to John and Wendy. For additional information or to donate to Operation American Soldier visit their web site at:

www.operationamericansoldier.com

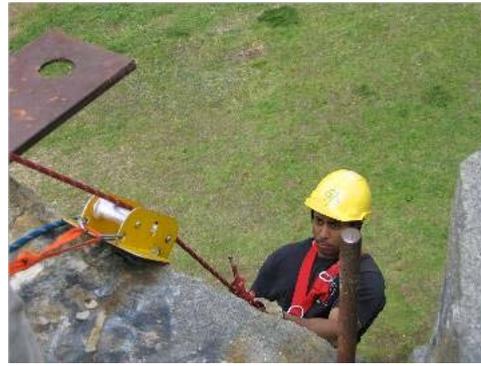
Photo above: Neil Rossman, Brad Tenney, John Shinkwin, John Rocca, and John Rocca, Jr.

- photo above by CFD Photo Unit

Rope Rescue Training at Quincy Quarry



FF Shawn Flannagan (Ladder 3, group 3)



FF Kevin Pierre (Engine 1, group 3)

- photos above by **F.Capt. Brian Gover** (Engine 1, group 3)

More odds and ends



Hollywood comes to Cambridge.

Members above participated in the fire and life safety detail during filming of the movie, *Twenty One* on the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge on 13 May 2007.

- photo above by **Jay Connor, M.D.**





Dawn over the city

- photos above by **F.Lt. Jeremy Walsh** (Squad 2, group 3)





During a recent training exercise, **Chief Reardon** prepares to test drive United States Coast Guard Jayhawk helicopter for operational use in the Cambridge Fire Incident Command System.

Triple House Move

Two large 3 story, wood-frame, mansard houses and a 2 story, mansard carriage house were moved from Harvard Law School property at Massachusetts Avenue and Jarvis Street to a new location at Massachusetts Avenue and Mellon St. The move was completed on the morning on Saturday, 23 June 2007.





FF Pedro Gonzalez (Rescue 1, group 2), **F.Capt. Mark Cunningham** (Engine 5, group 2), and **FF Brian Peebles** (Rescue 1, group 2)

- photos by *Tara Bithia*

Multi Agency Rad drill

On 14 June, companies participated in a full-scale, hands on anti-terrorism radiation exercise at Logan Airport. Ladder 1 and Rescue 1, with Professional Ambulance, worked with Logan-Massport Fire, Boston EMS, Massachusetts National Guard Civil Support Team, Massachusetts State Police, and other agencies to make this drill successful.





FFs Michael Francis and Michael Dwyer of Truck 1





- photos above by **FF Fran Gallagher** (Division 1, group 1)



FF Fran Gallagher (Division 1, group 1)

Multi Unit Drill

In addition to structured Training Division drills, fire companies drill continually in fire suppression and safety skills. Engine 3 and Truck 2 are shown participating in a multi unit drill IVO the CANA loop Interstate Route 93 ramps at the Charles River.



- photos above by **FF Shawn Burke** (Truck 2, group 4)

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF Shawn Burke** (Truck 2, group 4) and wife, **Laura**, on the birth of **Isabella Jade Burke** on 2 April 2007 at 0540 hours. Isabella weighed in at 8 pounds 15 ounces and was 21.5" long. She joins brothers, **Jonathan** (age 6) and **Adam** (age 5) as the newest member of the Burke family.

Congrats also to **F.Lt. Jamie Ferreira** (Engine 6, group 4) and wife, **Colette**, on the birth of **James Robert Ferreira** on at 11 April 2007 at 1841 hours. James weighed 10 lbs.1.2 ounces and was 21 ½ inches long.

James Robert's grandfather is Fire Captain James Ferreira (Engine Company 1. retired.)

Letters

Dear Chief Reardon.

Thanks to the timely action of members of our rescue team(s), I was removed from a stuck elevator (between flrs. 3 and 4) at 30 Churchill Ave., Cambridge, MA.

It was, in my civilian opinion, a top-shelf operation from start to finish.

