



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

*Fire Department News*  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
A Class 1 Fire Department

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

*Issue #70*  
*Spring 2014*

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## **What's New**

The refurbishment of Engine 2 and Ladder 3 is near completion. The administration will be going on the inspection trip to Pierce in Wisconsin at the end of March for final inspection.

Bid Specifications are being developed for a new Heavy Rescue for Rescue 1. The hope is to have bids ready for late spring.

We are looking at a new pump for next fiscal year starting July 1, 2014. These budget items will not be finalized until the Council accepts the City Manger's new budget.

We have started to receive new SCBA equipment, all our SCBA harnesses, face pieces and additional 30 minute cylinders are being transitioned into service starting in March.

Bids have been received to replace our SCBA air compressor and fill station at headquarters.

In the area of funding, we are receiving grant funds to upgrade our Hazmat capabilities as well as SAFE funding.

The department is moving forward with the process to hire new members. It is hopeful that new members will be at the Mass. Fire Academy by late summer or early fall. Anyone interested in becoming a firefighter (statewide) is encouraged to take the **Firefighter Entry Exam** being held on **April 26, 2014** - Last date for filing applications: **March 17, 2014**. Additional information and applications can be found online or at local city and town halls.

## **All Companies Working**

**December 10, 2013 – Working Fire, Box 3142, 129 Franklin St.** - Engine 6 found a fire burning in the laundry room at the rear of the clothes dryer .They ran a 2-1/2 inch hose line off the standpipe and knocked down the fire. Ladder 1 opened up the wall behind the machines where fire had extended. Squad 2 and Rescue 1 conducted searches and evacuated areas. Engine 5 & Ladder 3 checked above the fire. Engine 1 and Ladder 2 were RIT companies. Engine 2 filled the FDC.

**December 14, 2013 - 1 Alarm Fire, Box 273, 32 Vassar Street** – car fire at loading dock on the 1st level of an underground parking garage. Fire involved the engine compartment of a 2005 Ford Escape. Engine 2 stretched a reverse lay from the street. Ladder 3 operated several portable extinguishers.

**December 16, 2013 – Hazardous condition, Harvard Yard** – companies stood by while law enforcement investigated a bomb threat in several Harvard buildings. The threat later turned out to be a false alarm

**December 18, 2013 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, W/F Box 1223, 3rd Ave.** – Engine 3 responded to the MBTA Repair facility on Somerville's line box. Somerville companies reported smoke showing and then a working fire. Squad 2 and Division 1 responded to fire, Ladder 1 and Engine 4 to cover and Engine 5 was special called for their repeater radio capabilities.

**December 22 - Mutual Aid, W/F, Somerville, 483 Broadway, Box 3733** – fire in a Laundromat with extension. Engine 5 and Ladder 1 covered in Somerville.

**December 26, 2013 – Mutual Aid, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm, Somerville, 10 Montrose Street, Box 215-** Engines 4 & 5, Ladder 1, Squad 2 and Division 1 responded to Second Alarm in Somerville. Engine 5 and Squad 2 ran an 1-3/4 line off SFD Engine 2 to floor 3 over a 35 foot ground ladder. Engine 4 was the RIT Company. Ladder 1 responded as an additional truck. E5/S2/L1 and D1 operated on floors 2 and 3 opened up walls and ceilings and knocked down fire. We overhauled on both floors until released

**December 31, 2013 – Mutual Aid, Lynn, Water Rescue, 106 Kernwood Drive** – Responded on request for dive rescue for a motor vehicle in the water and under ice with possible entrapment. Rescue 1, Rescue 3 (Dive truck), Squad 2, Division 1 with Marine 2 responded. Occupants had escaped the vehicle.

**December 31, 2013 – Mutual Aid, W/F Somerville, Box 126, 127 Cross St.** – Engine 5 and Ladder 1 covered Teele Square.

**January 4, 2014 – 1 Alarm Fire, 40 Thorndike Street, Box 1461** – fire in an electrical panel caused concerns at the Middlesex County Jail. Companies used dry chemical extinguishers to keep the fire in check. Power could not be turned off until it was confirmed that it would not affect the locked cells. Engine 2 had a line standing by.

**January 7, 2014 – Brush Fire, 239 Monsignor O'Brien Highway** – Four engines and Somerville Engine 3 worked on a brush fire with access problems

**January 8, 2014 – 1 Alarm Fire, 16 Eustis Street, Box 625** – cardboard and window frame were ignited from careless disposal of smoking materials.

**January 8, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Medford, Working Fire, 189 Brookside Parkway** - Ladder 3 covered Medford Headquarters. Ladder 1 was in a RIT class in Everett.

**January 11, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Boston, Technical Rescue, 789 Comm. Ave.** – Boston Fire was on scene with a jumper on the BU Bridge. The victim was on the Boston side of the bridge over the Mass Turnpike. Boston FD deployed an air cushion below and set up a tower Ladder. CFD Rescue established anchors and set up two belay lines to place on BFD members assisting the victim into the Tower. After victim was removed from harm into the Tower bucket we were dismissed by BFD.

**January 21, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Watertown, Working Fire, Box 212, 20 Riverside Street** – Engine 9 covered at Station 2 during Watertown's Working Fire.

**January 23, 2014 - Mutual Aid, Somerville, 2 Alarms, Box 122, 81 Mt. Vernon Street** – Engine 5, Squad 4 & Division 1 to the fire and initially assigned as RIT. Placed a ground ladder & roof ladder and assisted with overhaul & securing utilities. Dismissed by Somerville IC. Ladder 3 covered at Somerville L3 & Engine 9 covered at Somerville Engine 3.

**January 24, 2014 - Mutual Aid, Waltham, 3 Alarms, 17 Prospect Street** – Cambridge companies responded mutual aid to Waltham on the third alarm. Engine 5 covered and had no runs. Ladder 1, Squad 2 and Division 2 responded to the fire and stood by as the RIT team until dismissed by command.

**January 26, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm, 68 Wheatland Street** – Engine 5, Squad 2 and Division 1 to the fire. Engine 4 and Ladder 1 to cover assignments. E5/Sq4/D1 ordered to assist with fire extinguishment and overhaul floor #3. Companies assisted Somerville with opening walls and ceilings to check for extension. Dismissed by Incident Command.

**January 29, 2014 – 1 Alarm fire, 222 Third Street, Box 1681** – Companies responded to a fire alarm and Ladder 2 requested a full assignment for sparks dropping from the ceiling. A deep seated fire smoldering in the floor of a Type IV heavy timber building. Division 1 requested additional saws to open up. A hose line was connected to a standpipe system and fire watch left in place.

**January 29, 2014 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm fire, Meacham Road, Box 723** – A propane heater being used to heat a home under renovation caught fire resulting in a fire on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.



*Photo by Tim Gorman Photography*

**The Boston Sparks** responded to the fire on Meacham Road with A-10 and provided warm drinks and water to the crews. Thanks to Jim Daly, Tim Gorman and TJ Deptula from the Sparks!

**February 1, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Boston, 7 Alarms, Box 1583, 31 Mass. Ave.** - Engine 2 and Ladder 1 covered in Boston during their 7 Alarm fire at 31 Mass. Ave.

**February 2, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, Working Fire, 39 Church St** – Somerville IC reported fire in a wall on the third floor of a 3 story wood frame building. Engine 5 and Ladder 1 covered during the fire.

**February 3, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Saugus, Water Incident** – The Dive Team responded to Saugus to assist in a body recovery. The search was negative.

**February 6, 2014 – Suicide, Harvard, James Hall** – a 40 y/o male jumped from the roof of James Hall (15 stories). Engine 1, Rescue 1 and Division 2 cleared when it was apparent that he could not be resuscitated.

**February 11, 2014 – 1 Alarm Fire, 217 Western Ave.** – Engine 6 and Ladder 3 responded to a central station alarm. Engine 6 arrived on scene and was informed by an occupant of an extinguished fire. Occupants awoke to find a small fire in the living room. Occupants extinguished using a building extinguisher

**February 12, 2014 – 3 Alarm Fire, 240 Prospect Street, Box 29** – companies responded to an early morning building fire and Engine 5 arrived with fire showing from the second floor windows. A woman perished in the fire and crews worked in single digit temperatures.

**February 18, 2014 – 1 Alarm Fire, 915 Cambridge Street, Box 2111** – Division 1 reported fire and smoke showing in a 3 story brick residential building. Somerville responded on a line box.

**February 21, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Water Incident, 114 Ballard Street, Saugus** – The Dive Team responded to Saugus to assist with a vehicle in the water off Ballard Street. No persons were found and the car hauled from the water.

**February 27, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, W/F, Box 419, 59 Lowell Street** – Engine 4 and Ladder 1 covered in Teele Square during this working fire.

**February 28, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, 1 Alarm, Box 25, 50 Prospect Street** – Engine 5 on a line box for a forklift on fire inside a commercial building

**March 3, 2014 – Mutual Aid, Boston, 7 Alarms, 132 Warren Street** – Engine 2 and Ladder 1 covered at Engine 33 and Ladder 15 during Boston's 7 alarm fire.

