



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

September 2020 Edition

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ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #62 August 27, 2020 - Co.10 Jacobsville

From: Jeannie Hannas
Date: Tue, Sep 1, 2020
Subject: Appreciation to the crew who transported my father

Chief Wolford,

I wanted to express my appreciation to a crew who took care of and transported my father last week. The crew of Station 10 on August 27, 2020 which consisted of Engine 10- Lt. Joseph Holland, PO David Pennell, PM/FF Christopher Mekins and PM 10- PM Ashley Eckhardt, FF/EMT-B Joshua Schapiro.

Each member of the crew showed true professionalism and treated my father with the highest level of respect and dignity. The crew's compassion for my father, family and the situation was extraordinary and they all went above and beyond. This continued during the transport, triage and transfer of care of my father to the hospital with the crew of Medic 10. PM Ashley Eckhardt who also knows my father personally, maintained the highest level of professionalism and superior patient care to my father while calming and reassuring my father who was scared, nervous, anxious and feeling very ill.

She did everything she could to make him as comfortable as possible, talk him through every procedure and maintain his trust. She went above and beyond in every way possible for both my father and I. These actions of PM Eckhardt come as no surprise to me since she is a senior Paramedic in our department and operates in a preceptor role for new paramedics. It is truly awesome to see that she maintains high expectations for patient care and compassion.

FF/EMT-B Joshua Schapiro was no different, especially after finding out that this was only his second shift operating as a field clinician after finishing the fire academy and his Phase II training. He was professional, compassionate and respectful as mentioned above which was very much appreciated. His ability to establish and maintain a strong clinician/patient relationship as a new clinician himself was amazing. He was easily able to converse, calm and reassure my father. FF/EMT-B Schapiro also went above and beyond to care for and make my father as comfortable as possible during the call and while waiting for a bed at the hospital. He was able to figure out a common interest with my father (historic cars) and maintain conversation with him which diverted my father's attention to something positive.

As a member of the department as well as an instructor in EMS training, this experience made me extremely proud of the department that I am a part of. Especially during the trying times that we are currently operating in (COVID-19). The extreme level of compassion and respect that was exhibited especially by a brand new member of our department was amazing. Compassion is something that cannot be taught, but seems to exist within. I applaud these extraordinary clinicians for their compassion and love for the job that they do.

Respectfully,
FF/PM Jeannie Hannas
Training and Research Division
Anne Arundel County Fire Department

Engine - 10

Lieutenant Joseph Holland
FF/PM Christopher Mekins
FF III David Pennell

Medic - 10

FF/PM Ashley Eckhardt
FF II Joshua Schapiro



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ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #63
September 2, 2020 - Office of the Fire Marshal**

Chief Trisha Wolford
AA County F.D. HQs
8501 Veterans Hwy.
Millersville, MD 21108

September 2, 2020

Chief Wolford:

On Monday August 31st, in late afternoon my granddaughter was travelling on Riva Rd. While making a left turn to a ramp to reach RT 50 East the car behind her hit her bumper. After pulling over and thinking he was stopping, she pulled off. Instead he took off. She did not realize that Division Chief John Lane and Lt. Kris Hall of the fire Marshalls Office witnessed the incident. They followed the vehicle, and with assistance of the county police the man was detained. The damage was small and she wasn't hurt, however it was upsetting to her none the less.

She now has the man's insurance information. I would like to thank Chief Lane and Lt. Hall for their quick action. I was able to talk to Chief Lane and thank him. Please pass on to both men that my daughter, granddaughter, and I most appreciate their action and assistance.

I do know Chief Lane from my time in the department and talked with him last evening. I have never met Lt Hall but hope one day to thank him in person.

MICHAEL WILEY
Retired Lt, AA CO FD
Communications Officer AA CO FD Retired Firefighters Assoc.

Division Chief John Lane
Lieutenant Kristian Hall



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ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #64 September 3, 2020 - Edgewater Tornado Response

CAPITAL GAZETTE LETTERS
SEP 07, 2020

Response to tornado

On behalf of the communities of Chestnut Hill and Edgewater Beach, we would like to say a big thank you to all the first responders and others who came to our aid when our communities were struck by a tornado on the evening of Sept. 3.

Initially, we lost power and then we discovered that our entrance community of Chestnut Hill was hit hard by the tornado and some portions of Edgewater Beach had also taken a serious hit.