With my sincere appreciation,

Robert I. Clark
Burns Housing for the Elderly

Kevin P. Crane, Esq.
Attorney at Law
104 Mount Auburn Street
Harvard Square
Cambridge, Ma 02238

3/15/07

Chief,

I just wanted to drop you a note thanking you and your department for your stellar efforts during our house conflagration of 2/5/07. If the CFD hadn't performed up to their usual highest standards I'm certain our loss would be even greater.

Growing up in my family with the Mayor who wanted to be the Fire Chief I appreciated the job you and your staff do more than most "The Job" being described to me on many occasions as the "most dangerous occupation."

You are great jakes!

All the best,

Kevin Crane & Family

*(editor's note: Group 3 was on duty for this fire. The Incident Commander was **DFC Robert Scott** of Division 2. Four engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, 1 rescue company, and 2 division chiefs operated to quickly contain and knock down this fire. The Working Fire, Box **45-793** was transmitted.)*

Boston Sparks Association
344 Congress Street
Boston, Ma 02210

April 20, 2007

Chief Gerald Reardon

Dear Chief,

The Officers and Directors of the Boston Sparks Association sincerely thank hour for your contribution of your former dive truck to become our new Canteen to support our mission to help firefighters and other emergency personnel who put their lives on the line daily to protect the public.

The BSA Canteen truck, as you know, responds to multiple-alarm fires and other emergency incidents where an extended amount of time is required for emergency personnel to render the situation safe and secure. During these extended periods, rehabilitation and rehydration are critical to the well-being of the members of the public safety community, and the efforts extended by our organization are heartily received. In the firs three months of 2007, we have already responded to 30 incidents.

Again, your support in this donation was key to keeping us operating, so please accept our heartfelt thanks.

Best regards,

George Santos

President

The following was received via e-mail to City Manager Robert Healy.

April 2, 2007

Dear Mr. Healy,

We want to thank the best fire and police department. They were our heroes today with their quick action and expertise. They kept the fire from spreading to or house and other homes in the block. They were polite, courteous, and we are glad they are so good at their job. Both the fire and police people kept us calm when we were scared and nervous. The fire department had the fire under control in moments. We give a heartfelt thanks to all.

Thank You

The Trifone Family

Otis Street

(editor's note: Group 2 was on duty for this fire. A/DFC Mark Cunningham of Division 1 was the Incident Commander. A Third alarm, Box 3-19 was transmitted. Nine engines, 6 trucks, the Rescue Company, 2 Squads, with chief officers and support units operated.)

March 26, 2007

Chief Gelinias.

The Girls Taking Action Program would like to thank you for allowing Katia to spend her job shadow day with Inman Square Engine 5.

Thank you,

GTA staff

(Editor's note: Engine 5, group 3, F. Lt. Fred Ikels, FFs Reggie Pagan, Ameer Mustaffa, and Ted Whitney participated in this program.)

International Association of Firefighters

March 27, 2007

Dear Chief Reardon:

Firefighter Leonard F. Delaney, who died in the line-of-duty on March 23, 2007, was a member of the Cambridge Fire Department in your community. He sacrificed his life in an act of courage, humanitarianism, and selfless devotion to duty. We want you to know that the loss suffered by your membership and the community is shared by the 275,000 members of the International Association of Fire Fighters. We join in conveying our sincere condolences to the family of Firefighter Delaney.

Sincerely,

Haorld A. Schaitberger

General President

Hollis Park
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140

March 13, 2007

Chief Gerry Reardon
Fire Department Headquarters
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

Engine 4
Captain Lawrence Brogan
FF John Kenney
FF Kenneth Hugh

Squad 4
Firefighter Matthew Wood
Firefighter Laura Prunty

Dear Chief Reardon,

I am writing to commend the above names. On February 17th, my husband John F. O'Brien passed away of a heart attack. 911 had been called and remained on the phone with us until the above Companies arrived a few minutes later.

The paramedics worked diligently doing everything possible to revive my husband. They were absolutely outstanding. Their caring manner was not only pleasant, but very helpful keeping me informed on procedures they were doing to try to revive my husband.

Let me say that Cambridge is very fortunate to have this special group of qualified and dedicated employees. Please extend my sincere gratitude to all of the above Companies.