**March 6, 2014 – Haz-Mat, 70 Pacific Street, Level 1 Working Haz-Mat Incident** – what seemed a normal medical aid turned into an apparent suicide when chemicals were observed nearby. Crews immediately treated this as a hazmat and entry made with protective equipment and meters.

#### **Out and About**

The Cambridge Recruit Firefighters at the end of 6 weeks at MFA. They are all on companies.



*Photo by Tara Bithia*

from L-R, FFOP's Terrence Coogan, John Presutti, Matthew Pires, Blake Crist, Shane Brown, and Daniel O'Brien

Cambridge FFOP/Recruits at the Academy prior to graduation



*Photo by Tara Bithia*

#### Collier Fire Helmet

This fire helmet was presented to Andy Collier, brother of the **late MIT Officer Sean Collier**, by FF Andy Biron – a Manchester NH firefighter. FF Biron and several other firefighters worked with Andy Collier at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway. While attending a conference recently in North Carolina, they presented Andy with the helmet, which is a former Boston Ladder 4 helmet with a hand painted front by Bob Stella of Quincy.



*Photo Andy Biron*

Lafayette Square companies, Group 3 taken on January 7, 2014.



*Photo by J. Walsh*

**L-R, Lt. Jeremy Walsh, FF Paramedic Rob McCarthy, FF Nick Menard, LT. Ian Massiah, FF T. Desroches, FF Shawn Flanagan, FF Nathan Dubovsky, FF Phil Amenkowicz, FF J.T. Pasquarello, FFOP K. McLaughlin and Lt. James Ferreira.**



*Photo by DFC E. Morrissey*

**FF Kyle Schweinhaut and FF Don Calvert practice ice rescue training during January 2014.**



*Photo by Jack Clark*

While most of us were holding snow shovels (or sliding across the ice) in January, these two retirees were holding golf clubs. **Fire Captain Jack Clark -- Cambridge Fire, Ladder 3 (Retired)** and **Boston District Fire Chief Jack Howard, (District 12) (Retired)**



*Photo by D. Lopez (M4)*

On March 5, 2014 President Obama visited Boston to do some fundraising for the Democratic party. Although expected to provide any emergency assistance, if needed, while the President attended a Roundtable Workshop at the Harvard Square Hotel, Cambridge members had to make do with a stand-in. **L-R, Firefighter Nicole Signoretti (Rescue 1), Dan Lopez (Motor Squad) and Firefighter Joe Hallissey (Engine 1)** show their readiness.



*Photo by DFC Gerard Mahoney*

**Deputy Chief Gerard Mahoney** with the Presidential limo during the President's recent visit to Cambridge.

#### **Cambridge Firefighters son on Reality Television**

The Discovery Channel started airing a television show titled "Fighters" in January 2014. One of the fighters featured in the reality series, Greg Vendetti is the son of **FF George Vendetti (Engine 6 – retired)** and grandson of **Lt. Arthur Souza (Ladder 2 – retired)**.

#### **Firefighter of the Year Awards**

The annual Firefighter of the Year award ceremony was held on Friday, 20 Dec 2013 at Massachusetts Institute of Technology's **Kresge Auditorium** in Cambridge. It was a fitting and dignified program to recognize firefighters from throughout the commonwealth who acted over and above the normal protocol to save lives. These firefighters and fire officers showed us again that firefighters are held to a higher standard, both on and off duty. These firefighters took appropriate action without hesitation and oftentimes without regard for their own safety, to rescue others. These award recipients represent the entire fire service. The Firefighter of the Year Award is a proud day and a good day for the fire service.



-photo by Tara Bithia

Although too numerous to mention, Firefighters and Fire Officers from **Acushnet, Beverly, Boston, Brockton, Chelmsford, Chelsea, Gloucester, Holden, Marshfield, Logan-Massport, Quincy, Salem, Scituate, Stoughton, Weymouth, and Watertown**, as well as **Cambridge** were honored in this ceremony.

Cambridge members honored were Fire Lieutenant/EMT **Michael Francis**, Fire Lieutenant/Paramedic **Christopher Haynes**, Firefighter/EMT **David Croak**, Firefighter/Paramedic **Darryn DeGrace**, Firefighter/EMT **Richard Feliciano**, Firefighter/EMT **Todd Koen**, Firefighter/EMT **Matthew McDonald**, Firefighter/Paramedic **Peter Melo**, Firefighter/EMT **David Puopolo**, Firefighter/EMT **Howard Smith** and Fire Lieutenant /Paramedic **Jeremy Walsh**,

For many years, Cambridge members have volunteered their services at the finish line and in the medical treatment areas of the Boston Marathon. These members without monetary compensation, the bravest of the brave, were in the right place at the right time and, although placing themselves in harm's way, were able to immediately begin treatment of many victims of horrific injuries during the terrorist attack. The urgency and immediacy of this treatment saved lives and reduced the severity of injuries. Other members valiantly tried to save the life of Police Officer **Sean Collier** who had been shot by the terrorists on the MIT campus. All members above are EMT basic or EMT paramedic certified. Additionally all are Hazardous Materials Technicians and all are trained in Special Rescue disciplines such as CBRNE, high-angle, confined space, and trench. They all have participated in extensive training in anti-terrorism, WMD, and homeland defense. We thank them for their training, dedication, and action. All are a credit to the City of Cambridge and the Cambridge "Class1" Fire

Department. All acted in the highest tradition of the Cambridge Fire Department and the Fire Service.

Excerpts from the remarks of Massachusetts State Fire Marshal **Stephen D. Coan** are noted below:

*"The firefighter of the year awards ceremony was created 24 years ago so the Commonwealth could honor the heroic acts of our bravest firefighters. It has been my pleasure to participate in each of those ceremonies.*

*"After the tragic Marathon bombings, this year's fire marshal's award centers around those firefighters who responded that day desperately trying to save lives. We are honoring three fire departments for their responses to acts of terrorism that started at the Marathon Finish Line and ended four days later in Watertown.*

*"We honor the Boston Fire Department for their response to the bombings. We honor the Cambridge Fire Department for mutual aid at the Marathon and for their response to the shooting of MIT Police Officer Sean Collier. And we honor the Watertown Fire Department for their actions the night transit Police Officer Richard Donohue was critically wounded.*

*"Many people rushed to the aid of the wounded -- runners --, spectators --, volunteers --, doctors --, nurses -- and people with no special training at all. Without their brave actions, the number of deaths would have been higher and the injuries worse.*

*"Today though, we would like to take a moment to recognize some of the men and women of the fire service --, most of whom were off-duty at the time --, as spectators along the route --, diners in restaurants -- or medical tent volunteers, who instinctively answered the call to help.*

*"Firefighter is a title that has an honorable tradition --, deep meaning --, and high expectations --. Firefighters always prepare for the worst --, expect the unexpected -- and use their training to manage the unknown. A firefighter never turns away. It is inherent in who they are -- It's what's in their blood -- It's what drives them. And we are grateful for that.*

*"Last April 15, 18 and 19, these firefighters had no advance warning of what they would face that day or the horrific injuries to which they would respond. As one off-duty firefighter recalled-- "No one person saved anyone that day -- everyone saved everyone -- Every action counted. We all have memories of that week that we will never forget. Thank you for an outstanding job, under the worst of conditions. Thank you all for your extraordinary efforts during this horrific time.*

*"Today I am proud to present the Fire Marshal's Award to three fire departments that found themselves in the center of those*

*tragic events. The fire chief will be accepting on behalf of the entire department:*

*Chief John Hasson, Boston Fire Department,*

*Chief Gerry Reardon, Cambridge Fire Department,*

*Chief Mario Orangio, Watertown Fire Department.*

*"Thank you for an outstanding job, under the worst of conditions."*

- sdc

#### **126<sup>th</sup> Annual Cambridge Firefighters Relief Association Retirement Ball**

The 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Firefighters Relief Association Ball was held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel on February 15, 2014. Despite the snowy weather which kept only a few attendees away, a good time was had by all. The honorees for the evening included the recent retirees:

**FF Daniel Maloney, FF Ed Friel, FF Alan Johnson, FF Francis Judd and FF Dennis Shine,**

As well as the members that have served the department for 25 years: **Deputy Paul Sheehan (Division 2), Captain Mark Cunningham (Engine 5), Captain Kenneth Jenness (Engine 6), Acting Captain Charles "Chuck" Anderson (Engine 4), Lieutenant Thomas Cauchon (Ladder 4), Lieutenant Michael Clinton (Engine 6), Lieutenant Michael Hughes (EPAC) and FF David Garcia (Engine 9)**