Our neighbor, Bobby Vice, chief of West Annapolis, 40, Fire Department immediately took charge and went into action notifying any and all first responders that they were needed. We are truly indebted to all who answered the call and we'd like to express our thanks to the following:

- Anne Arundel County Fire Departments: Woodland Beach 2, Eastport, 36, West Annapolis, 40, Arnold, 17, Armour Dorsey, 21, Annapolis City, B/C 35
- All the Anne Arundel County Police officers who assisted with traffic control.
- Our heartfelt thanks to BG&E for their swift repair of the downed power lines giving us back our power in less than 12 hours! We were all so grateful.
- Also, the many tree service people who quickly responded to help families get huge trees off their homes and out of the streets.
- Our thanks also to Criswell Car Dealership who allowed many of our residents to park in their lot because they couldn't get in our community to return home.

We are blessed to have all these wonderful people willing and able to assist in a time of need.

CARROLL BURROWS

Volunteer Chief Robert Vice - Co.40
Battalion Chief 35 - Annapolis City FD
Co.02 - Woodland Beach
Co.17 - Arnold
Co.21 - Harmans Dorsey
Co.36 - Eastport
Co.40 - West Annapolis
Anne Arundel County Police Department



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #65 September 7, 2020 - Harwood Water Rescue

CHARLES J. KENNY, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW

EXECUTIVE BUILDING
7100 BALTIMORE AVENUE, SUITE 102
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND 20740-3637

LICENSED: MARYLAND
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

September 8, 2020

TELEPHONE: 301-927-861
FAX: 301-927-4205

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

Re: Thank you.

Dear Chief Wolford:

I want to express my sincerest thank you to the men and woman of the Anne Arundel Fire Department. Words cannot adequately express my, and my grandson Patrick's, gratitude and appreciation for the assistance given to us yesterday on our canoe trip on the Patuxent.

My grandson and I started a canoe trip on the Patuxent from Governor Bridge planning to end at the Queen Anne landing. I have been canoeing for 52 years. I had canoed this stretch of the river twice before. We started at about 9 am. I did not expect to encounter the number of trees that were blocking passage going down the river. We portaged around 4 trees. We never capsized the canoe but we did slip in the water several times trying to get around the trees. We past under the 214 bridge. I knew we were close to the Queen Anne landing but again encountered a fallen tree blocking our way. As we looked down the river, we could see 3 more trees that would need to be avoided. We were evidently close to Patuxent River Road. We could here the vehicles through the trees. I thought that if we could access the road, we could carry the canoe and arrange to be picked up there. My grandson went to hike to the road. I did not want him to or expect for him to call 911 but he did when he flagged down a motorist to use their phone. One of our phones is in the river and the other was inoperable.

Your department immediately mobilized. I did not catch all the names but Assistant Fire Chief Shultz and maybe as many as 15 other personnel responded. Unbeknownst to me a friend independently called 911. Your dispatcher assured her that we were OK. Each and everyone was professional, caring and extremely helpful. The State Police helicopter responded. The personnel that had hiked into where I was by the river organized to carry out the canoe to the road. I know that there were Anne Arundel EMT's, personnel from Lothian and Riva Departments. I think there were other departments represented as well.

Please convey my heartfelt thanks to everyone. You must be extremely proud of the men and women who serve in the Anne Arundel Fire Department. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Charles J. Kenny, Jr.
Patrick C. Kenny

AFC Lawrence Schultz
Co.03 Riva
Co.09 Harwood Lothian



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #66
September 10, 2020 - Co.27 Maryland City**

From: David
Date: Sun, Sep 13, 2020
Subject: Sep 11 response to my home for 911 call
To: firechief@aacounty.org

Dear Chief Wolford,

Thursday night after going to bed I awoke around 2:30 a.m. I was covered in sweat and don't know if I woke up on my own or if my wife woke me. She attempted to get me to drink orange juice to no avail as I was pretty out of it with low sugar. My eyes were closed and I heard her voice in the distance saying she was calling 911. Next I recall is opening my eyes slightly, still covered in sweat, and 4 uniformed firefighters in my bedroom. I had only a pair of shorts on and the B-shift from the firehouse in Laurel, MD on 198 led by LT Hartlove tended to me. I recall them giving me a glucose concoction and drinking about 3 coffee cups of orange juice. They checked my sugar and it was 37. My wife said she was told they did not want to do an IV yet, but better with the glucose and orange juice to bring my sugar up and stabilize it some. All I wanted to do was sleep. Soon my sugar was at 167 and I seemed ok with that.

The condition I was in I know I just wanted to go to sleep. My mother asked the next day what I would do if my wife was not there. I stood in church today and announced to all she was a hero. Well, your B-Shift in Maryland City were heroic as well. Between them and my wife I think my life was saved. I will always believe your team led by Lt Hartlove likely saved me. They have my sincere appreciation. Thanks to you and their training for knowing what was needed. Please give them my thanks as well for their great work on my behalf.