Sincerely,
Yvonne M. O'Brien

The following was received via Mayor Kenneth Reeves's office.

Harvard School of Public Health
677 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

March 9, 2007

Dear Mr. Reeves,

This January marked the first offering of a new Harvard Medical School course designed to introduce first year medical students to the relationship between public health and medicine. As part of the course, all 170 first-year medical and dental students participated in a tabletop exercise developed by the Harvard School of Public Health Center for Public Health Preparedness, and designed to illustrate the health care-public health interface in the context of an infectious disease emergency. This exercise represented the first educational initiative focused on public health preparedness to be required for Harvard Medical School students.

Captain Gerry Mahoney served as an expert "coach" during this exercise, volunteering his time to facilitate discussion for a group of students as they worked through their response to a pandemic influenza scenario. The success of this event was n no small part due to Captain Mahoney's contribution, and students greatly benefited from the opportunity to learn from his experience and leadership.

We're grateful for Captain Mahoney's participation in the event, and for your community's great dedication to emergency preparedness education.

Best,

Howard K. Koh, MD, MPH

Memorial Drive
Cambridge, MA 02138

April 25, 2007

Dear Chief Reardon,

I am an invalid who requires a steady floe of oxygen, which is supplied to me by a personal care company. This morning at 5 AM the oxygen machine failed. Repeated calls to the company did no good, and by 8 AM, I was in danger of choking. As a last resort I called 911.

After a couple of intelligent questions, four EMTs were at my door in a few minutes. They knew exactly what to do. They were efficient, kindly, unhurried, and reassuring. Well, they looked like guardian angels to me.

I wanted to express my thanks with money, but they would not accept any.

Sincerely yours,

Esther Ynkoma

(editor's note: Engine 1 (F.Lt. Charles Lowe, FFs William Barry and Lawrence Pacios) and Rescue 1 (A/Lt. Kurt McLaughlin, FFs Jeffrey McGourty, John Mulligan, and Dennis Vigilante) were assigned to this incident. Group 4 was on duty.

The Travers family would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Chief Reardon, and Chief of Operations Gelinias and all the members of this Department who participated in the funeral of Lt. Harold Travers Ret. The inclusion of Ladder 4 and Squad 2 in the service left a significant impression on our entire family. Thank you to all who participated in the Honor Guard, Color Guard and F.F. Dan Mahoney's' Bag Pipe presentation. The Cambridge Fire Department's involvement would have meant a great deal to my father.

Respectfully,

Mike Travers and Family

Souza family
Woburn , Ma

Chief Gerald Reardon
Cambridge Fire Department
Cambridge , MA

Thank you so much and to all the department and men who stood in the honor guard as well as came to pay their respects. My dad was a firefighter in Halifax, Nova Scotia and the pride we all had never failed.

God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Donna Souza

Haggerty School

June 6, 2007

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

Dear Chief Reardon,

I felt it was important to give you some feedback on our implementation of the SAFE Program over the past several months.

We had the good fortune of having Lt. Steve Boyle assigned to our school, and he did an excellent job! He was able to speak with the children in a developmentally appropriate manner, not lecturing over their heads, while at the same time keeping them engaged and on task.

Lt. Boyle was professional, punctual; keeping to the schedule that had been developed, followed up with teachers when necessary, and the children looked forward to his visits.

We look forward to working with him next year!

Sincerely,

AnneMarie Mahoney
Assistant Principal

Stats and Fires

During the month of **May, 2007, Squad 2** was the busiest unit with **262 runs**. **Engine 2** finished with **257**, Engine 5 with 168 runs, and Engine 1 with 151. **Truck 3** finished the month with **175 runs** and Truck 1 with 145 **Rescue 1** finished the month with **180 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **138 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 96 emergency incidents. **Squad 4** completed February with 170 runs.

There were 1084 emergency incidents in May, which generated 2638 emergency responses. There were 7 building fires, 54 inside fires, and 80 fires of all categories.

Retirees

Join the **Retired Firefighters Breakfast Club**. The club meets at 0730 hours on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month 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 for more information. All retired members are welcome. Stay in touch. Have breakfast with good company.