Providing the music for the evening was **DJ Brian Collymore (Engine Co. 3).**



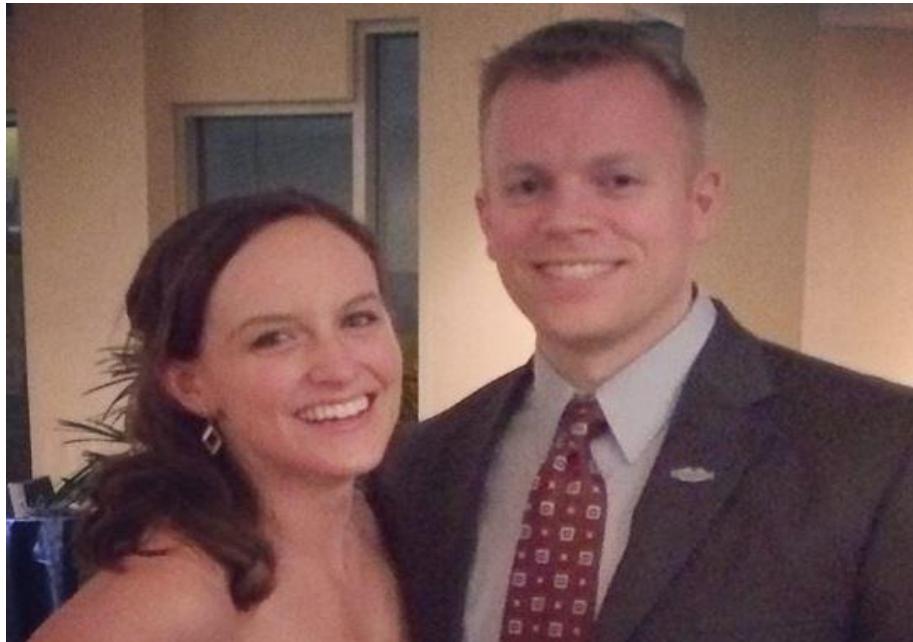
*Photo by Glenn Turner*

Enjoying the evening was **David Mahoney (Tech Services/IT)** and wife Ellen Mahoney



*Photo by Glenn Turner*

**Ameer Moustafa (Engine Co. 5) and girlfriend Nicole Costa with Nicole Croak and David Croak (Rescue Co. 1)**



*Photo by Amy Frailey*

**FF Reed Frailey (Rescue Co. 1) and wife Amy**

**Brother Frailey's "Tough Ruck" -**

**FFOP Reed Frailey (Rescue Co. 1)** had plans to ruck a terrible 26.2 miles for the Boston Marathon, on April 21, 2014. Along with members of his unit/battalion, as well as Mistress Carrie from WAAF radio station Boston. In memory of, and dedicated to, his friend, roommate, spotter, co-worker, **SSG Kevin J O'Boyle (Engine 5)** who as you all know... left us too soon.

However, due to security concerns, the Boston Athletic Association decided that backpacks and bags of any kind would not be allowed on the Marathon route. Since fundraising had already begun, the National Park Service has allowed these dedicated members to "ruck" through the Minuteman Battle Trail through Lexington. This has been a great fundraiser for years and hopefully can continue through other means.

Donations can still be made at <http://www.stayclassy.org/ReedFrailey>

All donations will go to the Military Friends Foundation to help with suicide prevention among combat veterans. You can check out the website at <http://www.toughruck.org>

Anything is appreciated, feel free to contact Reed with any questions, comments, concerns. Thank you.

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**Cambridge Fire Dept. Hockey Team -**

At this time the CFD Hockey Team is currently 15-2-4 and in First Place in the North of Boston D1 Division of NESHL. They can be followed on Twitter @CambFireHockey, and their web page is linked on the Local 30 web site.

**Regular Season Games**

Monday March 10th 10:40PM - Max Power @ Cambridge Fire - Malden Valley Forum, Holden St Malden - CFD Group 2 On Duty

Monday March 17th 9:10PM - Cambridge Fire @ Gordon College - Hockeytown, Route 1 South Saugus - CFD Group 3 On Duty

**Playoffs Dates have not been announced yet for NESHL.**

6th Annual Metro Fire Hockey Tournament

**April 4th-13th 2014 - All Games played at the Stoneham Arena**

**Friday April 4th** - CFD Group 4 on Duty

6pm Chelsea Fire vs Medford Fire

7pm Belmont Fire vs Everett Fire/Revere Fire 8pm Winchester Fire vs Burlington Fire 9pm Somerville Fire vs Massport Fire

**Saturday April 5th** - CFD Group 3 on Duty 1pm Woburn Fire vs Reading Fire 2pm Watertown Fire vs Wakefield Fire 3pm Melrose Fire/Arlington Fire vs Cambridge Fire

**Wednesday April 9th** - CFD Group 1 on Duty 6pm Reading Fire vs Winchester Fire 7pm Woburn Fire vs Burlington Fire 8pm Massport Fire vs Watertown Fire 9pm Everett Fire/Revere Fire vs Melrose Fire/Arlington Fire 10pm Cambridge Fire vs Chelsea Fire

**Thursday April 10th** - CFD Group 3 on Duty 5pm Somerville Fire vs Wakefield Fire 6pm Medford Fire vs Melrose Fire/Arlington Fire 7pm Chelsea Fire vs Everett Fire/Revere Fire 8pm Cambridge Fire vs Belmont Fire

**Friday April 11th** - CFD Group 2 on Duty

5pm Medford Fire vs Belmont Fire

6pm Somerville Fire vs Watertown Fire

7pm Wakefield Fire vs Massport Fire

8pm Burlington Fire vs Reading Fire

9pm Winchester Fire vs Woburn Fire

**Saturday April 12th** - CFD Group 4 on Duty

6pm Quarterfinal #1 - #3 Seed vs #6 Seed 6:35pm Quarterfinal #2 - #4 Seed vs #5 Seed

7:15pm Semifinal #1 - #2 Seed vs Winner of Quarterfinal Game #1

8:30pm Semifinal #2 - #1 Seed vs Winner of Quarterfinal Game #2

Tournament Party will be held at Waxy O'Connors on Montvale Ave in Woburn this night as well.

**Sunday April 13th** - CFD Group 3 on Duty

1pm Group A Final

2:15pm Group B-D Final

Congratulations to the Hockey team on their winning record and please support the team by taking in a game!

**GUNS -N- HOSES MDA Charity Hockey Game** - The annual Cambridge Guns N' Hoses MDA Charity Hockey Game will be played on **Saturday March 22nd 12PM @ The Simoni Ice Rink (Gore Street)**. More information can be found on the flyers throughout the firehouses and also on the Local 30 website. Come out and support the team, then join us after the game at The Polish American Club (747 Cambridge Street) for lunch. Raffle winners will be announced at this time (presence not required to win). Group 4 on Duty

## **Congratulations**

**FF/Paramedic Rob McCarthy** – Congratulations to newly licensed **Paramedic Rob McCarthy** (**Engine Co. 2**) who recently graduated from the ProEMS Center for Medics. Not only did he pass, but he was awarded the Program Director Award while doing so. The Program Director's Award, recognizes overall dedication, integrity, teamwork, diplomacy and quality patient interactions. **Captain Greg Carter** helped present and congratulate FF McCarthy.

Congratulations and job well done Rob!

**Boston Fire Department, ISO Class 1** – Congratulations to the Boston Fire Department on obtaining an ISO Class 1 designation! There are only 58 departments nationwide that can claim the prestigious designation. Boston and Cambridge are the only two ISO Class I Fire Departments in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The hardworking men and women of the Boston Fire Department are now “First in the Nation” and Class 1!

## **Ms. Lorna Rutkauskas Retires!**

After more than THIRTY YEARS with the Cambridge Fire Department, and over forty years with the City of Cambridge, **Ms. Lorna Rutkauskas** has decided it is time to retire.

All were invited to stop by the Administrative Offices on Monday December 23, 2013 to wish her well.

Lorna wrote: *“Following many years of rewarding administrative service to the Cambridge Fire Department, the time has come for me to retire. I would like to take this opportunity to say that I will be taking with me many fond memories of this department and its members, and that I highly praise the Cambridge Fire Department for its professionalism, and its members, for their dedication to the Citizens of Cambridge, and for their heroic actions both near-and-far.”*



CFD Photo – collection of Late Ed Fowler

The **Late DFC Jim Harrington and Lorna Rutkauskas**

Congratulations to **FF Howie Smith (Ladder 1)** on his engagement to his fiancee, Amy Allan in January 2014.

Congratulations to **FF Jeremy Marache (Engine 1)** on his engagement to his fiancee, Grace Shea in march 2014.

### **Trivia**

Reprinted from the VERY First Issue of the Feederline:

What was the original name of Memorial Drive? *Answer at the end of the newsletter.*

**40 Years! - Lt. Robert Bell and FF James Bergin**; both assigned to Engine Co. 4 were appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department forty years ago on February 17, 1974.

This is a rare accomplishment today - to serve forty years in the fire service. Congratulations to them both.

And after 40 years, Lt. Robert Bell of Engine Co. 4 has decided to retire. All were invited to stop by Engine 4's quarters on Friday February 21, 2014 to wish him well on his last tour. Pizza and cake was enjoyed along with a few laughs.



Photo by DFC Gerard Mahoney

**Capt. Arthur (Rick) Alford-Retired** stopped by to wish **Lt. Bob Bell** well on his last tour.

## **From the Archives**

The year 2014 marks a very special anniversary. It is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Company Journal/Feederline ! For the benefit of those who haven't been around long enough to remember the "Premier Issue" (or "Volume 1, Issue 1"), it was distributed in June 1994. That's right, this quarterly publication has been in print continuously for TWENTY years!