Sincerely,

David and Linda
Laurel, MD

Engine - 272

Lieutenant Kevin Hartlove
FF III Christopher Lash
FF II Sarah Mackey

Medic - 27

FF/PM Jeffrey Scofield
FF II Emilio Yslas



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #67
September 17, 2020 - Manager of Volunteer Services**

From: Donna McGuire
Date: Thu, Sep 17, 2020
Subject: Antonio Alvarez
To: firechief@aacounty.org

Chief Wolford,

I wanted to take a moment to share my appreciation with you regarding Antonio Alvarez. The Fire Marshal's Office performs hundreds of inspections on mobile food vehicles. There are many mobile food owners that only speak Spanish and our office has had a difficult time explaining the requirements to them. I mentioned my frustrations to Antonio one day and he immediately volunteered to help our office. Today, I sent Antonio over our checklist form and asked if he was still willing to assist us. Without hesitation, Antonio looked over our form, re-created it in Spanish, and sent it back to me within 1 hour!

Having these tools available to us makes our job so much easier and I just wanted to forward a thank you to you and Antonio for allowing him to break off from his regular duties and help another division within the department out.

Thank you!

Lieutenant McGuire

Mr. Antonio Alvarez



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ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #68
September 23, 2020 - Co.30 Armiger**

From: Kim Auman
Sent: September 23, 2020
To: Timothy Chizmar (MIEMMS State EMS Director)
Subject: Anne Arundel Co 30 EMTs

Dr. Chizmar,

I want to let you about the 2 EMTs/paramedics that took care of my father this morning. Shawn Salerno and Shawn Lewis were great. They were so kind, caring and compassionate toward my father and all of us. The whole company was very nice as they had been called to my parents 3 times in 12 hours to help my dad up off the floor from falls. He's now in the ER being treated.

Again Shawn and Shawn were so helpful.

I wanted to let you know.

Kim Auman

Medic-30
FF/PM Shawn Salerno
FF II Shawn Lewis



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ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #69
September 28, 2020 - Co.09 Harwood-Lothian**

From: Lyle Russell
Date: September 28, 2020
To: Firechief@aacounty.org

My name is Lyle Russell and I live in Harwood. Our community is very fortunate to have the first responders that are stationed at the Harwood station. In traveling Rt. 2 passing the firehouse frequently, myself and other residents, noticed how weeds and grass had grown up around the signs out in front of the station and you could hardly read or see them.

We mentioned this to one of your firefighters, Mike Dorsey, who is stationed there. We noticed within a short period of time the weeds had been removed and the grass all around the front had been cut. It looks so nice. I am told that shift "C" was responsible for taking the time to do this work.

How lucky are we to have people who care and take pride of where they work? All of your EMTs and firefighters are outstanding people. My late husband had renal failure and was on dialysis for several years. He had many medical issues and I needed to call 911 for emergency help from time to time. Everyone that responded was very caring and professional. They always had a way of calming me down, during this difficult time, while attending to his needs.

I felt you needed to know how much we appreciate all of the first responders, especially those that serve us in Harwood.

Lyle Russell
Harwood, MD

Co.09 C-shift

Lieutenant Ryan Dow
FF/PM Matthew Ruth
FF III Michael Dorsey
FF II Thomas Radcliffe
FF II Aaron Moore



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Good News #70
September 29, 2020 - Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement**

From: Clark, Tina, L
Date: Tue, Sep 29, 2020
Subject: Joe Cvach
To: Dr. Jon Wendell, Chief Wolford

Chief Wolford and Dr. Wendell,

I'd like to share a story one of our faculty just told me today. I want to convey how Captain Cvach helped save a young man's life through his teaching ability. We are thankful for his hard work and dedication.

Liz Westman's son conveyed some information to her that she wanted to share with us today. Her son's friend was in an accident on the capital beltway in June. He (the friend) is a mechanic by trade now but had taken Captain Cvach's EMR course (EMT104) when he was going to college at AACC. He stopped to help a woman on the side of the road with a flat tire. He parked in front of her. Apparently a pick-up truck stopped to see if they needed help and they stopped behind them on the beltway. Another car plowed into the pick-up truck and partially amputated this young man's leg. When the police officer arrived, he asked the kid what he could do to help. The kid apparently told him he needed his belt to apply a tourniquet and the police officer ran and got him the tourniquet and the kid self-applied. He credits Joe for teaching him how to do it right and saving his life. Thank you for being such a terrific instructor Joe Cvach!!

Tina Clark
Director of EMS Education
Anne Arundel Community
College 101 College Parkway; Arnold, MD 21012

Captain John (Joe) Cvach