What's New

The two new Pierce pumps, Engine 1 and Engine 5, should be delivered by the end of July. Engine 1 will be a Rescue-Pumper. Engine 5 will be a conventional pump.

Cambridge Fire Channel 1 is now being simulcast on ultra-high band, 471.3125, PL 146.2.

Cambridge Police Channel 1 is also simulcast on 470.3125, PL 131.8.



M-2 has been assigned to Technical Services/Fire Apparatus mechanics.
The M-2 vehicle was outfitted for apparatus maintenance service by the Tech Services mechanics.
It is a former ambulance which was donated by **Professional Ambulance**.

- above photo by **Glenn Turner** (Tech Services)



Rescue 3, the 1995 Freightliner/Emergency One, has been assigned as the Dive Rescue Truck and runs out of Headquarters.

- photo by **F.Lt. Charles Lowe** (Engine 1, group 4)



A-10, the former Dive Rescue, has been outfitted as the Canteen/Rehab Truck, and is now operated by the Boston Sparks Club.

- photo by **Paul Boudreau**

IFBA Convention

The annual convention of **The International Fire Buffs Association** will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts from the 8th to the 11th of August 2007. The convention site will be the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

From the Archives

The pictures below show the aftermath of the fire at 1248 Cambridge Street, corner of Prospect Street, in January of 1968. In issue #42 of the Company Journal, Maria Pavidis wrote a moving letter in regards to this fire. Three persons perished in the fire.



Ladder 1



Engine 6 Wagon

- photos above from the collection of **F.Capt. Brian Gover** (Engine 1, group 3)

Wheels of the Past



Photo above: Engine 4's former hose wagon, 1967 International/Farrar
Picture was taken in 1973

- photo by **DFC Dave Salvi**



Engine 5's former hose wagon was discovered at the fire apparatus display in Lynnfield in June.
It is owned by a collector from Connecticut.
This is the 1958 Ford/Robinson.

- photo by **FF Howie Smith** (Ladder 2, group 3)

Time Capsule - 1977

21 July 2007 will be the 30 year anniversary of the Four Alarm Fire at 85 Bishop Allen Drive, the **Bowl-Haven Bowling Alley**. The box was 4-284.

Box 284	0422 hours
Working Fire	0432 hours
Box 2-284	0434 hours
Box 3-284	0444 hours
Box 4-284	0516 hours
Special call	0525 hours – additional engine company

All out 284 1215 hours on 22 July 2007

The building is a 2 story, brick and steel, 70' X 80.'

Joe Fresolo and **John Brennan** were the fire alarm operators on duty. **DFC Thomas Scott** was the Incident Commander. Group 3 was on duty.

ORIGINAL FIRE ALARM INCIDENT TICKET

INCIDENT NO. **80543** CITY OF CAMBRIDGE ELECTRICAL DEPT. DATE & TIME
JUL 21 04 22 '77

LOCATION 85 Ribont alley Drive
Bowling Alley

RECEIVED P.L. J-1 W/W ALE OUT 1215

NOTIFIED Prof Amb @ 0438 Code - 11

OPERATORS Trivolo, Brennan REMARKS
Struct Box 284 too
Investigation
Dept. semi-le Bowling Alley
C-2 off @ 0424
code 1 @ 0429
E-1 Cover E-2 @ 0429
working
File @ 0432
E-8 To the
0450
04520

APPARATUS ASSIGNED & IN SERVICE TIME									
E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6	E7	E8	E9	
0734	1234	0722	0608	0760	1063	0904	0651	0721	
A.T.	0422	13	14	RES.	C2	C3	E-5	F-1	
1046	0726	113	0713	0740	125	0655	0640	0811	
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

C-3 Left The fire @ 0655
 F-4 To AT1 @ 071 - 1047
 Fire Marshall @ 0736
 R-C-1 @ 0553
 4th Alarm Ass @ 0516

The copy of the Fire Incident Ticket and much of the above information was provided by Ron Richard, (ECC/Fire Alarm.)

In the year 1977, there were 21 multiple alarm fires. These included:

- 13 Second Alarms
- 5 Third Alarms
- 3 Fourth Alarms

There was a total of 2094 Box Alarms during the year.

