



**GOOD NEWS**



# **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **June 2021 Edition**

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**GOOD NEWS**



# **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Good News #107  
Thank You - Community Outreach Team**

From: Derek Matthews  
Date: Wed, May 12, 2021  
Subject: Many thanks to the team and all you do.  
To: Paul Cruz

Chief,

I just wanted to take a brief moment to thank you and your team for what you did for our family. While installing smoke detectors may have been all in a day's work for your team, it meant the world to our family that they took the time to go next door and do 2 more family homes.

This type of service is why I brag so much about my Anne Arundel County Fire Department.

Thank you,

Derek G Matthews  
Project Manager  
Office of Community Relations  
Anne Arundel County Police Department



**Program Specialist  
Dan Scotten**



**FFPM Donny Clime**



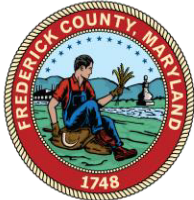
**GOOD NEWS**



# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #108**

**Frederick County Fire & Rescue - Thank You FF Benjamin Wolford**



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### DIVISION OF FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

Office of the Chief

Jan H. Gardner  
*County Executive*

*Thomas E. Coe, Chief*

06/03/2021

Chief Trisha L. Wolford  
Anne Arundel County Fire Department  
8501 Veterans Highway  
Millersville, MD 21108

Dear Chief Trisha L. Wolford:

The Division of Frederick County Fire and Rescue Services would like to take this opportunity to extend our most sincere gratitude for allowing Technician Benny Wolford to assist with the assessment centers during our recent Technician Promotional Process. In the unprecedented times we are witnessing, ensuring continuity of succession planning is perhaps even more essential.

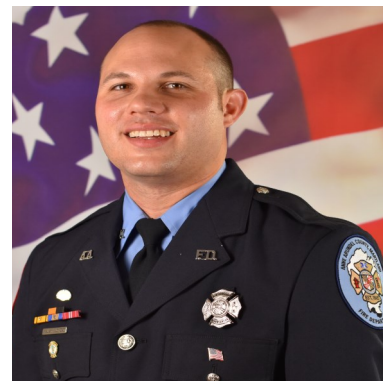
The professionalism, expertise and dedication displayed by Technician Benny Wolford were exceptional. As a result, our process could be completed in a timely manner. It is my sincere hope that you will please transmit our appreciation or their participation down the chain of command and that this letter will become part of their file for consideration during an annual performance appraisal.

It goes without saying that we stand ready to assist in the future. Please do not hesitate to call on us for assistance.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Coe  
Fire Chief



**FF III Benjamin Wolford**





# GOOD NEWS



## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Good News #109 Co.34 Ferndale VFD Donates Engine to Tennessee VFD



*Members of the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company with members of the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department as they transfer ownership of Engine 342.*

Millersville, Maryland– The Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company (FVFC) officers and members are pleased to announce the donation of one of their engines to the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department (CRVFD) in Sneedville, Tennessee.

On Wednesday, June 9, 2021, the FVFC turned over ownership of a 1994 Spartan/Quality 1500 gallon per minute/1000-gallon water tank fire engine to the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. This donation followed a decision by the FVFC Board of Directors decision to donate the fire engine to a volunteer company in need instead of selling it. Company President John Long posted this information on the National Volunteer Fire Council's Voice website, and within three days, the fire company had 23 requests for the fire engine. These requests came from around the country, including states as far away as Texas, New Jersey, Wisconsin, and Alabama.

The Board decided to donate the engine to the CRVFD. This volunteer company had not had a fire engine for two years because their engine no longer functioned mechanically, leaving the department with only a homemade tanker and a brush truck.

Upon hearing the news, CRVFD Chief Wayne Bailey said, "I would like to thank the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company. This engine will benefit our community in so many ways, from water capacity to the ability to haul our gear in storage compartments. We promise to take as good care of her as you all have."

Ferndale Company President John Long said, "From my traveling, I knew there was a need in our country. When Chief Olson asked the Board to consider donating the engine, I was very pleased. The biggest surprise was how fast the responses came in once it was posted on the internet. Our first request came within one hour of the post."

Ferndale VFC Chief Jay Olson said, "Many Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company members were on hand for the transfer, and it was suggested that we adopt the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department as our sister station. We look forward to a long-lasting relationship with them," he said.