It originally started out titled as "The Feederline" and was the Local 30 Newsletter. The first editors included **DFC Mike Morrissey (Div 1) and DFC Brian Gover (EPAC) with DFC J. Gelinas.** They deserve a great deal of credit as this newsletter was set, printed and distributed without the modern graphics programs and computer programs we have today that make it easy. They really dedicated themselves to putting out a professional and informative publication when it wasn't easy to do!

Some more detailed, background information was provided by **DFC Gover (EPAC):**

*June 1994 - Volume 1 Issue 1, initially started and remained a monthly edition until it went bi-monthly in July/August 1995.*

*The Feederline followed Somerville FD's lead, who at the time, had a very successful newsletter. With no internet, we mailed 500 copies (to members and retirees).*

*As much as the current Firefighters enjoyed reading the Feeder Line, the retirees enjoyed it even more as it allowed them to stay connected to the CFD. Remember, there was no Internet for retirees to communicate with each other. There were no cell phones and staying in contact with each other (especially retirees who vacation long distances) was challenging. Today, present Firefighters and retired Firefighters can communicate via email, Facebook, cell phone, texting and can read newspapers on-line to find out what's going on in the CFD.*

*The Feeder Line was funded by Local 30 and advertisers. **Arson Investigator and AP photographer Ed Fowler** was a key photo contributor. (Editor note: luckily, we still have access to many of Ed's photos that still provide entertainment in the current editions)*

*The success of The Feeder Line is attributed to Cambridge Firefighters Local 30 who funded it, advertisers who defrayed the cost, and to the many contributors who shared stories, pictures, etc.*

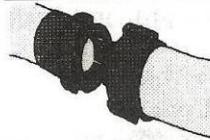
*Photographs were derived either from bringing a roll of film to a store to make prints or a photographer like the late Ed Fowler who spent countless hours in the darkroom cropping and developing prints.*

*We put tape on the back of each picture to secure it to the page. Text would be added around the photos as well as throughout the newsletter. The newsletter would then be hand delivered to a print shop in Holbrook, MA. A return trip to the printer in Holbrook was made a week later to pick up the 500 copies. Then we put a mailing label on each newsletter and brought it to the post office for delivery.*

That was a lot of work and the dedication that DFC M. Morrissey, DFC Gelinas and DFC Gover put into it should be commended!

Eventually, **DFC John Gelinas (Retired)**, took over as the Editor and it was renamed the Company Journal/Feederline. It became a department wide publication that also included Local 30 news. Issue No. 1 of the revised newsletter was distributed via email in June 2002.

Just a little background on the title for those that might not be familiar; a "Company Journal" was the old handwritten daily logbook where important entries were found in any watch desk at any fire station during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Hence the photo of the horse drawn apparatus on the front title page.

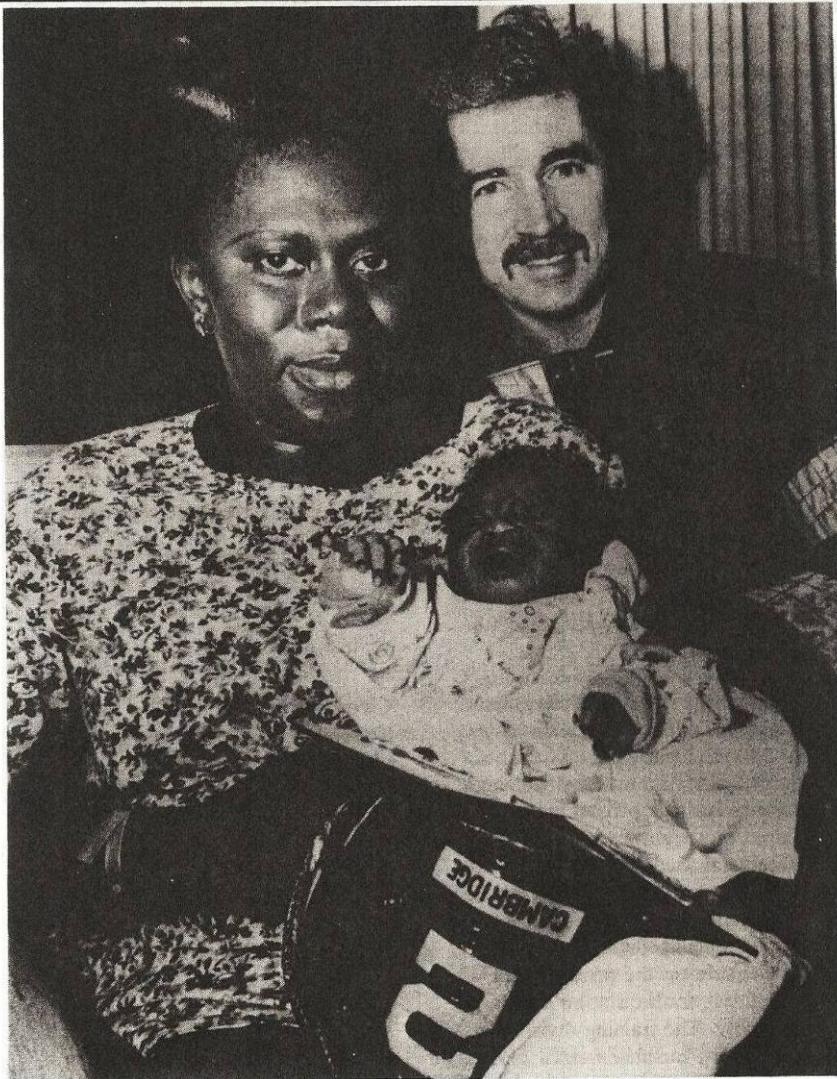


# The Feeder Line

Volume 1 Issue 1

Cambridge Fire Fighters Local 30

June 1994



Fire Fighter Larry Brogan of Engine Company 2 is shown here with Tante Touray and her mother Fatoumatia. FF Brogan, using his EMS skills, safely delivered Tante in a van at Broadway and Columbia St. during the height of a snowstorm. This was the third time the CFD has delivered a baby within the last year.

Photo by Mark Garfinkel of the Boston Herald

© 1994 75

Front cover of Volume I, Issue 1 featuring **Firefighter Larry Brogan (now Captain)**

## Through the Lantern Lens



### Through the Lantern Lens

by Mose Humphrey

The year 2014 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the the "Great Salem Fire" of 1914. The Great Salem Fire started at 1:37 PM, following a long June dry spell. The date was June 25th and from all reports it started at the Korn Leather Factory at 57 Boston Street, in a factory they were manufacturing what is known as the tip finish for patent leather, a compound of flammable materials. There were many leather factories in the Salem and Peabody area at the time. The fire started in a shed that was located on the street level where acetone, amalacitate, alcohol and large quantities of celluloid were stored. The fire burned 253 acres, 1,376 buildings, the territory covered being 1-1/2 miles long by 1/2 mile wide resulting in almost 20,000 people homeless and 10,000 out of work. The entire loss was estimated at US\$15 million; insurance policies paid US\$11.744 million.



The fire spread quickly down and across Boston Street, and burned throughout the night until it essentially reached the harbor. The police department sent out calls to 21 cities for assistance. One industrial department, the Fore River Shipyard, also assisted.

One of the major difficulties in fighting this fire was that Salem was one of only a few fire departments that used "Lowry Hydrants" - other departments that used Lowry Hydrants included Boston, Brockton and Fall River. Lowry hydrants were portable hydrants of sorts that were carried on the fire apparatus. When a fire broke out, the fire department would know the locations of the water mains nearby, open a manhole cover, screw on the Lowry hydrant where needed directly to a water pipe and they were in business. Most, if not all of the mutual aid fire apparatus either did not have Lowry Hydrants or did not have matching threads. Most mutual aid apparatus drafted from static water sources.



Lowry Type hydrant

Thirty-two Salem firefighters lost their homes to the fire while fighting the fire elsewhere in the city. One of the firemen at the time, FF James Koen is the great grandfather of **FF Todd Koen (Ladder Co.1)**. James Koen later went on to become Chief of Department in 1937 and has several generations of family still in the Salem Fire Department today. There were many civilian injuries and several deaths. About a dozen firefighters were injured during the fire, including burns and broken ribs. As expected, many of the injured firemen stayed on duty fighting the fire.

The **Cambridge Fire Department** did send apparatus to assist. An Engine 4 logbook entry dated June 25, 1914 notes in capital letters in the margin next to the daily entries "SALEM FIRE"

Also among the daily entries for June 26, 1914, one line reads; "Allen to report to Engine 5 to go to Salem 8 am, ret. at 5:30 pm". FF Allen was assigned to Engine 4 and detailed to Engine 5 off duty to help.

The Department/Master Journals include the following entry on the date June 25, 1914:

"Assistance sent to Salem. Engine 5's motor hose wagon and 20 men. Left at 9 am."

Thanks to **FF John Hathaway (Ladder Co. 2)** for the assistance researching this history.