Some of the significant fires in 1977 include:

- National Casket
- Nick's Steak House
- Lechmere Sales warehouse
- Bowl-Haven
- First Parish Church
- Lechmere Wines
- Hampshire and Prospect Streets - 4 story, wood-frame, OMD
- Belanger Roofing on Harvey Street
- River Street 4 story, wood-frame, duplex, OMD during a blizzard
- Taxpayers in North Cambridge and in Lafayette Square
- Overturned gasoline tank truck and exposure buildings in Kendall Square

There were 7 fire fatalities in the calendar year, 1977.

In that year, all nine engine companies were two-piece companies; all ladder companies ran 100' tractor-trailers; the Squrt was mounted on Engine 1's Wagon, the American la France Pioneer; the Aerial Tower was the 85' Sutphen; and Rescue 1 ran the 1969 Mack.

William J. Cremins was the Chief of Department
 James L. Sullivan was the City Manager

The following text is taken from Chief Cremins's Annual Report message of 1977/1978:

"As of this writing, the new fire station at the site of Cambridge, Second, and Gore Streets, has been completed and will be occupied

shortly.

"Land has been acquired at the Fulkerson-Binney Street area for a proposed new station to house Engine Company 7, now in Kendall Square (built in 1894.) This is in keeping with a proper fire response system that coordinates with the East Cambridge Fire Station at Cambridge and Second Streets. A new fire department repair facility is recommended for inclusion in the plan for this new station for a more efficient repair division operation. This location would also provide response quarters for the Division 1 Deputy Chiefs.

"Also, suitable acreage should be set aside in the New Street area for a future fire station and training facility. It must be remembered that the City of Cambridge Fire Department has no physical plant for training and drilling purposes."

- William J. Cremins

Chief of Department

Signal 10-15

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Robert P. Souza** of Engine Company # 6 - retired. Firefighter Souza was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 23 May 1965 and assigned to Engine Company #3. He was assigned to Engine Company #6 on 5 March 1972.

Firefighter Souza retired on 13 April 1993. He was born on 19 July 1936 and was a veteran. He died on 27 April 2007

FF Souza is the brother of **Fire Lieutenant Arthur Souza**, Ladder Company # 2 - retired.

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Fire Lieutenant Harold J. Travers** of Ladder Company # 4 - retired. Lieutenant Travers was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 14 February 1943 and assigned to Engine Company #6.

His other assignments were as follows:

31 July 1949 -	to Ladder Company #3
5 March 1972 -	Firefighter Aide to Deputy Fire Chief Burke
22 July 1973 -	promoted to Fire Lieutenant, Ladder Company #4

Fire Lieutenant Travers retired on 10 March 1979. He was born on 19 February 1916. He died on 7 May 2007

Fire Lieutenant Harold Travers is the father of **Fire Lieutenant R. Michael Travers** (Squad 4) and **Firefighter Michael R. Travers, Jr.** (Engine Company #2)

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the Line of Duty Death of **Firefighter Leonard F. Delaney** of Ladder Company # 4. Firefighter Delaney was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 13 August 1972 and assigned to Engine Company #8. He was assigned to Ladder Company #4 on 17 February 1974.

Firefighter Delaney was born on 24 December 1943. He died on 23 March 2007. Photos below are from the funeral at St. John the Evangelist Church, North Cambridge.







- photos above by **Glenn Turner** (Tech Services)

Condolences

Condolences to **FF William Sullivan** (Truck 1, group 4) on the death of his mother-in-law, **Mrs. Alice M. Kelly**.

Condolences to **FF William McGovern** (Engine 5, group 2) on the death of his brother, **John McGovern**. John was a member of the O.W.L Fire Department in Culpepper, VA.

Condolences to **FF John Rocca** (Engine 4, retired) on the death of his grandson, **Richard Mulloy**.

Charleston 's sad news a reminder of price heroes pay

By Joe Fitzgerald
Boston Herald Columnist

Wednesday, June 20, 2007 - Updated: 08:16 AM EST

Flags are flying at half-staff in South Carolina this morning as the shaken city of Charleston prepares to bury nine fallen firefighters who perished in a warehouse conflagration Monday night.