# GOOD NEWS



## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Good News #109

### Cont. Co.34 Ferndale VFD Donates Engine to Tennessee VFD

The 1994 Spartan/Quality fire engine was designed by the FVFC and served mainly as the backup engine to engine 341 and used to make the station available when the first line was on a call or transferred throughout the county. It was even on location of multiple fires in Baltimore City during the 2015 riots.

The CRVFD was founded in 2004, and in 17 years has advanced from operating from a member's garage until they obtained a loan to build a two-bay building. They eventually purchased a Chevrolet pumper, but when the motor went bad, they could not afford to repair it.

"After we pay for utilities, gasoline, maintenance, and training, we have very little money left to buy equipment. We apply for grants, and we sometimes get a small one but nothing big enough to replace our worn-out equipment. This will be an asset to our department and a huge benefit for our community," Bailey said.

President Long sent his list of needy companies to all the fire companies across Maryland hoping that other companies would see the need and do the same.



Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Wayne Bailey and Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company President John Long.



Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company Chief Jay Olson and Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Wayne Bailey.



Former Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company Engine 342 at its new home with the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department.





# GOOD NEWS



## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Good News #110 1st Place MSFA Fire Prevention Award - Co.19 St. Claire VFD

***Congratulations to Co.19 for your Fire Prevention video that won 1st place in the MSFA fire prevention wards! Write-up and photos below.***

With grill season approaching, the Cape St. Claire Volunteer Fire Company wanted to remind the community of the hazards of outdoor grill and fire pit fires as well as offer ways to safely enjoy these favorite summer activities.

From correct ways to inspect the tank and propane systems to assuring the grill and/or fire pit is safely away from any structures, each step was explained and demonstrated.

To ensure the community understood how quickly things could go awry, a gas grill was placed close to a wall outfitted with residential siding, to simulate a residential home. The grill was lit, allowed to progress, melt the siding, and then catch the wall on fire.

It did not take more than a few minutes and served as a powerful reminder of how quickly a summer dinner can turn into a tragedy.



**Co.19 - VFF Carol Mekins**





# GOOD NEWS



## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #110  
1st Place MSFA Fire Prevention Award - Co.19 St. Claire VFD



(Left-to-Right) AACoFD Pub Education Reps Dan Scotten and FF Roland Knighton, VFF Carol Mekins, VFF Brian Moran



VFF John Randolph, VFF Jim Mekins, Vol.Chief Drew Mutch



Display grill with wall involved.



**GOOD NEWS**



# **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Good News #111  
Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center  
Thank You Lt. Shawn Coleman**

From: **Sherman, Patricia**  
Date: Tue, Jun 29, 2021  
Subject: Recognition for one of your personnel  
To: [firechief@aacounty.org](mailto:firechief@aacounty.org)

Good morning all,

I wanted to take the time to thank one of your personnel for their assistance in a problem we have been face with this week. Please read the attachment, and thank you for all that you do for us!

Thanks,

Patty





# GOOD NEWS



## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Good News #111

### Cont. - Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center Thank You Lt. Shawn Coleman

Chief Wolford,

On June 24, 2021 at approximately 1345 hours, Luminis Health AAMC Cardiac Rehab personnel had to respond to a medical emergency in the Belcher Pavilion. They repeatedly tried to call 911 services and the phone connection would not go through for several minutes, and at one point received a busy signal. Unsure of exactly where to start to both determine what caused our inability to get through to 911 as well as ensure the issue is corrected, we reached out to AACo FD Fire Alarm to see if they were aware of any interruptions to 911 services.

We spoke with the Shift Commander/Supervisor, Lt Shawn Coleman and his knowledge of both the County’s 911 system and our (AAMC’s) system throughout the LH AAMC Campus was flawless. He very quickly and clearly explained how 911 calls were processed, knew of no “high call volume” periods which would have precluded a call from coming through, educated us that 911 does not ring busy during high call volume periods, and explained how LH AAMC campus was configured and where our weak points may be. With his information I contacted our IT/TeleCom lead and he was able to quickly locate the point of failure within the hospital, report it to Verizon, and have it corrected.

Lt Coleman no doubt saved LH AAMC significant time and resources with his working knowledge of the intricate 911 system. We can’t begin to thank him enough for his support and willingness to both educate and assist LH AAMC in gaining the knowledge to expedite troubleshooting of the internal system. His level of knowledge reflects positively on both AACo FD and his personal professionalism for his role within the community.

Patty Sherman, MSN, RN  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
Luminis Heath Anne Arundel Medical Center



Lt. Shawn Coleman