**Signal 10-15**

**Special Signal 10-15** The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Carlos M. Cordova; Engine 8-Retired**

Funeral Services were held in Puerto Rico

Firefighter Cordova was appointed to the Reserve List on May 6, 1973.

He was appointed to the department on January 12, 1975.

He retired on August 24, 1996

He died on January 1, 2014

**Condolences to:**

**Lt. Steven Landry; Engine Co. 4** on the passing of his Brother-in-Law,

Keith E. Cotter

**Lt. Ronald Ring; Cambridge Fire Retired** on the passing of his brother,  
(Also Brother-in-Law of **Lt. Barry Lynde; Cambridge Fire Retired**)

Lt. Richard P. Ring; Cambridge Police, (Ret.)

**Firefighter Tyler English; Engine Co. 6** of the passing of his Grandfather, Edward K. Fry  
And Grandmother, Valjeanne M. Prescott

**Firefighter Thomas Cusack Sr.** – Retired on the passing of his son,

Kevin Cusack

**Lt. Eric Nugent; Engine Co. 3** on the passing of his Father,

Mr. Paul W. Nugent in January 2014

**Lt. Jim Gomes; Squad No. 4** on the passing of his Uncle in January 2014

**Lt. Michael Donovan** on the passing of his Mother,  
Elizabeth R. Betsy (McMahon) Donovan

**Firefighter Eric Moore; Rescue Co. 1** on the passing of his Mother-In-Law,  
Mrs. Nancy Rand

Condolences to the friends and family on the passing of **Ms. Nancy J. Buttaro**,

Former Administrative Assistant at Fire Headquarters

Ms. Buttaro is also the sister of **Firefighter Robert Pacheco; Engine Co. 9-Retired**

Condolences to the Brothers and Sisters of the Boston Fire Department family who lost two active members during the week of January 19<sup>th</sup>: **FF Joseph Mullen (Engine Co. 8) and FF Francis X. Flynn (Engine Co. 33)**; both succumbed to job related cancer

Condolences to the family of **Mr. Carl Barron**; a long time benefactor and supporter of the Cambridge Fire Department.

Mr. Barron was 97 years of age and until a few months ago he still worked four days per week in his Central Square Office.

### **Stats and Fires**

#### **Cambridge Fire Annual Totals - Calendar Year 2013**

	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Bldg Fires</i>
Engine 1	2546	45
Engine 2	2955	51
Engine 3	1412	21
Engine 4	1385	28
Engine 5	1415	46
Engine 6	1225	49
Engine 8	1061	28
Engine 9	943	20
Truck 1	1774	60
Truck 2	1068	36
Truck 3	1955	54
Truck 4	1528	37
Rescue 1	2151	73
Squad 2	2901	59
Squad 4	1626	51
Special/HQ Units	212	
HazMat 1	43	
Division 1	1685	56
Division 2	1220	43
Mutual Aid Units	129	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29234</b>	

Incidents	12,820
Div 1 Incidents	7197
Div 2 Incidents	5623
Responses	29,234
EMS	5641
Building Fires	90
Inside Fires	798
All Fires	978
HazMat	203
CO contamination	45
Working Fires	7
2nd Alarms	2
3rd Alarms	1

### FY 2013/2014 RUN TOTALS

	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	SBTTL	Jan-14	TOTAL
Engine 1	234	196	242	221	165	184	<b>1242</b>		<b>1242</b>
Engine 2	250	252	280	252	216	236	<b>1486</b>		<b>1486</b>
Engine 3	124	99	119	133	127	122	<b>724</b>		<b>724</b>
Engine 4	99	116	131	121	104	95	<b>666</b>		<b>666</b>
Engine 5	131	114	135	117	112	123	<b>732</b>		<b>732</b>
Engine 6	118	106	125	93	100	105	<b>647</b>		<b>647</b>
Engine 8	96	82	86	108	72	89	<b>533</b>		<b>533</b>
Engine 9	80	84	95	80	69	77	<b>485</b>		<b>485</b>
Truck 1	158	156	186	95	122	162	<b>879</b>		<b>879</b>
Truck 2	94	74	93	108	106	91	<b>566</b>		<b>566</b>
Truck 3	177	187	172	177	130	140	<b>983</b>		<b>983</b>
Truck 4	136	132	129	146	122	109	<b>774</b>		<b>774</b>
Rescue 1	193	175	147	192	173	181	<b>1061</b>		<b>1061</b>
Squad 2	266	221	259	249	203	218	<b>1416</b>		<b>1416</b>
Squad 4	119	141	142	144	120	119	<b>785</b>		<b>785</b>
Division 1	163	149	144	142	119	141	<b>858</b>		<b>858</b>
Division 2	121	104	111	98	72	86	<b>592</b>		<b>592</b>
HazMat 1	3	7	3	3	1	3	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>
Spec & HQ Units	11	28	25	18	16	10	<b>108</b>		<b>108</b>
Mutual Aid Units	8	17	8	4	10	10	<b>57</b>		<b>57</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2581</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>2632</b>	<b>2501</b>	<b>2159</b>	<b>2301</b>	<b>14614</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14614</b>

FY 2013/2014 Mutual Aid Responses								
	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	TOTAL
To Arlington								0
To Belmont	3	1			2			6
To Boston	1	2						3
To Brookline	3					1		4
To Chelsea								0
To Everett								0
To Lexington								
To Logan/Massport								0
To Lynn						5		5
To Newton				1				
To Revere								0
To Saugus								0
To Somerville	13	19	15	3	17	15		82
To Waltham								0
To Watertown	2	1		4	2	2		11
State HM Tec resp								0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>112</b>
From Arlington			1					1
From Belmont	1	2		1	1			5
From Boston	1		1			2		4
From Brookline								
From Chelsea								
from Lexington								
From Medford								
From Newton								
From Somerville	6	15	6	3	9	8		47
From Waltham								
From Watertown								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>57</b>

## FY 2013/2014 "Code 111" Building Fire TOTALS

	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	SBTTL	Jan-14	Feb-14	TOTAL
Engine 1	3	3	7	3	1	4	21	5	2	28
Engine 2	1	5	5	5	8	5	29	5	3	37
Engine 3	1	2	1	3	1	2	10	3	2	15
Engine 4	3	2	4	1	1	5	16	3	1	20
Engine 5	1	4	5	4	5	5	24	6	3	33
Engine 6	2	5	5	3	7	4	26	3	2	31
Engine 8	3	1	4	3	1	1	13	2	1	16
Engine 9	1	1	2	4	0	2	10	3	2	15
Truck 1	4	5	8	4	1	6	28	7	2	37
Truck 2	2	2	3	4	6	3	20	4	3	27
Truck 3	1	7	5	4	7	5	29	4	3	36
Truck 4	3	2	5	3	2	1	16	4	1	21
Rescue 1	4	5	8	7	6	6	36	7	2	45
Squad 2	4	4	6	5	6	6	31	6	2	39
Squad 4	3	4	6	5	4	3	25	5	2	32
Division 1	2	5	7	5	8	6	33	4	4	41
Division 2	3	3	6	4	1	2	19	4	1	24

### FY 2013/2014 RUN TOTALS

	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	<b>SBTTL</b>	Jan-14	Feb-14	<b>TOTAL</b>
Engine 1	234	196	242	221	165	184	<b>1242</b>	236	165	<b>1643</b>
Engine 2	250	252	280	252	216	236	<b>1486</b>	272	223	<b>1981</b>
Engine 3	124	99	119	133	127	122	<b>724</b>	169	116	<b>1009</b>
Engine 4	99	116	131	121	104	95	<b>666</b>	118	104	<b>888</b>
Engine 5	131	114	135	117	112	123	<b>732</b>	167	127	<b>1026</b>
Engine 6	118	106	125	93	100	105	<b>647</b>	120	91	<b>858</b>
Engine 8	96	82	86	108	72	89	<b>533</b>	114	70	<b>717</b>
Engine 9	80	84	95	80	69	77	<b>485</b>	85	63	<b>633</b>
Truck 1	158	156	186	95	122	162	<b>879</b>	215	147	<b>1241</b>
Truck 2	94	74	93	108	106	91	<b>566</b>	134	84	<b>784</b>
Truck 3	177	187	172	177	130	140	<b>983</b>	185	151	<b>1319</b>
Truck 4	136	132	129	146	122	109	<b>774</b>	136	84	<b>994</b>
Rescue 1	193	175	147	192	173	181	<b>1061</b>	186	170	<b>1417</b>
Squad 2	266	221	259	249	203	218	<b>1416</b>	229	252	<b>1897</b>
Squad 4	119	141	142	144	120	119	<b>785</b>	134	121	<b>1040</b>
Division 1	163	149	144	142	119	141	<b>858</b>	177	105	<b>1140</b>
Division 2	121	104	111	98	72	86	<b>592</b>	125	80	<b>797</b>
HazMat 1	3	7	3	3	1	3	<b>20</b>	6	1	<b>27</b>
Spec & HQ Units	11	28	25	18	16	10	<b>108</b>	23	20	<b>151</b>
Mutual Aid Units	8	17	8	4	10	10	<b>57</b>	16	27	<b>100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2581</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>2632</b>	<b>2501</b>	<b>2159</b>	<b>2301</b>	<b>14614</b>	<b>2847</b>	<b>2201</b>	<b>19662</b>

### **Local 30 MDA**

MDA Rep, Vanessa Malfitano is pleased to announce that **Cambridge Fire raised \$21,000 for Muscular Dystrophy in 2013**. Cambridge raised the 2nd highest out of the 22 fire departments in the MDA Boston North office. Chairperson **Lt. Brandon Hugh (Engine Co. 5)** would like to congratulate and thank all of our members who showed their support for the Guns N' Hoses hockey game, the golf outing, bought raffle tickets, and/or volunteered for the boot drive. Our continued success wouldn't be possible without all of you!