"To lose nine is difficult to fathom or quantify," said Mayor Joe Riley, struggling to find the right words. "It's just unbelievable."

Unspeakable? Yes. Unbearable? Maybe.

But unfortunately it is all too believable, especially here in Boston where, 24 hours earlier, families, friends and colleagues of the nine Boston firefighters who died in the collapse of the Hotel Vendome gathered at the Commonwealth Avenue memorial to mark the 35th anniversary of that unforgettable tragedy.

Numbers, however, don't define the magnitude of the loss when a firefighter gives his last full measure of devotion in a line-of-duty death.

When Marty McNamara, a 31-year-old Lancaster volunteer, died alone only days before the birth of his third daughter in 2003, it was no less heart-wrenching than 343 New York jakes succumbing together in 2001, because every loss is profoundly personal to loved ones left behind.

The Vendome memorial was a source of contention for years as neighborhood activists insisted it would be aesthetically displeasing, additionally suggesting firefighters weren't cut from the same cloth as bona fide heroes immortalized by statues adorning the mall.

Those neighbors were an embarrassment to the city.

"Firefighting is a hazardous occupation," Edward Croker, New York 's chief, pointed out a century ago. "It is dangerous on the face of it, tackling a burning building. The risks are plain. Consequently, when a man becomes a fireman, his act of bravery has already been established. Everything else is his daily duty."

Each spring, graduating members of the Boston firefighting academy are brought by drillmaster Hugh Duffy, the son of a retired chief, to the Vendome memorial, where they encounter sobering quotes inscribed upon the wall:

"Our families know that each day could be our last. It's just part of the work."

"There is the unknown in every fire. You do your job, follow the plan. Still, something can go wrong."

"Sometimes you have to say, 'There is nothing more we could have done.'"

The late Richie Powers, a lieutenant who founded the department's a capella quartet, a fixture at firefighter funerals, often recalled the time he requested a transfer from Engine 32 in Sullivan Square to Rescue 1 "because I wanted more action."

That was in 1970.

"I remember telling that to Paul Murphy and his wife at a function a couple of years later, and sort of chuckling when she still expressed concern for his safety, because 32 wasn't considered a busy company.

"Well, two weeks later Paul was dead, one of three from Engine 32 who died at the Vendome. As I went through the line at his wake, Mary asked, 'Do you remember our conversation?' I hugged her and whispered, 'Yes, I do.' Oh, did I learn a lesson from that."

The lesson Richie learned was just a reaffirmation of what Chief Croker pointed out, that you do not have to die, or even stare death in the face, to become a hero.

Indeed, a man or woman becomes a hero the moment he or she becomes a firefighter; everything else is just part of the job.

The nine who died in Charleston understood that, as the six who died in Worcester understood it, too, back in 1999.

It's the rest of us who need to keep it in mind.

Editor's note: The column above was reprinted with permission of Joe Fitzgerald and The Boston Herald.

Never Forget

Remember in your hearts and in your prayers the 9 Charleston brothers and the most recent FDNY brother to have died in the line of duty.

Monday, 18 June 2007:

- **Capt. William "Billy" Hutchinson**
 - Age: 48
 - Years with department: 30
- **Capt. Mike Benke**
 - Age: 49
 - Years with department: 29 years
- **Capt. Louis Mulkey**
 - Age: 34
 - Years with department: 11 1/2 years
- **Engineer Mark Kelsey**
 - Age: 40
 - Years with department: 12 1/2 years
- **Engineer Bradford "Brad" Baity**
 - Age: 37
 - Years with department: 9
- **Assistant Engineer Michael French**
 - Age: 27
 - Years with department: 1 1/2 years
- **Firefighter James "Earl" Drayton**
 - Age: 56
 - Years with department: 32 years
- **Firefighter Brandon Thompson**
 - Age: 27
 - Years with department: Four years
- **Firefighter Melven Champaign**
 - Age: 46
 - Years with department: Two years

Thursday 21 June 2007

- **Firefighter Daniel Pujdak, Ladder 146**
age 23
1.5 years with Department
-

"Dear Diary...."

- Firefighter/Inspector Edward J. Fowler

**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!**



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

-jjg