Let's repeat or beat in 2014! Our 2014 MDA campaign is about to begin. We have 2 upcoming events in March so I'm asking for the continued support from our membership. Both events listed below have direct links that can be shared; so whether it's through conversation, email, or social networking, please help spread the word to your family and friends. Reminders and updates will be given continuously so please bear with me because it's for a great cause! Also, I will be coming around to all firehouses (each group) and will be selling raffle tickets (accepted payments: cash, check, and credit cards \*secured by PayPal\*

**MDA Muscle Walk** - Local 30 will be forming a team to participate in the MDA Muscle Walk @ Gillette Stadium on March 29th from 10AM-1:30PM. This is a family friendly event with very little exercise involved (usually 1 mile or less). The MDA has been very impressed with our Department's efforts in raising money so let's continue to impress them by forming a large team. If you or your family and friends aren't interested in participating but still want to support the cause, donations to Local 30's team would be greatly appreciated.

For more information, contact **Lieutenant Brandon Hugh, Engine 5 / Group 3**

### **Local 30 Elections**

The results for the Local 30 Election of Officers are as follows:

President- **Colin Walsh** (elected by acclamation)

Treasurer- **Chuck Anderson** (elected by acclamation)

Executive Board- **Mike Francis, Ameer Moustafa, and Paul Morrison**

PFFM Delegate- **Matt McDonald, Dave Croak, and Kevin Lawson**

IAFF Delegate- **Paul Morrison, Mike Francis, and Matt McDonald**

Auditing Committee- **Frank O'Grady, Keith Thorne-Bingham, and Todd Koen** (elected by acclamation)

### **Transfers/Assignments**

#### **General Order No. 2, Series of 2014 Effective Sunday, January 19, 2014 at 0700 hours**

**FF Kurt McLaughlin** from Rescue Company No. 1 to Headquarters  
**FF Arthur Greenidge** from Engine Company No. 6 to Headquarters  
**FF Robert Degou** from Ladder Company No. 2 to Headquarters  
**FF Sean Williams** from Squad No. 4 to Rescue Company No. 1  
**FF Kyle Schweinshaut** from Ladder Company No. 3 to Rescue Company No. 1  
**FF Robert J. Crooker** from Engine Company No. 4 to Squad No. 4  
**FF John Bell** from Rescue Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 3  
**FF John R. DeCoursey** from Engine Company No. 8 to Ladder Company No. 4

**FFOP Daniel O'Brien** to Engine Company No. 4  
**FFOP Shane Brown** to Ladder Company No. 3  
**FFOP Blake Crist** to Ladder Company No. 2  
**FFOP Terrence Coogan** to Engine Company No. 3  
**FFOP John Presutti** to Engine Company No. 8  
**FFOP Matthew Pires** to Engine Company No. 6.

#### **General Order No. 4, Series of 2014 Effective Sunday, February 23, 2014 at 0700 hours**

**Lieutenant Paul F. Mahoney Jr.** from Ladder Co. No. 3 to Engine Co. No. 1  
**Lieutenant Michael A. Donovan** from Engine Co. No. 4 to Squad Co. No. 4  
**Lieutenant Michael R. Travers Sr.** from Squad Co. No. 4 to Ladder Co. No. 3

### **Retirements**

#### **General Order No. 1, Series of 2014**

Effective January 2, 2014 at 1900 hours, **Firefighter Dennis J. Shine** will be pensioned from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Dennis Shine was appointed on March 17, 1985.

May 5, 1985	Engine Company No. 5
April 16, 1989	Engine Company No. 1
March 10, 1991	Engine Company No. 3
March 6, 1994	Engine Company No. 2
June 13, 2013	Engine Company No. 8



Firefighter Shine has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge. We wish Firefighter Shine much happiness and good health in his retirement.

### **General Order No. 3, Series of 2014**

Effective January 16, 2014 at 1700 hours, **Firefighter Francis J. Judd** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Francis Judd was appointed on April 6, 1986.

May 18, 1986	Engine Company No. 3
June 12, 1998	Engine Company No. 5
April 30, 2000	Engine Company No. 3
May 11, 2003	Fire Prevention Office
September 13, 2009	Technical Services
September 8, 2013	Fire Headquarters



Firefighter Judd has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge. We wish Firefighter Judd much happiness and good health in his retirement.

### **General Order No. 5, Series of 2014**

Effective March 2, 2014 at 0700 hours, **Lieutenant Robert J. Bell** will be pensioned from the Cambridge Fire Department. Lieutenant Robert J. Bell was appointed on February 17, 1974.

February 17, 1974	Engine Company No. 9
December 5, 1976	Rescue Company No. 1
April 27, 1980	Engine Company No. 8
January 4, 1981	Promoted to Fire Lieutenant, Headquarters
February 8, 1981	Engine Company No. 1
October 12, 1986	Engine Company No. 4
November 6, 2005	Engine Company No. 5
September 28, 2008	Engine Company No. 4



Lieutenant Bell has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge. We wish Lieutenant Bell much happiness and good health in his retirement.

## **General Order No. 6, Series of 2014**

Effective March 4, 2014 at 1700 hours, **Firefighter Stephan B. Jeffres** will be pensioned from the Cambridge Fire Department., FF Stephan B. Jeffres was appointed on January 17, 2002

May 5, 2002	Engine Company No. 1
May 1, 2005	Engine Company No. 3
March 14, 2010	Engine Company No. 4
March 24, 2013	Fire Headquarters



Firefighter Jeffres has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge. We wish Firefighter Jeffres much happiness and good health in his retirement.

### **Cambridge Auxiliary Department**

We recently heard from **FF Don “Speedy” Gonzalo - retired** and he shared some great experiences from his time on the Auxiliary Fire Department. Speedy writes:

*In the last journal, a small item caught my eye. It was about the Auxiliary Fire Department but had no information. (Editor note: it was only a photo of the box truck). So I decided to write a short story on my time on the Auxiliary Fire Department.*

*In those days (in 1959 the department was in the control of Civil Defense and run by a Deputy Chief Burke who's office was on the ground floor of the same building under fire alarm.*

*We had two engines, Engine 11 and Engine 12 – both C.D.. We trained two nights a week and some Saturdays during the summer months. We also had to go to the YMCA and run the track in so many minutes, throw ground ladders, pick up a 150 pound dummy and climb up the ladder, drop it (the dummy) on the floor and then pick it up again and descend the ladder to the ground floor.*

*We also covered various stations during 2 and 3 alarm fires. On September 9, 1961, I was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department and assigned to Engine 1.*

*In those days, the Auxiliary was stationed at the Fresh Pond Water Works garage.*

Donald also added:

*When Memorial Sunday came around in the 1960's and 1970's, we lined up at Engine 8 and Ladder 4's quarters and marched all the way to the cemetery to pay our respects to those who have passed away.*

*Now it seems that in the last few years, nobody cares to attend the Memorial Sunday services by the lack of personnel that by today's standards don't show up. Just because I didn't*

*know him is a poor excuse for not showing up.* (Editor note: We agree 100% Donald and Capt. Ikels talked about this a few issues ago – the lack of empathy shown by many of the younger generation.)

*Also what has changed in the department is that it seems “officers”, that is Lieutenants and Captains are all on a first name basis as far as the rest of the department (firefighters) are concerned. (Another good point. I know I for one, am guilty sometimes – BUT I always make sure when in public to address the officer as Lieutenant or Captain and keep it professional in public.)*

Thank you Donald for sharing your experiences! We have heard from a few retirees in the past and hope that more will share stories from their time on the job!



Then CAFD Firefighter Donald Gonzalo circa 1959-1960 in a Pirsch engine

### **Captain's Corner**

#### **Take Your Run Ticket!**

The CAD Entry Program is up and running. We are starting to see more run tickets with valuable response information. It is important to take the ticket with you on every call. This is a new habit that needs to be formed. The CAD information cannot help you if the printout doesn't make it on the apparatus. Here are some thoughts and tips on CAD tickets and the CAD printer.

**No added CAD Data on the ticket.** It doesn't matter. There is still other helpful information. Other information may be apartment numbers, cross streets, landmarks, or special response instructions based upon the type of response.

**I am familiar with the address.** It doesn't matter. By taking the printout every time you respond, you are helping form a new habit which after some time will become automatic. Additionally, there may be information contained in the run ticket that wasn't transmitted over the vocal dispatch by ECC.

For example my company was dispatched to the corner of Harvard and Essex Streets for a traumatic injury one night last year. I took the run ticket even though we were quite familiar with this location. Reading the ticket en route, it indicated that we were responding to a shooting. This development rapidly changed our mindset going in. Luckily, the scene was secure upon our arrival and the injuries were minor. However, if the scene was not secure or if injuries were more severe, we would have been better prepared mentally to handle it.

**Maintain the CAD printer.** Any member of the company can grab the ticket. The person closest to the printer should grab it. Response preparation is a team effort. The man on patrol should maintain the printer with plenty of paper at all times. Extra paper should be stored close to the printer. The ECC can see when a printer is out of paper. When a printer is out of paper for a long period of time, it reflects poorly on the entire firehouse.

**Never reuse old run tickets.** Turning over run tickets and reusing them in the printer so new information will print on the back side is unsafe. This technique has been done to save paper but it's dangerous. This could cause a company to respond based on the wrong information which could prove disastrous.

**Keep the printout tray empty.** The printer should never have old run tickets sitting on top of it. There is a risk of someone taking the wrong run ticket while responding. It also causes a slight response delay while someone shuffles through papers trying to get the correct ticket. Old tickets sitting in the tray is a sign that the members present are not paying attention to the system.

**Maintain the ink toner.** If the ink toner is low the officer on duty should immediately notify the IT support staff.

This information should serve us well so long as we're all pulling in the same direction. Everything in the fire service is about a team effort and the CAD Entry Program is no different. Look out for each other.

-Captain Fred Ikels  
Engine Co. 2

### **Words of Wisdom**

**Deputy Chief Ralph Chapman-Retired** had some words of wisdom he wanted to share with us all:

#### **Part I**

Whenever someone asks me: Don't you miss the job?  
I say No I don't miss the Circus, but I do miss the clowns

#### **Part II - Always a Fireman:**

Once the badge goes on, it never comes off, whether they can see it, or not. It fuses to the soul through adversity, fear and adrenaline and nobody who has ever worn it with pride, integrity and guts, can ever sleep through the 'call of the wild' that wafts through bedroom windows in the deep of the night.



*Photo from CFD archives – Ed Fowler Photo*

#### **Seated – DFC Ralph Chapman-Retired**

L-R , Capt. Charles Murphy (Engine 9), Deputy Chief Robert Scott (Retired), FF Frank O'Grady (Aide to Division 1), FF D. Mahoney (Ladder 1), Lt. Tom Carroll (Ladder 4), FF Tony Grassi, FF Ed Friel (Retired), FF H. Conrad (Aide to Division 1)

#### **Part III - When Firemen Retire**

When a good "Brother" leaves the 'job' and retires to a better life, many are jealous, some are pleased and yet others, who may have already retired, wonder. We wonder if he knows what he is leaving behind, because we already know. We know, for example, that after a lifetime of camaraderie that few experience, it will remain as a longing for those past times. We know in the firefighting life there is a fellowship which lasts long after the uniforms are hung up in the back of the closet. We know even if he throws them away, they will be on him with every step and breath that remains in his life. We also know how the very bearing of the man speaks of what he was and in his heart still is.

These are the burdens of the job. You will still look at people suspiciously, still see what others do not see or choose to ignore and always will look at the rest of the firefighting world with a respect for what they do; only grown in a lifetime of knowing. Never think for one moment you are escaping from that life. You are only escaping the 'job' and merely being allowed to leave 'active' duty.

So what I wish for you is that whenever you ease into retirement, in your heart you never forget for one moment that 'Blessed are the Firefighters for they shall be called children of God,' and you are still a member of the greatest fraternity the world has ever known.

### **Local 30 CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreements)**

Legal Counsel for Local 30, **Neil Rossman**, provided us with a few vintage (*not that the people in them are “vintage”*) photos of CBA signings between the City of Cambridge and Local 30 in the past. We will share more of those in future issues. This photo was the very first signing. Thanks to Neil for sharing!



Photo provided by Neil Rossman

Rear (standing) L-R, **Andy Bosworth, Larry Hodgdon, Jack Souza, John O'Donahue, Tom Scott and Walter Ellis**

Seated L-R, Don Hawkes, Mayor Sullivan, **Johnny Rocca**, City Manager Jim Sullivan and David Wylie - City Councilor

### **Combat Challenge**

Please read the message below from **FF Encalada** in regards to forming a CFD Team for the event:

*Hey guys I'm putting together a team for the Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge, in Atlantic City, NJ. May 17-18 (May 16-19 with travel). There are Individual, Tandem (2 Firefighters), and Team (3 to 5 Firefighters) competitions. We can do all or some of these events depending on how many of us go down. Keep in mind before you decide to join, the team will need to fund the Registration, Transportation, and Hotel costs.*

FF. James Encalada  
Ladder-2, Group-3.  
781-526-5893

### **Quotes of the Day**

Instead of some inspiring quotes, we thought it appropriate to share some work related thoughts. Since the department is becoming younger and younger; a few tidbits of advice to the FFOP's and young firefighters:

- You shouldn't worry when the guys make fun of you. You should worry when they don't say anything at all.
- Give Credit. Take the blame.
- Don't be so eager to get off probation. The officers will tell you the time you spend riding backwards will be the most fun you have in your career.
- Never be the last one to the truck, or the sink.
- Have pride in your department, more for your station, most for your company.
- Be the last one to bed, first one awake – make the coffee.
- When in doubt, take a halligan, or better yet the irons. Two hands, two tools.
- Share your ideas and observations. You never know it could save someone's life.

*-"I not only use all the brains that I have, but all that I can borrow."*

-Woodrow Wilson

- You are what you do. Not what you say.
- Be the guy that everyone has to say, "Take a break. You're making us look bad."

### **Letters**

#### **The following letter was received on November 14, 2013:**

Dear Chief Reardon,

On behalf of the Newton Fire Department, I would like to express my appreciation to you and the members of your Department, specifically Engine 9 and Ladder 1, for the Mutual Aid assistance we received during our simultaneous multiple alarm fires on Crafts Street and Nahanton Street, Newton on October 29, 2013.

One of the great aspects of the fire service is that we always help one another selflessly, and that was certainly displayed by members of your Department who responded that day.

With Gratitude,

Bruce A. Proia  
*Chief, Newton FD*

**The following note was received in December 2013:**

Dear Chief,

Please thank your entire department for all they do to keep us safe. We are all so proud of your department.

Henrietta (Henrietta Davis) City Councilor and former Mayor

**The following letter was received in December 2013:**

To my dear friends in city government,

I write this as I'm about to step down as Mayor after 26 years in public service- the first 8 years on the School Committee and then 18 years on City Council, the last two as Mayor. The time went by so fast.

First I want to thank you helping me all these years. I have really enjoyed working with so many of you to make Cambridge a better place for all its residents, for people who work here, for people who visit and for all those who look to Cambridge to be a leader in the world.

As I look back on my career, I reflect that children have always been a high priority list – to fulfill their potential and promise. I worked for children's health and well being, leading the Healthy Children Task Force, and now chairing the School Committee and Kids Council. All these posts have given me a chance to bring attention to the wonderful young people of Cambridge – so full of promise and idealism. Last week at City Hall I hosted five groups of students from age three to late teens in the Mayor's office. What a privilege and a delight.

These days my mind continues to be filled with ideas about how to connect our Cambridge young people to STEM opportunities in our hometown industries and in the innovation economy: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math and sometimes we add the "S" for arts and creativity to make STEAM. What I want for our kids is the chance for all of them to have a shot at the good jobs in Kendall Square, throughout our STEM city and beyond.

I'm proud to be known for "green" efforts in the city, pushing the envelope for the city to be a leader in the state, the country and the world. We continue to set the bar high in energy efficiency efforts – first green buildings, now looking to net zero. In 18 years, what a transformation we've had in sustainable transportation – more and more biking and last year Cambridge was the #1 Walking City in America.

This term I've proudly helped to organize a green business group, the Cambridge Compact for a Sustainable Future. The City, Harvard and MIT were the first three to join, and now there are about 25 members in all, representing most of the large property owners and taxpayers.

As I step down, I'm still concerned about our rapidly growing and graying "baby boomer" population. Though Cambridge is a great city to be aging-in-place, icy winters are surely challenging. Significantly for aging Cantabrigians, affordable housing is also challenging. We need more accessible, affordable, right-sized housing units. The Silver Ribbon Report pointed the way to opportunities there. I'm sure there's more work to come on this topic.

We in Cambridge love to set the standard for other cities to follow – in affordable housing, sustainability, gay and human rights, right-sized development, education, innovation, welcoming immigrants, cultural opportunities and so much more.

Thank you all for helping me to be an effective, enthusiastic public servant.

I feel so lucky to have had this opportunity to serve Cambridge. Thank you for making my time in public office rich, fun and so fulfilling.

Happy Holidays to you!  
With Gratitude,  
Henrietta (Henrietta Davis, Mayor)

**The following letter was received on January 14, 2014:**

Dear Chief Reardon,

On Behalf of the Lynn Fire Department, please accept our gratitude for the rapid response of the Cambridge Fire Dive Team to an incident at Sluice Pond in Lynn on Monday, December 30, 2013 at approximately 2100 hours.

They responded at our request for an SUV in the water and beneath 2-3 inches of ice. Initial reports to the Lynn Police Department indicated that the vehicle may be occupied. This proved to be unfounded as the incident progressed. Your team worked with our members and the Beverly Fire Dive Team in a very thorough and professional manner. Their teamwork and expertise was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
James McDonald  
Chief of Department

**The following email was received in January 2014:**

Dear Mr. Carter,

On Wednesday evening, January 22nd, the paramedics from Squad #2 of the Lafayette Fire House in Cambridge saved my husband's life. They responded immediately to the 911 call at the VIM gym where my husband, Jed Rifkin, had collapsed from a heart attack while exercising. Their quick response and decision to take him to Mass General saved his life and I can't thank you enough. He is recovering at Mass General, still in critical condition and may need additional surgery – but he is alive and as far as we can tell at this time does not have any neurological issues.

At some point in the future, when he and I are feeling up to it, I'd like to come by the Fire House and thank the Squad #2 paramedics in person. I hope this would be permitted, but if not – please extend my most sincere gratitude to these wonderful people.

Sincerely,  
Russette Lyons  
*(editor note: Capt. Carter shared that Engine 6 isn't mentioned but they played an integral part in this patient's care.)*

**The following email was sent by DFC Gerard Mahoney on February 12, 2014:**

All Members who operated at the third alarm at 240 Prospect Street are to be commended for a job well done under very difficult conditions.

The temperature without wind chill was about 8°F. The cold weather and wind coupled with a fast moving fire in an occupied multiple dwelling in the early morning hours, provided a recipe for a very bad outcome.

While the occupant removed by fire companies later succumbed to her injuries, the results could have been a lot worse.

Good work by all involved!

Thank you,

**Assistant Chief Gerard E. Mahoney**

**Of Interest...**

**Coincidence?**

On January 29, 2014 – Group 2 had a busy morning with a 1 alarm fire on Third Street followed by a 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm at Meacham Road. Responding first due to Meacham Road was Engine 4 with **FFOP Daniel O'Brien (Engine 4)** aboard. It was FFOP O'Brien's first official fire of his career. The fire started in a first floor bathroom of a triple decker. Oddly enough, the first floor was where his grandfather lived a long time ago. Ok – not so unusual you say? Well, his grandfather being the "one and only" **DFC Connie O'Brien** who retired as a Deputy Chief of the Cambridge Fire Department. Makes you wonder...

**Parking Sticker**

Cambridge residents are required to obtain a parking sticker every year for residential parking. This year features a photo of Ladder 1 by Mark Hornbuckle.



Original photo used for parking sticker by **Mark Hornbuckle**



Actual Parking Sticker

**America's Heroes**

**Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal**



**FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL R. OBER  
Ladder Co. 124**

**January 17, 2012, 0820 hours, Box 44-0751, Brooklyn.**

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 8 2005. Member of the Steuben Association. Holds a BS degree in Nursing from Molloy College. Resides in Massapequa Park, Long Island, with his wife, Merrie, and their son, Daniel.*

For the members of Ladder 124, this day started as many of them do in Bushwick--roll call, ready the gear, check the apparatus, schedule the drill, organize the meal and squeeze in a workout. The outside weather conditions were typical of January--cold and gloomy. Inside, the mood was charged with energy, as always. There was a lot of experience on-duty January 17, 2012: Lieutenant Christian Duryea was the Officer; FF John Finn was the chauffeur; FF Michael Ober was the outside vent; FF Robert Chapan was assigned the roof position; and the forcible entry team included FF Brian Gayron with the irons and FF John Schroeder, with the extinguisher. This combined wealth of knowledge and experience were put to the test at a four-alarm fire.

The firehouse was preparing for the change of tours when the Housewatch called out the incoming run at 0820 hours. The building--a three-story, fully occupied multiple dwelling, was known to the members of Ladder 124.

As the rig pulled out of quarters, members listened intently to the dispatch report of additional information: "fire on the first floor"; then moments later, "second source, fill out the alarm, we're getting numerous phone calls." The members anticipated a working fire and as they pulled onto the block, that was exactly what they got. Ladder 124 was confronted with fire on the exposure #4 side, with fire auto-exposing to the upper floors. As FF Ober put the bucket into operation, he spotted one adult with a child at the third-floor left. Thick, black smoke boiled violently around them.

FF Ober's building size-up indicated that there would be two apartments on the third floor: one to the left, 3L; one to the right, 3R. With his primary focus on the victims at the window, he positioned the bucket for their immediate removal.

A child safety gate blocked their way out, so FF Ober used the Halligan tool to clear the obstruction, then removed the victims into the bucket and radioed a report to Battalion Chief Christopher Joyce, Battalion 28. FF Ober then questioned the victims about other occupants who may have been trapped inside. Informed that the occupant of the adjoining apartment, 3R, was trapped, FF Ober immediately lowered the bucket to the street and discharged them to the care of other Firefighters.

Without missing a beat, he brought the bucket back to the windows of apartment 3R. From the bucket, FF Ober made radio contact with Lieutenant Duryea and then jumped through the window into the smoke-filled apartment to begin his primary search. Beginning at the front, he systematically worked his way toward the rear of the building. Conditions were deteriorating rapidly. There was a heavy smoke condition, fire was extending via horizontal and vertical voids, visibility was zero and there was a high heat condition. The Firefighter was operating without benefit of a protective hose-line under truly punishing conditions, but for Ladder 124, this was truck work at its best.

Toward the rear of the apartment, FF Ober located an adult male, brought him to the rear fire escape and worked to keep him calm. Recognizing the risk in bringing this victim back through the apartment to the bucket, FF Ober radioed FF Chapan for assistance in moving the victim up the gooseneck to the roof so that he could continue his search of the third-floor apartments.

With the safety of his victim assured, FF Ober re-entered apartment 3R, completed his primary search and then returned to the bucket. He then repositioned the bucket back at the window of apartment 3L, removed the windows and entered the apartment to complete a thorough primary search. Again, FF Ober worked systematically, front to rear, under extreme conditions. As he searched the rear room, Chief Joyce made a radio transmission to FF Ober, advising him that apartment 3R had just "lit up," causing fire to blow out the front windows. The

Chief directed him to discontinue the search. FF Ober acknowledged the transmission, then moved directly toward the window where he knew his bucket awaited. He dove through the cleared window into the strategically positioned bucket.

FF Ober's turnout gear was so damaged by fire and heat that it was removed from service by the Safety Command, indicative of the punishing conditions under which he operated. He demonstrated initiative, resourcefulness and courage in the performance of his duty in the rescue of the three building occupants trapped above the fire.

For these reasons, FF Michael R. Ober is presented with the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal - JDL

### **Safety**

The following two photos represent what happened to one firefighter in two consecutive shifts. The two safety concerns addressed in this issue are focused on things a Truck Company needs to be aware of. However, Engine Company personnel can and should take note if you are ever detailed to a Truck Company. The first photo represents a common error. The chain is actually on the bar backwards. It may be tough to distinguish from the photo, but the teeth are facing towards the back of the bar (or towards the bottom of the photo.) The top of the photo represents the tip of the bar and the cutting edges of the teeth should be facing forward. The bar was removed, chain placed back on and problem was solved.



The second photo shows the K-12 saw with the starter pull cord that broke on the first pull. The saw was about to be run on Saturday morning as required. The blue decompression switch was pushed in and on the very first pull, the knot that holds the pull cord around the pulley broke. Four screws and a quick repair had the saw back in service in just a matter of minutes.



Both corrections are common and minor repairs that any competent Truck Company member should be familiar with and know how to correct.

**CAUTION:** If you do not know how to do it, then ASK someone who does! If they do not know how, DO NOT GUESS. Immediately notify your officer and/or the motor squad (M3 or M4) and they will be glad to help to ensure that the equipment is kept in an operable and ready state.

### **From the Tailboard...**

In December 2013, James L. Vincent passed away. Who was he? Most of us probably never heard of him. He was the Chief Executive at IDC Biogen. He came to the company in 1985 when it was a fledgling company struggling to survive. Over the years, he turned Biogen into a major player in the genetics and biotechnology industry. One of Mr. Vincent's favorite sayings was a metaphor he found while studying at Duke University about the lessons leaders could take from watching a flock of flying geese. "As a goose flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the birds that follow. By flying in a 'V' formation, the entire flock adds 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew alone. The lesson is that people who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another."

### **Answer to Trivia Question**

Reprinted from the VERY First Issue of the Feederline:

What was the original name of Memorial Drive?

Originally called the **Charles River Parkway**, it was renamed **Memorial Drive** on June 9, 1923 by an act of the legislature in honor of the Cambridge Veterans of the Civil War, Spanish War and World War I.

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**Information**

Please submit any information, photographs, or narratives for inclusion in the ***Company Journal*** to [hsmith@cambridgefire.org](mailto:hsmith@cambridgefire.org) or Hmaxims@aol.com

**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)

Check out Cambridge Firefighters Local 30's website at  
<http://www.cambridgelocal30.org/>

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

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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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-hts